

**CITY OF NORWALK  
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 – 6:00 PM  
VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE**

**ATTENDEES:** Matt Gifford, Laurie Jones, Alan Kibbe, Christopher MacDonnell, Jeffrey Mangels, John Pinto, Donald Remson.

**ABSENT:** Chris White, Mike Matthews

**STAFF:** Amelia Williams.

**OTHERS:** Bruce Lovallo (Harbormaster), Owen Lee (Norwalk Police Marine Unit)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kibbe called the September 17, 2025, meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Chair Kibbe did roll call as mentioned above. A quorum was established.

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Ms. Lynnelle Jones of 10 Point Road stated her comments related to the August meeting minutes and the agenda item to review Chapter 3 of the Norwalk Harbor Management Plan.

**IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**A. Regular Meeting: August 27, 2025**

Secretary Laurie Jones presented the draft minutes with Dr. Pinto's edits noted in red.

**\*\*DR. PINTO MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.**

**\*\*MR. MANGELS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**\*\*THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**V. APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**A. 80 Seaview Avenue**

Dr. Pinto, Mr. Mangels, and Mr. Gifford recused themselves from this item. This application was before the Commission several times dating back as far as 2021 and involves remediation of 80 Seaview Avenue as well as inclusion of docks. Mr. MacDonnell noted that the Commission commented on this application five years ago and that letter stands, mentioning two versions sent

around as the history of actions for those not on the Commission then. He then described the proposed changes, stating that the application as it stands has issues with the northernmost finger, which, even though they say they are not going to use it, is an enticement for someone to use it and is not necessary for their proposal to have two additional boats stationed at the north end. Discussion ensued. Mr. MacDonnell recalled objecting to this four years ago, noting the original permit was approved.

**\*\*MS. JONES MOVED THAT THE PROPOSAL IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT PLAN BECAUSE OF ENCROACHMENTS ON THE FEDERAL ANCHORAGE AND CITY STREET ENDS.**

**\*\*MR. MACDONNELL SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**\*\*RECUSALS – DR. PINTO, MR. MANGELS, MR. GIFFORD.**

**\*\*THE MOTION PASSED.**

## **VI. REPORTS**

### **A. Chairperson**

Chair Kibbe provided his report, noting the importance of using the City of Norwalk email addresses provided to all Commissioners and confirming they are working properly. He mentioned receiving a procurement and contract compliance letter from Attorney Darin Callahan and the legal department regarding a contract with the Commission consultant, proposing a special executive session meeting to discuss this. He requested Commissioners send their availability for the week of October 6th for this meeting.

Chair Kibbe also addressed the development of an onboarding package for new Commissioners, led by Ms. Jones.

He also suggested exploring all dredging options and praised Mr. Remson and Ms. Jones for initiating this effort.

### **B. Shellfish Commission**

No report.

### **C. Staff**

#### **1. Harbor Master**

Mr. Lovallo delivered the Harbormaster's report, noting a slow month with the boat serviced and bottom painted, though batteries remain unpurchased, with plans to address this in the next one to two weeks. He reported receiving complaints from East Channel mooring holders upset about the removal of their dinghies from the dinghy dock by September 15th due to a lack of a temporary alternative plan. Mr. Lovallo discussed this with Ken Hughes and informed the complainants they could use Veterans Park for 50 cents per foot (e.g., \$5/day for a 10-foot dinghy).

Mr. Lovallo added that he tagged overdue mooring holders, with most paying after notices, and issued third notices to two others, threatening mooring removal if unpaid within 72 hours. Chair Kibbe praised Mr. Lovallo's summer management, and no further questions were raised.

## **2. Consultant**

No report.

## **D. Committee**

### **1. Mooring and Harbor Safety**

Mr. Mangels provided the harbor safety report, noting a steady influx of transients with two arrivals scheduled (one on the 24th and another on Friday), though fewer than expected given the upcoming boat show starting this weekend.

He reported normal traffic levels and a positive visitor comment about enjoying Sheffield. No safety concerns were identified, and Mr. Mangels expressed gratitude for the support from Mr. Lovallo, the Marine Unit (Sergeant Bisceglie, Officer Lee, and Nelson), and mooring inspector Norm Edwards, whom Harbormaster Lovallo will accompany the next day to check moorings.

### **2. Finance**

Mr. MacDonnell reported no financial updates, confirming the Commission still has funds available and encouraged spending on budgeted items before the City reclaims them.

### **3. Plans and Recommendations**

Discussion of Chapter 3 of the Harbor Management Plan

Ms. Jones introduced this item and Dr. Pinto stressed updating Chapter 3 to align with state policies, proposing binding recommendations unless DEEP shows cause, and adding Marine Commercial District protections, aiming for state consistency via the Harbor Management Association.

Ms. Jones highlighted Chapter 3's core policies, overdue for annual review (last amended 2009, 16 years ago), needing minor updates such as DEP to DEEP, as well as major updates such as addressing HMC authority and coastal resiliency. Discussion ensued.

**\*\*MR. MACDONNELL MOVED TO SOLICIT A PROPOSAL FROM A CONSULTANT TO REVISE THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT PLAN AS PART OF A LARGER CONTRACT.**

**\*\*MR. GIFFORD SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**\*\*THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **4. Newsletter/Website**

No report.

### **5. Water Quality**

Chair Kibbe noted that until they have a new mayor, this mayor is not going to reappoint someone to be in charge of the Water Quality Committee, and he had not had a chance to look up the statutory requirements.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

After brief discussion on adding old and new business to future agendas and ensuring a letter regarding renaming Veterans Park marina is on the next agenda, Mr. Mangels moved to adjourn.

**\*\*MR. MANGELS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\*MR. MACDONNELL SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**\*\*THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Courtney Baldwin,  
Recording Secretary