Minutes

Members in Attendance:

Bruce Angiolillo  Chairman
Frank Mazza
Mike Van Oss  Secretary

Absent:

Bernard Armstrong  Vice Chairman
Lile Gibbons
Bill Ingraham
Steve Kinner

Alternates in Attendance:

Casey McKee

Absent:

Don Carlson

Ex-Officio Members in Attendance:

Jim Bonney  Police Department
Roger Bowgen  Shellfish Commission
Brian Kerzner  Department of Parks & Recreation
Ian MacMillan  Harbormaster
John Toner  Board of Selectmen

Absent:

Sue Baker  Conservation Commission
Katie DeLuca  Planning & Zoning Commission
Rick Loh  Board of Parks & Recreation
1. Meeting called to order at 6:03 P.M. by Chairman Bruce Angiolillo

In the absence of Bernie Armstrong, Lile Gibbons, Bill Ingraham and Steve Kinner, Chairman Angiolillo seated Alternate Member Casey McKee.

2. Approval of Minutes of the February 21, 2018 Meeting

Motion to approve the Minutes of the February 21, 2018 Meeting by Frank Mazza, seconded by Casey McKee. Motion carried (Unanimous).

3. Chairman’s Report

1) On March 12, with the leadership of Mooring Committee Chairman, Mike Van Oss, the RTM approved the proposed $75 mooring fee for the 2018 boating season.

2) Chairman Angiolillo reported on the recent joint efforts of Mooring Committee members Bill Ingraham and Mike Van Oss, working together with Joe Siciliano and Brian Kerzner of Parks & Recreation, to address the recent crane sinking at Greenwich Point. Mr. Angiolillo cited this as the first occasion where the recently adopted Harbor Management Plan was utilized to address an emergency situation. With the support and encouragement of the Commission, Mr. Angiolillo reported that the appropriate notifications were made to the federal and state authorities, proper containment efforts were instigated to protect the area from potential pollution, and the crane was successfully removed from Greenwich Cove.

3) On March 23, Chairman Angiolillo and Finance Committee Chairman Frank Mazza attended a meeting of the BOS to seek its approval of the Commission’s proposed 2018-2019 budget for submission to the BET. The BOS approved the budget, which will be presented to the BET at its meeting on April 17.

4) Chairman Angiolillo reported that DEEP has organized a meeting on the proposed Blue Plan for Long Island Sound, which will be held on April 4. The Commission has been invited to attend and send two representatives. Vice Chairman Lile Gibbons and Frank Mazza will represent the Commission at this event.

4. Harbor Dredge Project Planning Update

Frank Mazza reported that the USACE has completed calculations to estimate the amount of dredge material that would have to be removed from the federal channel if the portion of the channel from Indian Harbor Yacht Club north to its terminus near the Ferry Terminal and the Delamar Hotel was to be dredged to a depth of 10’ rather than the authorized 12’. He noted that south
of the Indian Harbor Yacht Club the dredge depth would remain at 12'. Mr. Mazza reported that this would reduce the overall amount of dredge material by approximately 50%, reducing the overall total from 120,000 cubic yards to approximately 60,000 cubic yards. More importantly, Mr. Mazza explained that the amount of material unsuitable for open water disposal would be reduced from 60,000 cubic yards to approximately 32,000 cubic yards.

Mr. Mazza also reported that Parks & Recreation and the BOS both support exploring the expansion of Roger Sherman Baldwin Park with dredge material. Mr. Mazza stated that RACE engineering would be engaged to do a preliminary, limited study of this possibility. He noted that the Commission’s budget contemplates this work and there is money in the budget for this purpose, something that was addressed specifically with the BOS at its meeting on March 23. Finally, Mr. Mazza underscored that the Commission’s focus is on dredging and how to dispose of the dredge material.

5. Finance Committee Report and Approval of 2018-2019 Budget

Mr. Mazza reiterated that the Commission’s budget is to be considered by BET at its April 17 meeting and that he will attend the meeting in his capacity as Finance Committee Chairman.

6. Mooring Committee Report

Mike Van Oss updated the Commission on the Mooring Committee’s preparations for the 2018 season. He reported that the mooring renewal letter and application have been sent electronically to all previous mooring holders who had provided email addresses. In addition, a hard copy of these materials will be mailed later this week. All recipients will be asked to indicate their future communication preferences, which should reduce the number of mailings in the years ahead.

Casey McKee reported that invitations had also been sent recently to approximately a dozen mooring vendors to submit the required documentation to qualify to do mooring work in the Greenwich Harbors Area.

Mr. McKee also displayed a sample 2018 Mooring Permit double sticker, noting the high quality material and adhesive that had been selected. The larger sticker is to be affixed to the mooring ball and the smaller sticker is to be affixed to the transom of the vessel.

A member of the audience, Mr. Robert Krasnor, stated that he would be unable to affix the sticker to his mooring ball because he cannot reach the ball from the deck of his sailboat in Greenwich Cove. Mooring Committee Chairman Van Oss suggested that Mr. Krasnor ask his tender operator at Old
Greenwich Yacht Club to help him. Mr. Krasnor also stated that some mooring balls are styrofoam. Mr. Krasnor did not make any suggestions or offer any solutions.

7. Application Review Committee Report

Casey McKee gave the following report:

“Finished business

3/6/18 DEEP Approved the Alcheck dock at 45 Binney Lane.

