



Jamestown Harbor Office
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**TOWN OF JAMESTOWN
HARBOR COMMISSION**

Minutes of the September 13, 2017 Meeting of the Jamestown Harbor Commission
Approved: 10/11/2017

A meeting of the Jamestown Harbor Commission (JHC) was held Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at the Jamestown Town Hall, 93 Narragansett Avenue, Jamestown, Rhode Island.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Cain called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with roll call:

Present:

Dan Wurzbacher, Commissioner
Clifford Kurz, Commissioner
James Heagney, Commissioner
David Cain, Chairman

Absent:

William Harsch, Vice-Chairman
Joseph McGrady, Commissioner
Wayne Banks, Commissioner

Also in attendance:

Chief Mello, Executive Director
Mark Campbell, Harbormaster
Kim Devlin, Harbor Clerk

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

A. Wednesday, August 9, 2017

This item was continued until the October meeting; there is not a quorum to approve the minutes.

III. OPEN FORUM

A. Scheduled Requests to Address

There were no Scheduled requests to address.

B. Non-scheduled Requests to Address- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Ms. Christine Ariel, 61 Steamboat Street, addressed the Jamestown Harbor Commission regarding the placement of swim buoys at Mackerel Cove. Ms. Ariel stated that she is concerned that there isn't enough room for swimmers and that she is interested in preserving the water quality of Mackerel Cove. Ms. Ariel stated that the Conservation Area does not match where the swim markers are.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that the markers are there to delineate the swim area, not the conservation area.

Ms. Ariel stated that she would like to see the markers placed at the Conservation Area boundary and that the markers are too close in and have never been that far in.

Chairman Cain stated that the Harbor Management Ordinance does not speak to the Swim Area.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that Harbormaster Campbell checked the swim buoys three times; the first two times they were on station and the third time they were 20 feet inward. The Recreation Department will determine what type of

markers they will use and where they will be placed. The Harbor Department adopted these markers a few years ago to make it easier for the Recreation Department to install and remove as a part of the Harbor Department buoy contract.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that what Ms. Ariel is requesting of the Harbor Commission is to delineate the Conservation Area in Mackerel Cove. We mark some Conservation Areas, but not all.

Chairman Cain stated that some members from the Harbor Commission will meet with Executive Director Chief Mello to research and discuss the idea.

Mr. Sam Paterson, 23 Fox Run, addressed the Jamestown Harbor Commission regarding the mooring inspector renewal application. Mr. Paterson stated that he is an inspector and that Dutch Harbor Boat Yard called him today and asked him for a copy of his insurance, which is already on file with the Town of Jamestown. Mr. Paterson stated that his insurance policy runs from June 2017 until June 2018 so he cannot provide an updated copy and it is ridiculous that he has to provide another one.

Chairman Cain stated that we all have insurance and we all have a copy of the policy, so it would be simple to go into your file and make a copy and include it with your application.

Mr. Paterson stated that he will go the Harbor Office and get a copy from the Harbor Clerk that is already on file and take it to Dutch Harbor Boat Yard.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that a number of years ago the Harbor Office set certification dates in which the inspectors are qualified and insurance policies lapse for many reasons. We are asking that, at the time of the application, you provide proof of insurance.

Chairman Cain asked Mr. Paterson why he could not call his insurance company and ask for proof of insurance.

Mr. Paterson stated that that isn't the issue, the issue is that they already have proof and he has to do this for two applications; his own qualification and Dutch Harbor's qualification.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that Dutch Harbor is required to provide proof of insurance; we require insurance from the company, not the sub-contractors.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MELLO'S REPORT- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Executive Director Chief Mello reported that we met with Kevin Cute from CRMC to discuss the Harbor Management Plan revisions, most were regarding water quality updates with DEM. We keep addressing the action items pointed out by CRMC and they keep coming up with more, but we think they are all addressed and that we should receive our full five year approval.

Executive Director Chief Mello reported that the West Ferry outhaul stair project will be moving forward, starting with a prototype for two sets of stairs to see how they hold up.

A discussion on the details of the project ensued.

V. HARBORMASTER REPORT- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Harbormaster Campbell had nothing to report.

VI. MARINE DEVELOPMENT FUND BUDGET

A. 2016/2017 MDF YTD Budget- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Executive Director Chief Mello reported that we are not prepared to look back on the last fiscal year yet, but as soon as it is prepared we will bring it back to you.

