



**TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Harbor Management Commission**

302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475-1741

Telephone: 860-395-3123 Facsimile: 860-395-3125

**HMC MEETING MINUTES
June 11, 2019 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL EMPLOYEE CAFETERIA**

1. Call to Order

Chair Robert Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Robert Murphy, Chair; Paul Connolly, Secretary; David Cole; Robert Soden; Scott Mitchell, Harbormaster, arrived at 7:03; Dick Goduti arrived at 7:06; and Jennifer Donahue, Clerk.

Lou Vinciguerra, Keith Nielson, Matthew Beecher of Meeco Sullivan, Ardine Alsbeck, Kelly Ingalls, Jonathan Ingalls, Jennifer Arcesi and David Arcesi were present as guests.

3. Citizens with Business before the Commission

Mr. Nielson presented information regarding the Long Island Sound Blue Plan, which he characterized as a forerunner to new regulations for Long Island Sound. He presented Mr. Murphy with a copy of the plan's executive summary as well as the highlights of the policies section of the plan. He noted that this effort was initiated by a state legislative act five years ago and they have been working with DEEP to develop what was supposed to be an inventory that would provide criteria to be considered for evaluation of development proposals in the Sound. Initially intended as a resource to collect data, there is now a concern amongst members of the Marine Trades Association that the project has in the past six months moved to include policy documents, which could usurp local zoning authority. Mr. Nielson felt the commission should be aware of these changes and their possible implications for Old Saybrook. Mr. Nielson also stated that he has contacted Paul Formica and Devin Carney to sit down and talk with them about the issue. He noted that there is a public comment period until June 21 for any concerned citizens or groups to voice their opinions on the plan. Mr. Murphy stated that he would inform the first selectmen and the commission would review the plan. Mr. Murphy and all commissioners thanked Mr. Nielson for taking the time to draw their attention to this issue. Mr. Nielson left at 7:10 p.m.

In order to allow Ms. Alsbeck, Mr. and Ms. Ingalls, and Mr. and Ms. Arcesi to conduct their business early in the meeting, agenda item 13a under New Business was moved to this portion of the meeting. Mr. Murphy gave an overview of the mooring dispute at 23 West Shore Drive. Both parties, the Arcesis and the Ingalls, were given an opportunity to speak and to have their questions answered. It was established that the mooring is legal and is in an appropriate location. Renters to the property are not to use the mooring but guests of the Ingalls may come for the day and use it when the Ingalls are present. It is now understood that the mooring cannot be listed as an amenity when the property is rented. The Arcesis would prefer that the mooring be outside the rocky barrier away from any potential swimmers. Mr. Goduti pointed out that all of the area homeowners have riparian rights, which gives everyone equal use of the waterfront. He suggested that now that all of the rules have been clarified that the neighbors try again to work out their dispute. Ms. Alsbeck, Mr. and Ms. Ingalls and Mr. and Ms. Arcesi left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

4. Meeco Sullivan Proposal Discussion

Mr. Beecher reviewed details related to his company's response to the RFP for work on the dinghy dock and gangway at the Sheffield Street facility. He answered commissioners' questions and worked with them to brainstorm the pros and cons of various approaches. Discussion centered on providing as much ADA compliance as possible as well as the pros, cons, and implications of using various slopes, lengths, widths and freeboard height. Related pricing ramifications based on the changing parameters were also discussed. Mr. Murphy and the commissioners thanked Mr. Beecher for his time and noted that they would call a special meeting in about a week to sketch out final details for him based on their conversation this evening. Commissioners also noted that alteration is required to their current permit for the work but that they would like to continue contractual discussions in preparation for construction during the winter. Mr. Beecher left the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

11. Harbor Master/Dock Master Report

In order to accommodate Mr. Mitchell this agenda item was moved up. Mr. Mitchell noted that he had moved a couple of moorings in North Cove and is still trying to complete some repairs at Ferry Road but had no additional report to make. He left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

5. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting of May 13, 2019 were considered. A motion was made by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mr. Connolly to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was so VOTED 4-0-0 with Mr. Goduti voting "present".

6. Clerk Report

Ms. Donahue's written report was reviewed by commission members. Updates were provided on wait list numbers, those awaiting spots on the wait list, and number of applications received for the Flats & Beaches areas. Ms. Donahue asked for guidance on wait list members who had not yet paid their renewal fees. Commissioners requested that those who have not yet paid to renew be given till the next commission meeting before being purged from the lists. The monthly financial report was also reviewed.

7. North Cove

Mr. Murphy made a motion to add William Robbins, Tina Pascoe and Mary Ellen Parkinson of Old Saybrook and Chris Wiegman of Ivoryton to the North Cove wait list. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED 4-0-0 with Mr. Goduti voting "present".