New Business

(i). 3/6/18 received DEEP Notice of Tentative Determination No. 201705269 to approve an application by 94 FPC LLC to construct a fixed pier, ramp, floating dock, and boat lift; remove a portion of a set of stairs and construct a new set of steps landward of the coastal jurisdiction line; and replace fallen rocks on an existing revetment. The work would take place at 94 Field Point Circle. Permit application request originally filed 6/1/17 prior to approval of Harbor Management Plan. Issues raised by DEEP with respect to initial application were rectified; applicant initially proposed more extensive riprap revetment. The 30 Day Public Comment period ends 4/6/18. Shellfish Commission does not object to this application. The committee finds this application is consistent with the Harbor Management Plan provided the applicant employs best practices to ensure that construction activities do not adversely affect environmental quality, including water quality, in the GHA.

(ii). 3/5/18 received DEEP Notice of Tentative Determination No. 201710186 to approve an application by Atlantic Clam Farms of CT, Incorporated, to install seven 500’ long lines for seaweed aquaculture on a leased shell fish bed east of Great Captain Island and nearby the southern boundary of the GHA. The 30 Day Public Comment period ended 3/25/18. The HMC reviewed the applicant’s pre-application plans during the HMC’s 12/20/17 meeting and, with the understanding that the Shellfish Commission supports this proposal, informed the applicant and DEEP that the HMC had no objection to the applicant proceeding to a permit application to DEEP. In addition, the HMC reserved its right to continue to review the proposal at such time as a DEEP Public Notice may be issued. The committee is aware of no new information that would be grounds for objecting to this application and therefore the committee recommends that the HMC express no objection with the following conditions: 1) the aquaculture operation be properly and adequately marked with DEEP-approved buoys to avoid conflicts with public navigation; and 2) all aquaculture gear be removed from the
water at the termination of the operation or as determined to be necessary by the Shellfish Commission and Bureau of Aquaculture.

(iii). 3/16/18 received DEEP License #201705352 and relevant enclosures concerning installation of a ramp and floating dock at 18 Byram Dock St in the name of Leonard B. Mackey Jr. The license authorizes a 2.5” x 4.5” concrete landing, a 34’ x 3’ aluminum ramp and an 8’x12.5’ timber floating dock. This was approved by DEEP pursuant to a DEEP General Permit for minor coastal structures that does not require an application. Instead, the applicant must register the proposed work with DEEP and provide a copy of the registration form to the HMC. At this time, no action by the HMC is required because the DEEP license has been issued. In the future, the HMC should receive copies of such registration forms from applicants and will have an opportunity to comment before the DEEP license is issued. This item is noted by the committee for the record.

Open item, no action required at this time.

12/6/17 CLP, doing business as Eversource, submitted DEEP pre-application plans for a DEEP permit to install an electric transmission line under Greenwich Harbor just north of the David Avenue bridge. This project would affect Bruce Park and other areas of the town. At the 12/20/17 HMC meeting this proposal was discussed as part of a bigger project by the applicant, approved by the CT Siting Council, to construct a new substation at 290 Railroad Ave. Chairman Angiolillo has drafted a letter to Eversource management stating that the HMC has deferred a review of this request until such time that the Town’s petition to revise the Siting Council’s decision is resolved.

No other permit actions were received by the HMC affecting the GHA since the February 21st meeting.”

8. Long Range Planning Committee Report

No report.

9. Harbormaster & Harbormaster Liaison Reports

No Harbormaster or Harbormaster Liaison Reports.

The Harbormaster reported his involvement in the recent removal of the hazard at the wreck of the tugboat Kevin B. Chairman Angiolillo stated that the Commission supports the removal of all hazards to navigation in the GHA, but noted the Harbormaster’s failure to comply with Article 20(c) (Elimination of
10. Unfinished Business

In Bill Ingraham’s absence, Chairman Angiolillo conveyed Mr. Ingraham’s report that the 2018 GHMC Boating Brochure is in development at the printer.

11. New Business

None.

12. Public Comment

Drenckhahn's Boat Basin reported that certain chase boat operators for rowing organizations have been disruptive and causing wake conditions. It was also reported that activities at the Row America facility, involving the loading of rock on barges, had resulted in a work boat churning up the mud bottom and negatively affecting the recent dredge work done at Drenckhahn's. Lt. Bonney will organize a meeting of the rowing organizations, affected waterfront users, and the Commission in the near future. Drenkhahn's also expressed appreciation for Mr. Mazza's long and selfless service to the Town and recognized his leadership efforts in getting the Mianus River dredged.

Mr. Krasner stated his appreciation for the Harbormaster's removal of the hazard at the wreck of the Kevin B. Chairman Angiolillo reiterated that everyone supports the removal of navigational hazards, but the Town of Greenwich now has an adopted Harbor Management Plan and Mooring Regulations, which should be followed, Chairman Angiolillo stated that the Commission can't force the Harbormaster to follow the rules and regulations, but will make a record when he refuses to obey them. The Harbormaster stated that he is not bound by the Harbor Management Plan or the Mooring Regulations.

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Frank Mazza, seconded by Casey McKee. Motion carried (Unanimous),

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.
Penny Monahan assisted the Secretary in the preparation of these minutes.