

Town of Guilford, CT  
Harbor Management Commission  
Town Hall, 31 Park Street Guilford, CT 06437

A meeting of the Town of Guilford's Harbor Management Commission was held at  
7:00 PM, Wednesday, February 27th, 2019  
Guilford Fire Department Headquarters  
Meeting Room 1  
390 Church Street, Guilford, CT 06437

**Members Present: Commission Chair John Thommen,  
Chris Tietjen, KJ Lee, Pete Beauvais**  
**Members Absent: Keith Harvey (excused)**  
**Alternate Members Present: Joe Anastasio, Bonnie Burns**  
**Others Absent: CT State Appointed Guilford Harbormaster Fred Brisbois**  
**Members of the Public present: Mert Gollaher, Guilford Yacht Club**

## **APPROVED MINUTES**

**Commission Chairman John Thommen called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.**

- **Public Forum:**

Mert Gollaher, Guilford Yacht Club. Mert is taking over mooring structures for GYC from Jack Evans.

Last year, 4 moorings were used for GYC's junior sailing program. Jack Evans and Fred Brisbois discussed concerns with some float configuration. One dock is moveable. This system did not work well for program and GYC last year. Mert thought it best to meet with GHMC to ensure floats are in compliance with GHMC for sailing program.

John Thommen asked if all pilings were still in place. Mert replied all but one, that had come out, but has since been replaced. Mert hasn't been down to GYC in a week, but all pilings are in place at this point. John asked if the GYC would be applying for permanent structure instead of moorings. Mert replied yes, but unsure how much time this would take. Looking long-term, a separate structure would be ideal. John noted last year's structure was larger than 100 square feet per float. Mert replied the GYC repaired docks to comply with square footage requirements. John Thommen remarked DEEP would have issue with any appendage to D Dock. Fred Brisbois is concerned current configuration is "pushing the envelope" as to what DEEP will allow.

Mert distributed a handout to the Commission, depicting moorings for sailing program. "L" portion of float moves back and forth to allow children on to floats.

Chris Tietjen inquired if the floats were close enough together to walk from one to another. Mert replied yes, however, instructors mostly shuttle the students via boat. John asked if the GYC was proposing any addition or amendment to these pilings this year. Mert replied no; all locations and configurations will remain in place as is this year for this program. John asked about the same moorings outside of the river. Mert stated 7 were placed out in river last year because of dredging issues after the accident. GYC Overly conservative- Mert felt all were not needed. The moorings on the east side of the river would not be installed this year. The moorings on the west side were used more

heavily. John asked if this meant there would be 2 fewer this year then?? Mert replied yes.

Chris Tietjen- is the issue with the moveable dock?

There shall not be an appendage to a main fixed dock. Temporary use only, however became permanent. Appendage was left attached for days on end. Mert replied there was a management issue. Instructors not properly informed. Mert's son is a program instructor this year and he will be properly instructed as to how the moveable dock is to be handled.

John noted that last year Fred Brisbois approved these applications. What needs to be managed right now is the swinging bridge.

Bonnie Burns asked how this is moved. Mert replied there is a line through moving end of dock. Early in the morning, the line is retrieved by a Whaler.

John asked if there were any other questions. The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments. John suggested submitting renewal applications as soon as possible for Harbormaster (Fred Brisbois) review. Mert thanked the Commission for its time and left the meeting at 7:19PM. The Commission will wait to communicate with Fred to hear his input on this matter.

- **Approval of the 1/23/2019 meeting minutes:**

In Public Forum section: "Chris Tietjen thought there were two regulations that canceled each other's influence"

KJ Lee made a motion to approve the January 23, 2019 minutes with amended changes. Chris Tietjen seconded, unanimous approval.

- **State Harbormasters Report:**

read by John Thommen (CT State Appointed Guilford Harbormaster Fred Brisbois was not in attendance at this month's meeting)



THE OLD STONE HOUSE

## STATE HARBOR MASTER TOWN OF GUILFORD, CT



To: Harbor Management Commission

Re: Monthly Report

Dt: 25 January 2019

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

### **STATE ACTIVITIES:**

- None

### **INTERFACE WITH TOWN BOARDS /COMMISSIONS/OFFICES/ASSOCIATIONS:**

- None

### **MOORINGS:**

- Anticipate sending out renewal notices in mid-March 2019.
  - 203 mooring permits approved for 2018
    - 190 renewals
    - 13 new applications

