



**TOWN OF JAMESTOWN
HARBOR COMMISSION**

Minutes of the October 13, 2021 Meeting of the Jamestown Harbor Commission
Approved:

A meeting of the Jamestown Harbor Commission was held Wednesday, October 13, 2021
At the Jamestown Town Hall, 93 Narragansett Avenue, Jamestown RI 02835.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Vice-Chairman Banks called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM with roll call:

Present:

Wayne Banks, Chairman
Michael Junge, Vice-Chairman
Steven Bois, Commissioner
Jessica McCarthy, Commissioner
Richard Raynes, Commissioner

Absent:

Eric Lexow, Commissioner
Dan Wurzbacher, Commissioner

Also in attendance:

Chief Edward Mello, Executive Director
Randy White, Town Council Liaison
George Souza, Conservation Commission Liaison
Kim Devlin, Harbor Clerk

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

A. Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Vice-Chairman Banks moved to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2021 Jamestown Harbor Commission meeting;
Vice-Chairman Junge seconded. So voted; 4 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

Charlotte Zarlengo, Seaside Drive, requested to be allowed to speak if there was going to be any discussion on the moorings at Head's Beach.

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

Executive Director Chief Mello reported that the Harbormaster is done for the season, the boats are both out of the water and being winterized with the assistance of former Harbormaster Campbell. An overhaul of the Freedom hull was done recently to address issues of corrosion. The pumpouts will be winterized in the next few weeks.

Executive Director Chief Mello reported that the Town Administrator, Jaime Hainsworth, has been asked by the Governor to sit on a committee for the reorganization of CRMC. If any member of the Jamestown Harbor Commission has any concerns they would like to have addressed they can do so at the next meeting.

Executive Director Chief Mello informed the Jamestown Harbor Commission that the mooring inspectors are in the process of submitting their applications to be a Qualified Mooring Inspector for the Town. The permits expire at the end of the calendar year and that the Qualified Mooring Inspector list will be on the December agenda for Jamestown Harbor Commission approval.

Chairman Banks asked if the Jamestown Harbor Commission will be provided the number of moorings each inspector manages.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that, yes, we will provide that information for the Jamestown Harbor Commission. We are being diligent about the renewal process, as it is very time consuming for staff when inspectors do not adhere to the regulations they agreed to when submitting their application.

V. HARBORMASTER REPORT

The Harbormaster is off duty until the spring.

VI. MARINE DEVELOPMENT FUND BUDGET

A. 2020/2021

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

The budget was not available for review.

VII. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Commissioner Lexow was not in attendance. Commissioner Raynes volunteered to assist with the budget process.

(Commissioner McCarthy arrives 5:07).

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that we met with Commissioner Lexow to review the budget that will be presented later in the meeting.

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

Vice-Chairman Banks had nothing to report.

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

Vice-Chairman Banks had nothing to report, except that he did not meet with staff regarding the number of moorings at each mooring area, as discussed at the last meeting. We will meet before the November Jamestown Harbor Commission meeting.

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

Commissioner Junge had nothing to report.

E. Gould Island Restoration Committee - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Commissioner Bois reported that the committee met and that ACOE is now working on Gould Island to dismantle structures. There is a legislative meeting coming up where the committee is hoping to secure funding to expedite the restoration process.

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

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

Conservation Commission Liaison Souza had nothing to report.

B. Town Council Liaison Report - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Town Council Liaison White had nothing to report and asked the Jamestown Harbor Commission if there was anything that they would like him to bring back to the Town Council. The Jamestown Harbor Commission had nothing for Town Council Liaison White to report to the Town Council.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

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

Chairman Banks reported that the Jamestown Harbor Commission discussed the signage at East Ferry during the site visit two months ago. The draft letter presented at the last meeting didn't accurately represent the concerns of the Jamestown Harbor Commission. The issue was not that the ferry sign was there but that there were no signs stating that it was also public touch and go space, as well.