VII. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Budget- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Commissioner Kurz had nothing to report.

B. Facilities- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Commissioner Wurzbacher reported that he and Commissioner Banks met with Harbormaster Campbell and Executive Director Chief Mello regarding the West Ferry stair project and they seem to have a good handle on the project.

C. Mooring Implementation- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Chairman Cain had nothing to report, but asked if Jamestown Boat Yard was submitting a map of their moorings as they install the new ones, because he has heard that there are some issues.

Harbormaster Campbell stated he will follow up on Chairman Cain's question.

Chairman Cain stated that he has some friends whose mooring was shifted around.

Harbormaster Campbell stated that that was part of the plan they submitted, to provide new, free moorings to private permit holders if they would be willing to move to a slightly different location.

D. Traffic Committee- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Chairman Cain had nothing to report.

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

A. Conservation Commission Liaison- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Conservation Commission Liaison Souza had nothing to report.

IX. OLD BUSINESS- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

There were no Old Business items to discuss.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

A. William Straser - Appeal of grace period request denial; 8/18/2017 - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

B. Michael Rocchio – Appeal of late fees; 8/28/2017 - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

C. Stephen Murphy – Appeal of late fees; 9/5/2017 - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

D. Michael Kavanagh – Appeal of grace period request denial; 9/6/2017 - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Commissioner Wurzbacher moved to accept Correspondence items A-D; Commissioner Wurzbacher seconded. So voted; 4 ayes, 0 nays.

XI. NEW BUSINESS- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

A. William Straser - Appeal of grace period request denial; 8/18/2017 - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Mr. William Straser addressed the Jamestown Harbor Commission regarding his appeal for a second year grace period, stating that unforeseen family issues are the reason he has not launched his boat this year.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that Mr. Straser was approved for a grace period last year and the Harbormaster can grant one year, but anything beyond that has to go to the commission. Mr. Straser has paid his fees and is just asking for a second year waiver.

Commissioner Wurzbacher asked what the precedent was for this type of appeal.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that they are based on the circumstances of each case; some have been granted and some have been denied.

Chairman Cain stated that family hardships are unpredictable and suggested granting the appeal.

Commissioner Wurzbacher agrees, with the condition that there will not be a third year.

Commissioner Kurz moved to grant the appeal; Commissioner Wurzbacher seconded. So voted; 4 ayes, 0 nays.

B. Michael Rocchio – Appeal of late fees; 8/28/2017 - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Mr. Michael Rocchio was not in attendance.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that we can continue the matter and we will notify Mr. Rocchio in writing.

Chairman Cain moved to continue the item until the next meeting, Commissioner Wurzbacher seconded. So voted; 4 ayes, 0 nays.

C. Stephen Murphy – Appeal of late fees; 9/5/2017 - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Chairman Cain moved to continue the item until the next meeting, Commissioner Heagney seconded. So voted; 4 ayes, 0 nays.

D. Michael Kavanagh – Appeal of grace period request denial; 9/6/2017 - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Mr. Michael Kavanagh addressed the Jamestown Harbor Commission stating he has had the mooring for over 30 years. Last year he had a grace period because he had surgery on his neck and this year he has more health issues and is requesting a second year grace period.

Chairman Cain moved to grant the appeal, Commissioner Kurz seconded. So voted; 4 ayes, 0 nays.

E. Swim Floats; Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that there are a number of swim floats on moorings around the island, some are existing and some are new. Executive Director Chief Mello would like to discuss the concept and is not asking the Jamestown Harbor Commission to make a decision.

Harbormaster Campbell stated that there are some swim platforms that have cleats and kayaks on them that are clearly not being used for swimming and he would like clarification on them being permitted and their use.

Chairman Cain suggested forming a committee to research this issue.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that we have already done research and would like to discuss the guidelines for their permitting and use.

Chairman Cain, Commissioner Wurzbacher, and Commissioner Heagney volunteered to be on the committee.

XII. OPEN FORUM – CONTINUED- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Mr. Sam Paterson asked that it be put on the record that Jamestown Boat Yard moved Mr. Roger Marshall's mooring, but they have moved it back.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Commissioner Banks moved to adjourn at 8:15 PM, Commissioner Heagney seconded. So voted; (4 ayes, 0 nays).

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Devlin
Jamestown Harbor Clerk