

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON COASTAL WATERS TOWN OF DARIEN

FLIP HUFFARD, CHAIRMAN
WILLIAM CAVERS, VICE CHAIRMAN
ROBERT VILTER, CLERK
HUGH BALLOCH
ERIC BARRET
DAVE DEVER
C. LINCOLN JEWETT
DAVID KAHN
FRANK KEMP
TOM LOCTHEFELD
AUDREY WEIL

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:
MARY FLYNN, PARKS & REC COMM.
TOM BELL, HARBOR MASTER
CAP. GARY PAVIA, POLICE



Green's Ledge Light

Minutes of February 3, 2016 Meeting

The meeting, held in the Mather Center, 113 Café Extension, Town Hall, was called to order at 7:35 by Chairman Huffard.

Present were: Commissioners Huffard (Chairman), Cavers (Vice-Chairman), Vilter (Clerk), Balloch, Barret, Dever and Locthefeld, Harbor Master Bell (Ex-Officio) and Mary Flynn (Ex-Officio).

Absent were: Commissioners Jewett, Kemp and Weil.

Guests included Mark Ioli (Parks & Recreation Commission) and David Kahn (prospective Commission member).

The minutes of the November 4, 2015 meeting and the December 2, 2015 meeting were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- Status of New Commissioners - The position of Shellfish Commissioner remains open; the Commission is actively pursuing filling this position.
- Harbor Watch Water Quality Monitoring Project Update
 - The potential scope of the proposed Harbor Watch Water Quality Monitoring Project will be focused on the Goodwives River Watershed, and will not, at this time, extend to other Darien watersheds.
 - The project for the Goodwives would consist of three parts:
 - Part 1: Harbor Watch would screen 32 outfalls that discharge directly into the Goodwives River
 - Part 2: Once all 32 outfalls are screened, Harbor Watch will create a list of all outfalls that flow in dry weather and will then assess the frequency for testing of dissolved oxygen, conductivity and *E. coli* bacteria
 - Part 3: After five biweekly data points are collected for each outfall the bacteria results would be analyzed by Harbor Watch
 - The Commission continues to assess funding sources to undertake this project

HARBOR MASTER'S REPORT

- The process of re-registration and renewals for boat moorings in Darien Harbor has commenced; the waitlist is current at 95; two moorings at Ziegler's Cove have turned over and one mooring at the main harbor has turned over.
- Harbor Master summarized for the Commission a meeting held with Darien Police Chief Lovello. Harbor Master Bell and Chief Lovello discussed enforcement of the "no-wake zone", monitoring and enforcement of boating speed limit.
- Additionally, Harbor Master Bell discussed the agenda for an upcoming meeting the he would have with the Darien RTM concerning moorings. The agenda would address the outside date by which boats would need to be moored, and the consequences to the "mooring owner" if boat were not moored by such time without notice to the Harbor Master.

SHELLFISH REPORT

- Vice Chairman Cavers gave a brief report on a shell fisherman's request to enter Scott's Cove for the purpose of making an assessment as to whether there was sufficient potential in the cove for fishing in order to justify undertaking the expense of required insurance.

TASK FORCES

- Discussion of all Task Forces: Water Quality, Rock Hazards, Pear Tree Launch Ramp
 - Chairman Huffard provided an overview of the Commission's various Task Forces (Dredging, Rock Hazards, Town Plan, Shellfish, Water Quality and Boat Launch Ramp) for the benefit of the new members to the Commission.
 - Chairman Huffard requested that the new Commissions identify certain task forces to join and with respect to which they would become active participants.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Commission Dever provided a brief overview of the Darien Boat Club's proposal to replace fuel tanks which are nearing their 30-year shelf life. Commissioner Dever noted that the Boat Club proposes to replace the fuel tanks "in place" with two fiber glass tanks.
 - The Commission passed a resolution that provides a general endorsement of the Boat Club's intention to have gas available for sale on-site and to replace the existing tanks.
- Mary Flynn (Darien Parks & Recreation Commissioner) updated the Commission on recent developments concerning the boat launch ramp at Pear Tree Point
 - It is widely accepted in the community, including by members of the Commission, that the boat launch ramp was, when re-built approximately 10 years ago, engineered at too shall a pitch – this limits the availability and accessibility of the launch ramp during periods of low tide; further, this creates a potential safety hazard if ever there was a need to quickly remove boats
 - The Parks & Recreation Department views the boat launch ramp as an asset of the Department, and as such, has the responsibility to make the launch ramp as readily accessible to the community as possible
 - The Parks & Recreation Department has made the Darien Town of Selectman aware of this issue; further, the Department will engage the Darien Boat Club, which it views as an interested party, in a discussion about the future of the launch ramp

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 16, 2016, Town Hall, Public Meeting Room 206.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Vilter
Clerk