

Five Mile River Commission
December 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes

In attendance:

Matt Marion (Chairman)

Wim Jessup (Commissioner)

John deRegt (Commissioner)

Craig Jung (Commissioner)

and

Steve Bartush (Harbor Superintendent)

The Five Mile River Commission commenced its regularly scheduled meeting via Zoom at 6:00 p.m.

The Commission reviewed and unanimously approved a proposed 2024 Commission meeting schedule which begins on January 11th. (The other scheduled 2024 meeting dates are: February 15th; March 21st; May 16th; July 11th; September 12th; October 17th; and December 12th.)

Next, Chairman Marion raised for discussion the updated Army Corps of Engineers' August 2023 draft survey of the Five Mile River. The survey, which noted significant shoaling along the western side of the federal navigation channel, directly supports the Commission's planned submission of a dredging application with the State of Connecticut. Mr. Marion agreed to update the Commission at its January 2024 meeting regarding the dredging paperwork requirements and his communications with the Army Corps of Engineers.

The Commission discussed several ongoing issues, including online listings and the use of Dockwa's on-line reservation system to attract transient boaters to the river, the 2024 mooring inspection protocols, and harbor use fee collections. The Commission also discussed FY 2023 results, which were lower than prior years with regard to dock and mooring use fee collections but, on a net basis, were better than 2022 results based on lower than expected current expenses. The Commissioners agreed to table these discussions until their January 2024 meeting.

The Commission then noted/discussed the following items in Harbor Superintendent Bartush's December report: (i) the Commission's unanimous approval of dark green harbor decals for 2024; (ii) 2023 Dockwa results and ways to attract additional transient boaters in 2024; (iii) mooring inspection logistics in 2024; (iv) ground tackle standardization in the future; (v) the weather-related loss of the rock buoy at the harbor mouth; and (vi) the status of several DEEP and NMP enforcement proceedings.

With no further business, the Commission adjourned its Meeting. The Commission's next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, January 11th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., via Zoom. To join, please contact Matt Marion in advance of the meeting via email at mmarion@marionlawllc.com to obtain the relevant meeting entry code.

Respectively submitted,

Five Mile River Commission