

Town of Guilford, CT  
Harbor Management Commission  
Town Hall, Park Street Guilford, CT 06437

A meeting of the Town of Guilford's Harbor Management Commission was held at  
7:30 PM, Wednesday, February 22, 2017

**New meeting place**  
Town Hall  
Upstairs in Selectman's wing

## DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Commission Chair Alison Varian, Chris Tietjen, Keith Harvey, KJ Lee, John Thommen

Members Absent: Theresa Hedleston

Also Present: Connecticut State Appointed Guilford Harbormaster Fred Brisbois

Members of the Public: Jack Evans, Guilford Yacht Club

Alison Varian called the meeting to order at 7:29PM.

- **Public Forum:**

Guilford Yacht Club Sailing Program- Jack Evans-7:45PM

Jack Evans- Reported on pilings/moorings from last year. The 2016 sailing program went well, with 110 children in attendance. Enrollment is full for 2017 program. The floats worked well and were safe for the children. The Guilford Yacht Club received many positive participant and parent reviews. Email for registration US Sail level 1 training program will occur in May 2017. GYC would like to apply for permit for one more piling- river side. Harbormaster Fred Brisbois asked if floats were installed? Jack responded that they had not yet installed due to staff issues. GYC is currently dredging to 5+1. All permits in place. GOING WELL. John Thommen asked if floats on river were going to attach to main dock. Jack responded that they were not.

- **Approval of the 1/25/2017 meeting minutes:**

Regarding the Annual report- change Chris Tietjen to Keith Harvey 2013-2014; 2015.

John Thommen made the motion to approve minutes with slight changes. KJ Lee seconded; all in favor.

- **State Harbormasters Report:**



THE OLD STONE HOUSE

## STATE HARBOR MASTER TOWN OF GUILFORD, CT



To: Harbor Management Commission

Re: Monthly Report

Dt: 22 Feb 2017

Summary of Harbor Master activities since the last Harbor Management Commission meeting:

**State Activities:**

- Buoy N14 was off station. The USCG installed a new buoy and recovered the off station buoy up the East River.

**Interface with Town Boards / Commissions /Offices/Associations:**

- At the request of Jack Evans, Guilford Yacht Club (GYC) I attended a meeting he had scheduled with Kevin McGee, Guilford's Environmental Planner, to discuss the GYC's proposal for a NOAA grant that would use dredge material in geobags to protect Chaffinch Island. There is a design for a Coastal Resilience Plan before the Hazard Mitigation Committee that consists of placing multiple rock barriers to protect the Chittenden Beach area. The GYC would like to see this plan expanded to also include protecting the Chaffinch Island area. Using material from dredging the West river could be used with Geobags. The dredge material could be considered as a 'donation in kind' that could count towards the Town's share of any cost associated with a grant. Jack Evans stated that GYC is planning to apply for a NOAA grant. However, GYC but is looking for the grant request to be submitted using something other than the GYC as the applicant because he feels an application from a "Yacht Club" may not be as well received as an application from the Town. All agreed that an application from the Town of Guilford would be more favorably received than if from a Yacht Club. I suggested to Kevin McGee that if an application is submitted, it should be vetted with the Harbor Management Commission since they have representation from the Marina and Shellfish Commissions as well as having responsibilities defined by State statutes.
- Provided Rick Maynard, Parks and Recreation, with requirements and links to file for marking a "NO SWIMMING" area off Jacobs Beach, then followed up with a meeting at Rick Maynard's office to assist in preparing his "No Swim" permit application

**Moorings:**

- 2 approved
- 1 in process online (awaiting confirmation of coordinates after installation)
- Plan to issue renewal notices by middle of March.

