Meeting called to order at 6:01 P.M. by Chairman Mike Van Oss

Approval of Minutes of the June 17th, 2020 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve the Minutes of the May 20, 2020 regular meeting by Lile Gibbons, seconded by Frank Mazza. Motion carried (Unanimous).

Chairman’s Report

Continuing work on the dredge project for Greenwich Harbor. We are now as today 7/17/2020, still awaiting notice from Governor Lamont about the Harbormaster Candidate. I thank the Committee for continuing to make progress as always in these difficult times. Lastly, I thank Bill Ingraham, Mooring Chairman, for his great efforts in being actively out there and ensuring a presence of the Commission.
4. Mooring Committee Report

Bill Ingraham reported that mooring renewals are a work in progress. We have 369 paid club moorings and a total 231 private paid moorings. Stickers have been issued and this now leaves 100 (give or take) that are still pending.

Also added that the struggle continues with non-compliant mooring occurrences, especially in Greenwich Cove. Bill also noted problematic assignment of mooring locations and a growing “wait list” not being handled by the Harbor Master within a reasonable time frame. Bill finished by pushing for a noncompliance letter to be sent to those people blatantly not following the rules and regulations and taking advantage or mooring inventory. However, enforcement of this will pose a challenge. Continuing to search for abandoned moorings, need to reclaim and place waitlisted folks in available locations is still underway. Mike wanted to thank Roger Bowgen and Sue Baker for investigating the shellfish beds and reporting back to Commission.

5. Harbormaster Liaison Report

Unfortunately, the Harbormaster’s current vessel, being in constant need of repairs, is challenging and is now out of the water as it continuously starts sinking resulting in constant pumping. The boat is not seaworthy and carries a lot of liability. New boat needs to be up and running and, in the water, asap.

The Skipper II along with clearly marked Harbor Management Commission with Town Emblem will be displayed, Commission was pleased with description. Awaiting the maiden voyage. Mike Van Oss thanked Bill Ingraham on his perseverance to ensure the Commission procures items to utilize budget to its full extent.

6. Applications Review Committee Report

a. 7 Meadow Place pier and floating dock

HMC reported in the previous meeting that there were multiple issues and concerns and sent a letter to applicant and engineers to request re-submission. The drawing was revised and the dock had transformed from a long 110 ft straight walk dock to an “L” shape, now 55 feet in length and more conforming to peninsula. HMC was pleased with transformation. No objection to forward a notice to DEEP to permit application process, plans included demolition of existing dock. Lile Gibbons suggested putting a limit on height to avoid visual obstructions as the dock would have a railing with spindles, this was one concern about view sights resulting in setting inadvertent precedents. Mike Van Oss motioned no objections to this application, seconded by Casey McKee. Motion carried (Unanimous).

7. Old Business

a. Captain’s Island No Wake Zone Buoys

Bill Ingraham ordered 2 buoys this week, Mike Van Oss felt more buoys were needed to clearly mark the area but Bill Ingraham felt 2 would suffice. Aamina Ahmad will confirm who decides where buoys are placed. We are awaiting Aamina’s response.

b. Dredge Funds for Greenwich Harbor

This remains unresolved, attempting to clarify “equal and open to all” and looking for documentation from 1980’s for confirmation/comparison. Mike is trying to work within town ordinance and historical framework to provide legitimate information to First Selectman’s Office. Frank Mazza provided much information about where we stand with this as Frank has been working on this for some time but the solution is not easy to come to. Geoff Steadman expressed that we cannot move forward until the HMC can ensure “equal and open to all” – Currently looking for permit that the Army Corps of Engineers provided to Town, we need to go through this process in order to move forward – this is a work in progress.

c. Congestion issues at Entrance to Greenwich Harbor

Indian Harbor Yacht Club’s guest Mooring seems to be blocking entrance when there is an
East to West wind pattern plus that it appears to many that the field has expanded. Bill explained that there are more non permitted moorings, LT Bonney added that it needs to be removed as it creates an unsafe environment and ideally would like IH to consider moving this field elsewhere. This is something the Commission will continue to monitor. It was also added that unpermitted mooring balls from mostly NY are wreaking havoc and causing traffic at both Shell and Calves Island forcing boaters and water skiers to go too close to rocky areas. Lt Bonney and Bernie Armstrong gave a report of their recent Police Boat harbor tour and showed photos of the mooring that is allegedly blocking the fairway from Greenwich Boat and Yacht Club. Lt Bonney spoke to the many unmarked moorings just West of Shell Island and the excessive water-skiing activity in that area.

Greenwich Cove Dredging

Parks and Rec (Brian Kerzner) responded that the permit was submitted and they are waiting for DEEP to determine suitable management and then they will apply for permit. Lt Bonney and Bernie Armstrong gave a report of their recent Police Boat harbor tour and showed photos of the mooring that is allegedly blocking the fairway from Greenwich Boat and Yacht Club. Lt Bonney spoke to the many unmarked moorings just West of Shell Island and the excessive water-skiing activity in that area.

8. Harbormaster Search Committee

Commission is awaiting action from Governor Lamont to notify Greenwich of its new Harbormaster appointment. Result anticipated shortly.

9. Public Comment

Bill Ingraham requested this as “New Business” as he reported a Mooring holder at the Cove has constructed a dock attached to the mooring – there is no vessel and Commission needs to address and handle immediately.

