

TOWN OF EAST LYME

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EAST LYME HARBOR MANAGEMENT/SHELLFISH COMMISSION

Chairman Stephen Dinsmore Treasurer **Donald F. Landers Jr.**

Secretary Joseph L. Hitchery

Not official until approved by the Commission at its next regular meeting

March 17, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes; East Lyme Town Hall

Commissioners Present: Stephen Dinsmore; Donald Landers; Joseph Hitchery; Barbara Johnston; William Mountzoures; and Rick Kanter

Commissioners Absent: Donald Landers; and Greg Murin

Ex Officios Present: Harbor Master Dick Morris; Marc Salerno; and Deputy Harbor Master Marc Berger

Others Present: Lee Deer, General Manager of Three Belles Marina; Peter Harris, WELSCO Chairman; and Jaxson Vibber

- 1. Call to Order. Chairman Dinsmore called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.
- 2. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 17, 2015.

MOTION: Commissioner Kanter moved to approve the February 17, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Hitchery. The motion carried. (2-0-0)

Discussion ensued regarding any corrections that needed to be made. Commissioner Kanter pointed out two:

- A. The person in attendance at last month's public hearing was Everett Fortin, not Eric.
- B. Peter Harris should be defined as the WELSCO Chairman

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 17, 2015

MOTION: Commissioner Kanter moved to approve the February 17, 2015 Public Hearing Minutes, as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Hitchery. The motion carried. (2-0-2).

3. Public Delegations

Lee Deer, GM of Three Belles Marina, inquired as to why the Commission was interested in Three Belles' moorings. Chairman Dinsmore gave background regarding the pending question as to whether the existing moorings should be registered and subject to inspection. Mr. Morris and Mr. Berger gave extra background on the situation, whilst Chairman Dinsmore distributed a packet that he received from Mr. Morris, which discussed a dredging and filling permit issued in the past that also included a detailed explanation of where the moorings are.

Mr. Deer stated that his concern is that he has a field capable of holding 28 moorings and that he doesn't want anyone encroaching on the area. Mr. Berger requested some clarification as to which moorings are supposed to be permitted and which ones are not supposed to be there. Further discussion took place, where the Commissioner advised Three Belles to ensure that all of their moorings are well documented, so this issue won't come up in the future. Mr. Deer stated that he is not opposed to paying the required mooring fees.

4. Reports

A. Shellfish. Mr. Harris stated that the river has been closed as of Saturday, due to an indication of 1.9" on the rain gauge.

B. Harbor Master.

- I. Mr. Morris discussed the 160 mooring stickers that were sent out. He stated that the next round would be inspections, estimated to take place in July, which would verify the moorings. According to him, there have been slight delays in terms of transferring moorings, but he indicated the instructions that he had given to those wishing to transfer, and feels that any issues in that regard will be alleviated. Mr. Morris went on to state that he hopes to get some time with Mr. Berger to be able to ensure that all moorings have stickers on them.
 - Mr. Salerno questioned the inspection rate, to which Mr. Morris replied that moorings are to be inspected every three years. Commissioner Kanter questioned the issue of illegal moorings, and Mr. Morris replied that he wasn't 100% sure which moorings were illegal or not, due to the deterioration of the stickers. But he assured the Commission that, with proper charting of the moorings, as well as new stickers, he should have no problem verifying them going forward. There is a plan to eventually get all the moorings into GIS, although they are not in there as of yet.
- II. Mr. Morris stated that the Harbor Master classes began last Wednesday. Last week's topic was the history on the makeup of the Coast Guard. He indicated that anybody on the Commission can attend whichever classes they wish, but that the only way to receive certification was to do the entire eight weeks. Classes are at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Waterford Library.
- C. Treasurer. Commissioner Landers was absent. Commissioner Johnston questioned the Commission's budget, in comparison to other Commissions, and a discussion ensued regarding that topic, highlighting the expenditures of the USGS stream gauge and the pump-out boat.
- D. Ex Officio. Mr. Salerno apologized for being absent at the last meeting. He discussed the budget changes, and stated there are a couple of things on the agenda for the First Selectman to vote on:

- I. Increasing the part-time Building Assistant Official's hours to give them three-quarters time.
- II. Park and Rec to be allowing online registration.

5. Old Business

A. Harbor Management Plan - Update. Commissioner Hitchery indicated that he spoke with Geoff Steadman today and hopes to have the final copies next week, which would incorporate all the comments made by the DEEP Rep. Once received, he will distribute them to the other Commissioners. Comments were requested from the Commission regarding the proposed revision to the Ordinance, although none were made. Yet there will be a special meeting scheduled in the future to consider any such comments, and any changes that need to be made to both the Ordinance and the final draft of the Plan. Chairman Dinsmore indicated that June 30 is the outside date to have everything finalized with Mr. Steadman's contract.

B. Rain Gauge Discussion. Mr. Harris stated that the USGS gauge went offline two weeks ago. A week ago, MOUs were updated by DABA. Last Saturday, there was over 1" of rainfall, and the WeatherLink gauge worked perfectly when it hit the 1" threshold.. He went on to say that, at the end of the 24-hour period, WeatherLink gave a second alert, indicating total measurement once again of 1.9". Although there was a slight hiccup and it went offline briefly, Chris Taylor was able to promptly put it back online.

6. New Business

A. Correspondence.

- I. Chairman Dinsmore received a Certification of Notice Form for Dock at 239 Old Black Point Road, for which the DEEP Permit Consultation Form was discussed at the previous meeting.
- II. Commissioner Johnston inquired regarding any discussions with John Pinto, in terms of the surveys discussed at the last meeting. Chairman Dinsmore indicated that he had spoken to Mr. Pinto, and was informed that no additional input was needed from the Commission. The conclusion was made that the Harbor Masters were to stay with the DOT until next year.

7. Final Comments.

Commissioner Hitchery inquired about the status of the dingy dock at Cini Park and also the one proposed at Grand St. Mr. Morris reiterated that the grant was refused, and that it was all predicated over the water sewer going in and building a bathroom at Cini. Everything was tied to the same grant.

Commissioner Johnston raised a concern regarding the budget once more, and read from the WELSCO Minutes.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Commissioner Mountzoures moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. It was seconded by Commissioner Kanter. The motion carried. (4-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria O'Connor, Recording Secretary