8. Clothesline

Mr. Murphy made a motion to add Mary Ellen Parkinson to the Clothesline wait list. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED 4-0-0 with Mr. Goduti voting "present".

9. Ferry Road

Mr. Murphy made a motion to add Brian Blank to the Ferry Road wait list. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED 4-0-0 with Mr. Goduti voting "present".

Mr. Murphy reported that Between the Bridges is waiting to hear the results of the vote of the dockaminium owners before making a piling purchase deal. Commissioners discussed the remaining piling inventory in light of their upcoming projects and instructed Mr. Murphy to offer up to five of the piles for sale and to save the rest for possible use at Sheffield Street.

Mr. Goduti asked about a boat that was possibly illegally using a slip at Ferry Road. It was determined that the boat is probably owned by the occupier of the slip next to it as the current slip renter has not yet launched his boat. Ms. Donahue will investigate to see if the CIVILS database that is used in the Assessor's office to trace registrations of vehicles could also be used for boat registrations to determine ownership of unknown vessels.

10. Sheffield Street Project Planning, Bidding and Execution Discussion

Commissioners briefly discussed steps to finalizing a contract with Meeco Sullivan and revising the DEEP permit. Mr. Murphy noted that the RFP process had not been invalidated.

The subject of kayak racks was revisited with commissioners split on the feasibility and advisability of having them at Sheffield Street versus an alternate location. Concerns remain about space, parking, launching ability, and how to control the storage process. Mr. Goduti had recommended two potential alternate locations, the state-owned property next to McDonalds and Clinton Avenue. Mr. Murphy suggested trying a pilot program offering the currently underutilized tops of the dinghy racks at Sheffield Street for kayak storage by making available ten spaces as a start. Mr. Murphy will also attend the next meeting of the Park & Recreation Commission to discuss the kayak issue with them and to hear their thoughts.

12. Correspondence

Rule 11 requests were acknowledged from Walter Moore, Phil Wescott, and Michael Osnato. Ms. Donahue was asked to contact them to confirm this and to ask them to consider attaching their yellow ribbons to their moorings so that transient boaters could make use of them.

Hugh Hunsinger has sold his boat and will not be mooring in North Cove this season or in the future. He asked the commission to consider a refund of his mooring fee. Commissioners discussed the issue and asked Ms. Donahue to inform Mr. Hunsinger that no refund could be issued after the mooring is placed as the expense of its placement has already been incurred and the expense of pulling it will also have to be incurred at the end of the season. Perhaps Mr. Mitchell can put a yellow ribbon on it so that transient boaters can use it for the season.

13. New Business

Item "a" under New Business was handled previously in the meeting and Mr. Mitchell had asked that Mr. Murphy remove item "b" at this time.

14. Old Business

Mr. Murphy and Mr. Connolly attended the selectmen's meeting last month to present the commission's proposal about its authority. First Selectman Fortuna asked that the town's attorney, Michael Cronin, draft new ordinances in conjunction with the commission. Mr. Murphy will follow-up with Mr. Cronin.

The desire for further improvements to the website that are more boater-centered was discussed. Mr. Connolly will do some further research and work with the IT Manager and Ms. Donahue to implement additional changes.

15. Payment of Bills

Mr. Connolly made a motion to pay Jim Mitchell \$590.00, Bob Larson \$520.00, Abby Pianka \$280.00 and Sarah Eickler \$100.00 for mooring installation work and to pay Saybrook Hardware \$75.95, \$17.98, \$8.99, and \$19.55. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion and it was so VOTED 4-0-0 with Mr. Goduti voting "present".

Mr. Vinciguerra left the meeting at 9:34 p.m.

Discussion commenced about bills received recently from Burke Landscaping for services provided in previous years. After reviewing the HMC's payment history with the company it was determined that he had not previously been paid for the services he was billing for but the lapse in payment appeared to be because he never submitted invoices for the work when it was done. Mr. Cole made a motion to pay Burke Landscaping for lawn mowing done in 2017 totaling \$441.00, lawn mowing done in 2016 totaling \$504.00 and lawn mowing done in 2015 totaling \$567.00. Mr. Connolly seconded the motion and it was so VOTED 4-0-0 with Mr. Goduti voting "present". Mr. Murphy asked Ms. Donahue to use the rest of the grounds keeping money allocated for this fiscal year toward the bills and to take the rest from other purchased services.

16. Adjournment

Mr. Cole made a motion to adjourn at 9:41 p.m. seconded by Mr. Connolly which was so VOTED unanimously 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Donahue
Clerk, OSHMC