



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

Minutes of the May 9, 2018 Meeting of the Jamestown Harbor Commission
Amended and Approved: 6/13/2018

A meeting of the Jamestown Harbor Commission (JHC) was held Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at the Jamestown Town Hall, 93 Narragansett Avenue, Jamestown, Rhode Island.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Vice-Chairman Harsch called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with roll call:

Present:

William Harsch, Vice-Chairman
Wayne Banks, Commissioner
Dan Wurzbacher, Commissioner
James Heagney, Commissioner
Steven Bois, Commissioner
Eric Lexow, Commissioner

Absent:

David Cain, Chairman

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, April 11, 2018

Commissioner Banks moved to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2018 Jamestown Harbor Commission meeting; Commissioner Lexow seconded. So voted; 5 ayes, 0 nays.

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

Captain Erik Patton gave a power point presentation detailing the clean-up efforts on Gould Island by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE). The Navy transferred the southern two thirds of the island back to the State of Rhode Island for use as a wildlife preserve.

(Commissioner Heagney arrives 6:05).

Vice-Chairman Harsch asked that the Jamestown Harbor Commission forwards a resolution to the town council stating that Gould Island is closed to the public and asking for signs to be posted stating such.

Executive Director Chief Mello sated that he has sent a request to DEM for the same type of signage at Dutch Island but the request has not been met.

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

Executive Director Chief Mello reported that the missing stairs at the West Ferry outhauls have been replaced.

Executive Director Chief Mello informed the Jamestown Harbor Commission that he and Harbormaster Campbell have been meeting with Volvo race organizers on the logistics of the race.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that one condition outlined in the CRMC approval letter was that the screw type anchors be used for the conservation moorings. This type of anchor does not work for moorings in Jamestown waters so we have written approval from CRMC to use a block anchor and we will communicate that to mooring installers. Executive Director Chief Mello stated that we also have to confirm the eelgrass map with CRMC.

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

Harbormaster Campbell reported that both boats are in the water and the new truck worked well to launch the Harbormaster vessels.

Harbormaster Campbell informed the Jamestown Harbor Commission that the pumpouts will be commissioned tomorrow and additional pumpout work will happen later.

Harbormaster Campbell also reported that the No Wake and Conservation buoys at Head's Beach and Sheffield Cove are in for the season.

Executive Director Chief Mello added that there is a third pumpout station at East Ferry that needs to be maintained as outlined by DEM and that pumpout station will be commissioned this year as a stipulation of the ratio between moorings and operations pumpouts.

VI. MARINE DEVELOPMENT FUND BUDGET

A. 2017/2018

MDF YTD Budget- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

The budget was reviewed by the Jamestown Harbor Commission.

VII. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Commissioner Heagney had nothing to report.

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

Commissioner Banks and Commissioner Wurzbacher had nothing to report.

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

Chairman Cain was absent.

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

Chairman Cain was absent.

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

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

Conservation Commission Liaison Souza stated that the group spearheading the push for additional kayak racks at more locations will present their findings to the town council on Monday.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to discuss.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no Correspondence.

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

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

Commissioner Wurzbacher moved to change the meeting time to 6:30PM for the balance of the year; Commissioner Heagney seconded. So voted; 6 ayes, 0 nays.

B. Signage at East Ferry - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that there will be new signs installed at East Ferry that are very similar to the ones at West Ferry. The signs are to welcome visitors and to make clear the regulations and uses of the town docks. Samples of the signs will be available at the next meeting.

C. Comprehensive Harbor Management Plan – CRMC Approval and Conditions, specifically the type of moorings required to and the relocation of moorings in the Conservation Area at Zeek’s Creek - - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that one condition CRMC stipulates in the Comprehensive Harbor Management Plan approval letter speaks to the relocation of the moorings in Zeek’s Creek Conservation Area to a location outside of the conservation zone whenever any part of the mooring needs to be replaced. Executive Director Chief Mello stated that he is not asking the Jamestown Harbor Commission to make a decision tonight on this matter, but he will provide options on how to address the CRMC stipulations.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that we will notify all of the mooring permit holders in the Zeek’s Creek Conservation Area of the CRMC condition before the next meeting, because the opinion of the mooring permit holders who will be affected should also be taken into consideration before a decision is made on how to proceed.

Executive Director Chief Mello presented to the Jamestown Harbor Commission a power point that showed a map of the moorings in the Zeek’s Creek Conservation Area and where the CRMC conservation Area and the town Conservation Area lines are.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that the town Conservation area extends to 1000’ and the CRMC Conservation Area extends to 500’ from the mean high tide mark on shore. If the Jamestown Harbor Commission votes to adopt the CRMC Conservation Area line we will only have three moorings that need to be moved out of the conservation area.

Executive Director Chief Mello recommended that the Jamestown Harbor Commission continue this matter until the next meeting, when the permit holders have been notified and the current and former Conservation Commission chair, through George, is invited to attend.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that with the town conservation zone line 13 moorings are affected and if we go by the CRMC conservation zone line there are only three or four moorings affected.

Executive Director Chief Mello recommended a couple of things to the Jamestown Harbor Commission:

- 1 – To continue the matter until the next meeting
- 2 – The staff will notify all of the mooring holders in this area that will be impacted by this agenda item
- 3 – A moratorium be issued in this area that prohibits any new moorings being installed, no boat size changes, and no moorings moved; nothing that was not requested prior to the February 26th date of the CRMC letter, until this issue is resolved.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that, going forward, a couple of options are:

- 1 – To abide by the condition put in place by CRMC and adhere to the 1000’ conservation zone line and begin moving moorings outside of the Conservation Area.
- 2 – To appeal the condition and try to get an explanation from CRMC as to why this conservation area was addressed, because we do have moorings in other conservation areas that were not addressed in the approval letter
- 3 – To appeal to CRMC, after hearing from our local Conservation Commission as to why the line is at 1000’ and if you are satisfied that perhaps the line should have been at 500’, to adopt the 500’ conservation zone line and appeal to CRMC to allow that change to occur within the plan and ordinance.

A discussion ensued.

Vice-Chairman Harsch moved to accept all of Executive Director Chief Mello’s recommendations.

Further discussion ensued.

Mr. Chris Museler objected to the moratorium being issued by the Jamestown Harbor Commission.

Vice-Chairman Harsch stated that, under the Harbor Management Ordinance, Executive Director Chief Mello has discretion on many things and does not require the approval of the Jamestown Harbor Commission.

Vice-Chairman Harsch amended his motion to accept all of Executive Director Chief Mello’s recommendations except for the moratorium; Commissioner Banks seconded. So voted; 6 ayes, 0 nays.

D. Construction of the East Ferry floating dock as voted on by the Jamestown Harbor Commission on 2/14/2018 - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Mr. Bill Munger emailed Chairman Cain and asked that this matter be continued until next month.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that the replacement dock and pilings are a significant investment and that the old dock lacked the functionality to be a usable space. Executive Director Chief Mello stated that he hopes to install an ADA friendly gangway, if the pitch of the ramp allows.

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

Mr. Chris Museler addressed the Jamestown Harbor Commission regarding his concerns about his mooring and his interpretation of the CRMC approval letter.

Mr. Jim McCooey asked what the reason is that CRMC wants to move the moorings out of Zeek's Creek Conservation Zone.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that we are trying to gain clarification on that issue.

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

Commissioner Banks moved to adjourn at 7:17 PM, Commissioner Lexow seconded. So voted; (6 ayes, 0 nays).

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Devlin
Jamestown Harbor Clerk