### **NOTEWORTHY EVENTS/OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

- Notified USCG on 1 Feb that N14 was pulled off station by ice and was now located near Jacobs Beach. Advised USCG on 7 Feb that N14 was now located north of R4 and my concern that its current location falsely routed the Federal Channel and created a hazard to navigation. A USCG Notice to Mariners was issued. Assisted USCG telephonically on 20 Feb to guide them to the last known location of N14. USCG recovered N14 and relocated it to proper location.
- Met with Mr. Mert Gollaher on 7 Feb to discuss the GYC sailing program moorings. Mr. Gollaher has taken over responsibility from Mr. Jack Evans for the GYC mooring permits and he wanted to meet to discuss any concerns or issues. I advised Mr. Gollaher that late last year I had advised Mr. Evans that the GYC would need to meet with the Harbor Management Commission (HMC) to obtain their approval to renew the 4 mooring permits for floats in the West River. This information had not been relayed to Mr. Gollaher so I advised him that I would require HMC approval to renew these 4 permits.

Respectfully submitted,



Fred Brisbois

Connecticut Harbor Master  
Town of Guilford

- **Treasurers Report:**

Chris Tietjen stated there was no activity last month; so no report.

A new application for a location on Harrison Point was received with a check in mailbox today. Chris will deposit the check, and give the application to Fred Brisbois for review and approval.

- **Approval of Bills and Vouchers:**

Joan Dudley: \$51.75 for Secretarial Services. KJ Lee made a motion to approve this bill, Bonnie Burns seconded; unanimous approval.

- **Old Business:**

66 High Street- The applicant Ken Horton has applied for changes to DEEP for structural changes for roadway. All these changes involve shore side retaining walls.

John Thommen sees nothing this application conflicts with in Harbor Management Plan. This application is addressing compliance/ remediation. The walls were not originally permitted in the first place.

Chris Tietjen made a motion to approve this application as consistent with the HMP; KJ Lee seconded; unanimous approval. John to sign for GHMC and return to DEEP.

**Harbor Management Plan Amendments-** HMP plan that is in place.... John Thommen stated the Commission cannot make any changes/amendments without approval by DEEP, Port Authority. Our proposal to change 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph of page 45 of HMP was Denied by DEEP.

There are 2 ways to do this- the Commission can act on one (the current) issue, or diligently work on making all necessary changes before submittal.

John Lust's project has been denied because of the denial of the Commission's amended HMP.

John felt making the one necessary required change at this time would make the most sense.

KJ Lee asked if HMP is changed bit by bit, could the Commission later be accused of altering the plan to fit particular circumstances?

Pete Beauvais agreed with KJ, but would like to see the Commission use this one issue to see how long it takes to move through the review/approval process.

John acknowledged changing plan to "fit need" but current wording is so strict. Plan needs to be submitted in writing. Joe Anastasio asked if there was a form available. John replied no, just that it needs to be submitted in writing. Prior to this, there was nowhere to send HMP, no one to review/oversee HMP.

John Commission needs to vote on how best to proceed with amendments on HMP.

KJ asked if this instance could be used as a test case, then HMP overhaul?

DEEP has GHMC 2012 HMP. Chris Tietjen will email Bonnie Burns the 2012 HMP w/revisions, as she did not have a copy.

Pertaining to application of revision of HMP to DEEP

6.7.3 9<sup>th</sup> paragraph- 2012 HMP. CT made motion to change wording to... BB2 all approved unanimous. JT to reach out to Ms. Romero for correct contact information as to where to send; will send a Certified letter.

John Tommen suggested Commissioners divide pages between each other for review. This matter will be revisited at next meeting when Keith Harvey will be in attendance.

- **New Business:**

Town of Guilford applications- permission to repair seawall on Falcon Road. SHA across from tennis courts. Seawall has eroded, and the road is collapsing. The Town wants to renew seawall with natural stone. KJ noted to the Commission on March 6<sup>th</sup> a public hearing on this issue will be held.

Chris Tietjen made a motion to sign the application for wall as consistent with HMP. Pete Beauvais seconded; unanimous approval.

The second Town application was for Daniel Avenue- North of Daniel Avenue to creek. Chris Tietjen noted this was an after the fact permit for emergency remediation after Hurricane Sandy. Chris Tietjen made a motion to accept the Daniel Avenue repair as consistent with HMP; Bonnie Burns seconded; unanimous approval. John Thommen to sign both Consultation Forms and return to DEEP.

- **Harbor Management Plan Review:** will review and discuss further at next meeting when Keith Harvey is present.
- **Adjourn:** Chris Tietjen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07PM, KJ Lee seconded; unanimous approval.