**Significant Events/ Other Activities:**

- NONE

Respectfully submitted,



Fred Brisbois  
Connecticut Harbor Master  
Town of Guilford

Discussion:

Alison met with Justin from Trident Marine Consultants, Kevin McGee and Jack Evans. The Guilford Yacht Club is looking to piggyback on a 2014 grant from the town to install rip-rap geobags at Jacobs beach. Evolved to add berms of rocks, filling holes in the marshland, and taking dredging spoils in geobags and placing closer to the shore. Alison noted the current changes could affect shellfish quality, and marshes would suffer damage while being rebuilt at the Chittenden Park area. This effort should save the Town of Guilford money from dredging costs in the long term.

Keith asked if there were studies on effects of this?

John stated there was some talk of this, but no specific information.

Justin is working on writing grant with The Nature Conservancy. If there is an actual plan, it has to be submitted by March 2017.

Chris asked if the mooring applications were new or from 2016? Fred reported 1 new permit, 1 from last year (FB assisted in completing the mooring application. Beebe will call Fred w/ coordinates.

AV inquired about functionality of ONLINE mooring system. FB and JT report that it has been working well, with very few glitches.

Fred does not inspect moorings before approval, but some other towns do require inspection.

- **Treasurers Report:**

Report was not available to Chris at time of this meeting.

- **Approval of Bills and Vouchers:**

\$17.00 Joan Dudley-secretary minutes. Keith made a motion to approve, John seconded; all approve.

- **New Business:**

49 Old Quarry Road Certificate of Permission for sea wall and dock- Alison wondered why the Harbor Management Commission was not contacted, as well as Chris from Branford Shellfish, as they have shellfish beds in the area. Alison to contact DEEP regarding this. John was in agreement- why were we not notified, why did HMC not have any input or opinion? Alison is going to DEEP meeting on Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>; she will ask while there.

Jack Evans' commentary on Chittenden Park tidal wetlands restoration: West River gathers sediment readily, and dredging is costly for GYC. They are looking at cost effective alternatives for erosion/sediment control. He described the ways the NJ DEEP raised level of marshland post Tropical Storm Sandy 3-5" using native material. Performed annually until goal height is reached. CT DEEP- discussed same- spoils are so wet they self-level. In thin spots vegetation grows up and through. Deeper spots will need plantings.

There are 3 similar projects in CT, 2 in RI, several in NY. NOAA grant- living shore/shoreline restoration. Grant is not a study. Study already performed, grant awarded with findings. What makes this attractive to GYC is financial. NOAA is a 2 for 1 grant. 250k in dredging materials can be "donated" annually, over 3 years. The Chittenden side \$1.2-1.4 million to restore. John asked how the shoreline will be stabilized. Jack said hay bales or coir will be used. There will still be ebb and flow to promote growth, but the berm protects erosion. John tidal vs alluvial material? Any studies regarding this? Jack stated there are 2 anecdotal studies. Members of GYC are Oceanographers and have access to metering; they will install metering too. JT noted shellfish commission. Fred asked how the value of the dredging spoils is calculated. Jack reported the values at \$24-26 using clamshell, \$15 hydraulic. 1<sup>st</sup> year will focus on marsh restoration, while monitoring Chittenden to see where berms are best placed. (120 acres of marsh land). Jack is looking to perform some marsh restoration on GYC property as an

example. The Grant is due March 15th- will be sent to UCONN, YALE, DEEP, Harbor Management Commission. Alison would like to view grant. Fred inquired about who would be submitting this grant. Jack was not yet sure; possibly the Nature Conservancy. John asked if dredging material needed to be tested. Jack replied there is constant testing ongoing throughout the restoration process. DEEP would like to use material local to the site as this material has tested clean for 30 years.

Jack, Chris and Alison also discussed electrolysis issues experienced at Guilford Yacht Club dock. John suggested a test with no one in water. An Acela train issue was questioned. John would like to hear results of tests.

- **Old Business:**

Annual Harbor Management Report- not due until August 2017.

- **Adjourn:**

Keith Harvey made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25PM; KJ seconded. All in favor.