

**Five Mile River Commission Minutes  
November 15, 2012**

**Commission members in attendance:**

Matthew Marion, Chairman  
Dirk Leasure, Commissioner  
William Jessup, Commissioner  
Ray Meurer, Harbor Superintendent  
David Snyder, Assistant Harbor Superintendent

Chairman Marion took the chair at 7:40 p.m.

The minutes of the October 18, 2012, meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Meeting dates for 2013 were unanimously approved; January 10, February 28, April 11, June 6, August 1, October 3 and November 7. Chairman Marion directed that the dates be provided to the appropriate city and state officials.

The annual report for the year 2012 for the Town of Darien and the City of Norwalk is due and Chairman Marion directed the Harbor Superintendent to prepare a draft of the report.

Tropical storm Sandy's impact on the river was discussed and led to a discussion of regulating the height of pilings on private docks. No boats were reported damaged. Most working boatyards reported flooding. One private dock at the mouth of the river was swept away.

Year-to-date income was \$43,400 and expenses were \$8,375 according to a report provided by Tammy Papp, administrative assistant.

The subject of open moorings in the river was discussed. It was recommended that once everyone on the wait list has been offered a mooring, the openings should be marketed through advertising and other means to the surrounding community.

An increase in harbor use fees was discussed. It was unanimously agreed to increase the \$50 fee to \$100 and the \$100 fee to \$150. The \$200 fee remains the same. Changes to the fee structure require publication of legal notices in local newspapers and a public hearing. In addition, it was agreed that we should express our view to our state legislators, plus the relevant chairmen of the appropriate State Senate and House subcommittee, that the \$200 maximum Harbor Sue Fees that local harbor management commissions can charge should be raised to at least \$500.

Use of boat lifts in the river was discussed and a list of private dock owners who potentially might wish to install a boat lift was requested by Dirk Leasure.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is January 10.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ray Meurer  
Harbor Superintendent