Pierrette Wagner commented regarding 25 Game Cock Road Dock, ramp landing as she is very much against this project continuing as she feels this is an environmental hazard allowing debris to build up and disperse onto neighboring properties. She communicated her concern and dismay to the HMC and DEEP directly. She had also spoke with DEEP, they relayed that they are not open to public comment. But it was noted that by the time public comment is invited the project is near completion, well after revisions could be made It was noted by Mike Van Oss that the HMC should indeed share these concerns with DEEP directly

Bill Bennett commented that beach entrance regarding boaters moored at OGYC, He reported that a fellow boater with a Facility Permit Pass wanted to access Tod’s Point but was told they are at full capacity (500 people) and he could not be permitted at this time, he explained that he wasn’t going to the beach, but to the Yacht Club as he is moored there, and again was told he cannot be granted access. Mr. Bennet asked for Commission’s assistance to revamp this policy as Boaters are not beach goers and should not be counted as such.

10. Adjournment

Bernie Armstrong made motion to adjourn and Mike Van Oss seconded, Motion carried (Unanimous). Meeting adjourned at 7:59pm
Application Review Committee Report

7/15/20  HMC Meeting

Bernard Armstrong, Chairman

Casey Mc Kee, Bruce Angiolillo

Finished business

0 items

17 open Items (pending DEEP action)

1  12/17/18    Rec’d COP Application for Removal of Invasive Phragmites in Bruce Park, Greenwich. Coastal resources in Bruce Park are Greenwich Creek, tidal ponds and associated tidal marshes. Approved by HMC 12/19/18.

3.  6/24/19    Sent signed Pre-application approval letter to Jill Pietropaolo at Race along with the signed Deep Permit Consultation Form (file 17 Byron Dock).

4.  5/21/19    rec’d Certificate of Permission Application Form for 8 Eggleston Lane to rebuild a stone seawall. Engineer Jim Bajek. See Dock application now permitted. 2 separate Permission Applications.

5.  Rec’d DEEP Notice of Tentative Determination to approve the application submitted by River Road Development LLC for proposed activity that includes modifying a marina and rowing club. Written comments due to DEEP by June 16, 2020.

6.  9/23/19    General Permit Registration Form for 152 Indian Head Rd for waterfront improvements to replace broken timbers and gangway and ramp. HMC voted in favor at 10/16/19 meeting

7  2/6/19    Rec’d the Public Notice from the USACOE regarding the kelp farm North of Payea Reach. File NAE-2019-00271 The ACOE is seeking comments regarding this plan. N.B the HMC approved a similar request in 2017,

8  1/3/2020    Rec’d LWRD License Application for 228 Byram Shore to retain and maintain a 3’x40’ aluminum ramp and a 10’ by 42” timber floating dock in the Byram Riven in Greenwich. Engineer John Hilts. 1/21/20 Sent HMC position letter to Susan Jacobson.

9  1/3/20    Rec’d LWRD License Application for Additional floating docks, replacement of deteriorated bulkheads, seawalls and ramp landings, and reinstallation of and/or modifications to ramps at a commercial recreational boating marina for 112 Water Street, Greenwich. Engineer John Hilts. There was no objection to this application and letter sent to DEEP on

10  2/15/20    Application by Cos Cob Kelp & Shell to build a kelp farm Southeast of Hen and Chickens and West of Green Gong 1 in Greenwich Harbor. Engineer Steve Timchak. There was no objection to this application and letter sent to DEEP on
Rec’d a Pre-Submission Consultation Form to install a residential boat lift at 41 Meadowbank Road, Old Greenwich. Engineer Suzy Bradford, Race Coastal. This application was tabled until 3/18/20 meeting pending Shellfish Commission report. 3/15/20 Shellfish has no objection to this project. The HMC had no problem with this application and sent letter to DEEP on 4/19/20.

Rec’d LWRD License Application for 207 Byram Shore Road to build a 4/40 dock. John Hilts Engineer. The HMC reviewed this project on April 15th and sent is notification out on 420/20.

Rec’d a LWRD License Application for 21 East Point Lane, Old Greenwich to install a 3’x33’ aluminum ramp and an 8’x12.6’ timber floating dock. On 5/11/20 Shellfish reported it had no objection to this application. HMC had no objection and letter sent to DEEP on 420/20.

Sugar Kelp Aquaculture Project. Sponsor Dan Maggio. Deferred as a result of no HMC meeting in March. The HMC voted “no objections” to this request. HMC letter sent.

Rec’d Certificate of Permission Application for dock modifications for 31 Indian Point Lane, Riverside. Engineer is Christina Lopes with Dockos in Mystic, CT. The HMC had no objection to this at its 6/17 meeting.

Rec’d Pre-submission Consultation Form for Greenwich Point Par to dredge 2.4 acres in Greenwich Cove. This area is part of the 147 acre Greenwich Point Park with significant residential development in the area. Sponsor is Brian Kerzner. Engineering by Steve Sternberg, Race Coastal. The HMC had no objection to this at its 6/17/20 meeting.

Rec’d LWRD License application # 20200548 for a dock and ramp at 25 Gamecock Road (Greenwich) to construct a 32’x5’ concrete landing, a 32’x5’ aluminum ramp, a 10x10 floating dock etc. at 25 Gamecock Road (Greenwich), John Hilts Engineer. The HMC has no objection to this at its 6/17/20 meeting.

New Business

1 new Business Item for review at the 7/15/20 HMC Meeting

3/20/20 Rec’d Pre-Submission Consultation Form for 7 Meadow Place, Old Greenwich, to extend the 50 ft pier, add gangway and timber floating dock. Engineer, Jill Pietropaolo, Race Coastal. Rec’d Shellfish signoff for same.

7/8/20 Rec’d Revised Pre-Submission Consultation Form for 7 Meadow Place, Old Greenwich

6/1/20 Rec’d LWRD Application for to construct a 4/40 dock with a fixed pier on Longmeadow Creek at 10 South End Court, Old Greenwich. The application was incomplete and applicant Tim Muldoon has been notified. No response as of 7/9/20

No other permit actions were received by the HMC affecting the GHA since the last meeting.