



FILED IN EAST LYME TOWN
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PM

TOWN OF EAST LYME

EAST LYME HARBOR MANAGEMENT/SHELLFISH COMMISSION

Barbara Johnston

Chairman
Donald F. Landers Jr.

Treasurer
Stephen Dinsmore

Secretary
Barbara Johnston

East Lyme Harbor Management/Shellfish Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2011

Present: Don Landers, Chairman; Barbara Johnston, Secretary; Greg Murin, Bill Mountzoures and Rick Kanter

Absent: Marvin Schutt and Steve Dinsmore

Also Present: Joseph Hitchery, Harbor Master; Marc Berger, Deputy Harbor Master and John Birmingham, Ex Officio

1. Call to Order. Chairman Landers called the East Lyme Harbor Management/Shellfish Commission Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of June 21, 2011. Mr. Landers asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2011.

MOTION (1): Ms. Johnston moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2011, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Murin. Mr. Mountzoures abstained from voting. (3-0-1) Motion carried.

3. Public Delegations. There were no public delegations.

4. Reports

A. Warden. Mr. Landers reported the river is open for clamming.

B. Harbor Master. Mr. Hitchery reported he received a Notice to Mariners that emergency repairs are needed on the existing Amtrak Railroad Bridge. The bridge will open to vessel traffic upon two hour advance notice between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. from July 18 to July 22, July 25 to July 29 and August 1 to August 5, 2011. Mr. Berger stated the chain and chain drive sprocket need to be replaced.

Mr. Hitchery reported a total of 14 new permits have been issued and five are pending. He received a total of 199 renewals and has seven pending. Two partially submerged 4x4 wooden winter-sticks in the Niantic River previously identified as hazardous, were corrected; the owner took care of one and Mr. Tyler removed one. Final notices were sent out via email to previous mooring permit holders that did not renew permits in 2011. Some individuals responded that they are relinquishing their mooring permits and some notices were returned as undeliverable. Discussion followed on development of policies with respect to delinquent and



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unpermitted moorings. Some indicated that if an individual doesn't pay the mooring permit fee, the mooring should get pulled; others noted that extenuating circumstances should be considered before pulling unpermitted moorings. Mr. Landers suggested a subcommittee of this Commission and the Harbor Master/Deputy Harbor Master develop a policy to address corrective actions associated with unpermitted/delinquent moorings.

Mr. Hitchery asked this Commission to consider purchasing a used boat for the Harbor Master and Commission. Mr. Landers asked the Harbor Master/Deputy Harbor Master to explore the availability and costs of a boat and present a proposal to the Commission for consideration.

C. Treasurer. Mr. Landers reported this Commission received a bill from *The Day* in the amount of \$63.80 for a Legal Notice on 2011 Mooring Permit expectations in the Town of East Lyme. Mr. Hitchery presented a receipt for mooring permit fees in the amount of \$350.

MOTION (2): **Mr. Mountzoures moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Seconded by Mr. Murin. (4-0) Unanimous.**

D. Ex Officio. Mr. Birmingham was delayed due to his work schedule.

5. Old Business

A. Harbor Management Plan—Report from Subcommittee. This matter was tabled.

B. Discussion of Dowling Dock Application at 285 Black Point. Ms. Johnston was informed by Mr. Neilson that he is waiting for Mr. Dowling to obtain approval from neighbors before proceeding any further.

6. New Business

A. Correspondence. No correspondence was received.

B. Discussion of Niantic River No Wake Zone/Speed Limits.

Commission member Mr. Kanter arrived.

(See attached memo from Rick Kanter dated July 15, 2011)

C. Discussion of Shellfish MOU and July 6 Special Meeting of WELSCO. Mr. Landers felt the July 6 Special meeting of WELSCO was very positive. Most of the meeting was spent discussing roles and responsibilities for shellfish closure/reopening, and revising the MOU. This Commission will need to work on validating the location of demarcation signs once the MOU is finalized.

Ex officio John Birmingham arrived.



Mr. Landers agreed to provide Mr. Birmingham and Mr. Morris with a copy of the revised draft MOU.

7. Comments from Other Commission Members. Mr. Birmingham asked for an update on commercial clamming operations in the river. Mr. Kanter (WELSCO co-chair) responded that on a second trial, about 65 bushels of clams were harvested.

Mr. Birmingham asked if this Commission had a booth during Celebrate East Lyme? Mr. Landers replied that the Commission indirectly provided support to a booth hosted by the Niantic River Watershed Association.

8. Adjournment.

MOTION (3): **Mr. Mountzoures moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Harbor Management/Shellfish Commission Meeting of July 19, 2011 at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Murin. (5-0) Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gherzi, Recording Secretary