

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 LOCHTEFELD
AUDREY WEIL

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:
MARY FLYNN, PARKS & REC COMM.
TOM BELL, HARBOR MASTER
[To be named], POLICE



Green's Ledge Light

Minutes of July 20, 2016 Meeting

The meeting, in Room 213, Town Hall, was called to order at 7:35pm by Chairman Huffard

Present were: Commissioners Huffard (Chairman), Cavers (Vice-Chairman), Balloch, Dever, Kahn, Kemp, Lochtefeld, and Harbor Master Bell (Ex-Officio).

Absent were: Commissioners Vilter (Clerk), Barret, Jewett, and Weil.

Minutes of the June 15th meeting will be reviewed in connection with the September 21st meeting given Commissioner Vilter's absence.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Huffard noted the continuing problem of free-swimming in portions of the harbor that may result in the swimmer being run down by a boat. Harbormaster Bell noted that it is likely to be impossible to legislate a non-swimming area, and that an ordinance would be unenforceable. Use of an "orca" buoy was discussed, as well as the possibility of placing a cautionary article in the local papers.

HARBOR MASTER'S REPORT

Harbor Master Bell noted that there were no local issues to report, and that the new (2014) Connecticut Port Authority was focused on the major ports in the state.

SHELLFISH REPORT

Tim Pramer has indicated that an additional 50 bushels of seeding clams will be transferred to Darien beds, to be scheduled as soon as requested. There is interest in posting signage as to the location of shellfish beds, probably at the Darien Boat Club. There is a promising bed of clams

and mussels in the vicinity of Fish Island. It was noted that these signs could also carry information concerning the channel and the location of rocks in the harbor.

TASK FORCES -

WATER QUALITY

The proposal for water quality monitoring on the Goodwives River is to be presented to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) on Monday July 25th. Due to the timing of the Board of Finance (BOF) meetings, the proposal was presented to the BOF on a preliminary basis, on Tuesday July 19th, where it won "conditional" approval for funding. The two conditions for funding were 1) that the BOS approved the project, and 2) that the questions presented by the BOF were answered satisfactorily. BOF member Bruce Orr will attend the BOS meeting, and will be briefed as to the answers prepared in response to the BOF questions.

Chairman Huffard presented a homeowners guide to septic systems and the use of fertilizers, prepared by the Town of Nantucket (attached), with a view to issuing the same sort of document locally.

ROCK HAZARD BUOYS - no report at this time.

DATA TASK FORCE

Commissioner Cavers reviewed the concept of collecting raw data concerning various maritime sources. This data would be available for a variety of research projects and reports (i.e. the Town Annual Report). Data sources may include: number of moorings, miles of coastline, number of violations, number of shellfish licenses, etc.

As a corollary to this data collection effort, the "Northeast Ocean Plan" is out in draft form, and the "Northeast Ocean Data Portal" is accessible at: <http://neooceanplanning.org/easy-access-to-ocean-data/>.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Huffard noted that the Citizens Advisory Council of Long Island Sound Study is responding to the NOAA effort to conserve and protect river herring (alewives) that are being killed as a by-catch of the deep sea netting of larger herring. Commissioners are invited to sign the letter to NOAA as individuals, as the Commission would not be replying on behalf of the Town.

Commissioner Cavers reported on meeting with the Stamford Harbor Commission, and participating in an exchange of information concerning the harbor. Topics included "best practices" (safety committee, applications committee, clean-up of floating debris), as well as the opportunity for coordination of information regarding the Post- Road bridge at the top of Holly Pond.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:50 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21, 2016, in Room 213, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted, with reference to draft notes prepared by Frank Kemp,

Bob Vilter

Clerk