

**CITY OF NORWALK
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2025**

ATTENDANCE: Alan Kibbe, Chair; Laurie Jones; Chris MacDonnell; Jeff Mangels; Dr. John Pinto; Donald Remson; Matt Gifford

ABSENT: Mike Matthews; Chris White

STAFF: Amelia Williams

OTHER: Geoff Steadman, Consultant; Sgt. Justin Bisceglie, Marine PD; Steve Bartush, Shellfish Commission

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kibbe called the meeting to order at 6:07 P.M. There was a quorum present.

ROLL CALL

A Roll Call of those present was performed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Madigan came forward for public comment on 30 South Beach Dock and questioned how it had gotten approved at DEEP without input from the Harbor Commission. Further discussion followed regarding what had happened with the property.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Kibbe said he had received email correspondence from Ms. Lynnelle Jones which was forwarded to all the Commissioners regarding complaints about minutes and work done on Wilson Point. Secretary Laurie Jones addressed the complaint by describing the HMC Application Review Committee process.

Amelia Williams reported that she had received a lot of correspondence regarding the dock at 30 South Beach and let the respondents know that DEEP has approved it.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING: DECEMBER 18TH, 2024

**** MR. REMSON MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2024 AS SUBMITTED.**
**** DR. PINTO SECONDED THE MOTION.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

A. 46 SHOREHAVEN ROAD – PRE-SUBMISSION APPLICATION: THE APPLICANT PROPOSES TO CONSTRUCT A PIER, RAMP, LANDING FLOAT, AND FLOATING DOCK FOR RECREATIONAL BOATING.

A map of the property and application submission was provided for those present. It was noted that the proposed dock may involve a work barge and would be extending over some shellfish beds. The dock appeared to be positioned adequately for littoral rights.

Mr. Hilts came forward to discuss this item. He said he had talked with GNC about their ability to access the property. Review of the site map and discussion followed.

**** MR. GIFFORD MOVED THAT THE HARBOR COMMISSION HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE APPLICATION MOVING FORWARD.**
**** MR. MANGELS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH SIX (6) IN FAVOR (KIBBE, JONES, MANGELS, PINTO, REMSON, GIFFORD) AND ONE (1) AGAINST (MACDONNELL)**

B. 17 MACK STREET – CERTIFICATE OF PERMISSION: THE APPLICANT HAS SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION TO CT DEEP FOR MAINTENANCE DREDGING AT THE SOUTH NORWALK BOAT CLUB.

This application is still pending and was not addressed at this time.

REPORTS

CHAIRPERSON

Chair Kibbe came forward to deliver his report. He said he didn't have much to report.

SHELLFISH COMMISSION

Mr. Bartush came forward to deliver his report. He said that there wasn't much to report, but they had received the information regarding the 46 Shorehaven Road dock application and would be reviewing it. Clamming Permits will be on sale this weekend.

STAFF

HARBOR MASTER

There was no report at this time.

CONSULTANT

Mr. Steadman came forward to deliver his report. He reported on the status of the grant for Veteran's Park Marina, the importance of memorial recognition of Tony Mobilia and status of the Norwalk River Watershed Plan. They have also been working on the proposed amendments to the Harbor Management Act, which he reviewed for those present. He also reported that a response had been received from Eversource regarding the public hearing that should be addressed. February 8th is the annual gathering of Shellfish Commissions. He plans to speak at that meeting and is working on developing a presentation on the history of shell fishing in Norwalk. He mentioned issues concerning the resiliency plan for the perimeter of Veteran's Park which needs DEEP approval.

COMMITTEE

MOORING AND HARBOR SAFETY

Mr. Mangels came forward to deliver his report. He said the online moorings registrations are coming in - 40 approved, 26 under review. All documents must be uploaded. The transient mooring tackle needs to be inspected. The new mooring balls will be installed. There have been no safety related issues. He has been working to try and beautify the island campgrounds. The drone has been purchased and is expected to arrive soon.

FINANCE

Mr. MacDonnell came forward to deliver his report. He said he did not have anything to report.

PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Ms. Jones came forward to deliver her report. She said there would be a joint holiday party with the Shellfish Commission on February 11th.

NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE

There was no report at this time.

WATER QUALITY

There was no report at this time. Discussion followed regarding how to nominate a chair for this committee.

NOMINATING

Dr. Pinto came forward to present his report. So far, the current slate has been nominated: Alan Kibbe, Chair; Jeff Mangels, Vice Chair; Laurie Jones, Secretary. Further nominations can be made with final nominations at the February meeting. Further discussion followed regarding the nominations process.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Gifford expressed that we are an agent of the City and wished to discuss ways to ensure that there would not be a repeat of the issues that the HMC has had recently regarding DEEP and Eversource applications where the HMC was not consulted in a timely manner. Discussion followed regarding the projects, including 30 South Beach and the Walk Bridge Project.

There was discussion regarding the importance of helping the City understand what the HMC does and the value added. The recommendation was made to make a formal presentation to the Common Council.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. MACDONNELL MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ian A. Soltes

Telesco Secretarial Services