Chairman Banks moved to have signs produced and placed at each touch and go dock; Commissioner Bois seconded. So voted; 5 ayes, 0 nays.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Appeal – Suzanne Auboiss; 10/7/2021 - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Chairman Banks moved to accept the appeal documents; Vice-Chairman Junge seconded. So voted; 5 ayes, 0 nays.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Appeal – Suzanne Auboiss; Re: Forfeiture of Mooring - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that this appeal is related to the mooring inspection requirement, that moorings must be inspected by an authorized inspector every three years. The inspector must update the permit holder's account in Online

Mooring by June 15th. Ms. Abois was notified on June 17th and July 2nd via email that the mooring inspection was past due. On Sept 2nd an email was sent asking for a response and a check of the mooring determined that it had not been used. On September 13th a certified letter notifying Ms. Abois that the permit would be forfeited on October 1st was mailed and the return receipt was signed for on September 15th. The mooring permit was cancelled on October 1st.

Chairman Banks asked if the mooring permit has been reassigned.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that the permit has not yet been assigned to another permit holder.

James Simmons, husband of the permit holder and proxy for the meeting, stated that the situation stagnated and went on for too long, but they thought the mooring was due for an inspection next year. They also had a hard time finding someone to inspect the mooring.

Executive Director Chief Mello summarized the renewal and inspection process and stated that we are dealing with some inspectors who are not doing what they are supposed to do.

Commissioner McCarthy asked Mr. Simmons how long they have had the mooring permit.

Mr. Simmons stated they have had the permit for at least three inspection cycles.

Commissioner Raynes moved to approve the appeal; Commissioner McCarthy seconded. So voted; 4 ayes, 1 nay (Bois).

B. 2022/2023 Marine Development Fund Budget – Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that he isn't sure if Commissioner Raynes wants to review the budget first, but that we need to have this approved to send out the renewals in December.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that the rates are tied to the budget so the Jamestown Harbor Commission should vote on both.

C. 2022 Harbor Permit Rates- Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that the rates the proposed rates are the same as last year and in keeping with the plan for the outhaul rate increase that we put into place a few years ago.

Vice-Chairman Junge asked about the Maintenance of Docks and Harbor line item and why we are allotting \$50,000.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that we are ultra-cautious about storms and potential damage to the Harbor infrastructure, as it is expensive when something goes wrong. For example, a gangway can cost \$10,000 to replace.

Chairman Banks moved to approve the rates for the 2022 season; Vice-Chairman Junge seconded. So voted; 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Chairman Banks moved to approve the 2022/2023 Marine Development Fund budget; Vice-Chairman Junge seconded. So voted; 5 ayes, 0 nays.

D. Harbor Cameras - Review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote

Executive Director Chief Mello reported that about 10 years ago the Town installed a number of cameras to monitor East Ferry. They are recorded and semi-monitored through dispatch at the Police Department. An individual has requested that we install the same type of camera monitoring system at West Ferry. They are high end and require a fiber connection, and they are not inexpensive. The camera at East Ferry costs approximately \$7,000. We will have to assess West Ferry to see if it is feasible to have the same type of camera installed.

Executive Director Chief Mello requested that the Jamestown Harbor Commission visit West Ferry and look at the streetlights and parking lot. If it's possible it may be worth considering running the cables underground and adding power and water to the touch and go dock. If we are going to invest in that it would be the time to do it.

Executive Director Chief Mello stated that another thing to consider is that the only permits the Town charges for at West Ferry are the dinghy dock and the out hauls, so there is limited revenue coming in from that area.

Chairman Banks requested the members of the Jamestown Harbor Commission all take a look at the area and assess the feasibility of installing cameras at West Ferry.

Commissioner Bois moved to ask the Jamestown Harbor Commission members to investigate the area and to add this item to the agenda for the next meeting. Chairman Banks seconded. So voted; 5 ayes, 0 nays.

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

Charlotte Zarlengo stated that the moorings at Head's Beach are inconsistent and requested that no more moorings be allowed in the area and that no moorings be replaced.

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

Chairman Banks moved to adjourn at 5:50 PM; Vice-Chairman Junge seconded. So voted; 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. Devlin', written in a cursive style.

Kim Devlin
Jamestown Harbor Clerk