

**Five Mile River Commission
Minutes
September 14, 2010**

Commission members in attendance:

Matthew Marion, chairman
Dirk Leasure
William Jessup
Ray Meurer, harbor superintendent
David Snyder, assistant harbor superintendent

Members of the public in attendance:

Robert Griffith, commercial fisherman, Rowayton, CT
Nicole Davis, South Western Regional Planning Agency (SWRPA)
David McCarthy, City of Norwalk Representative to SWRPA
David Wenger, Rowayton Yacht Club

William Jessup took the chair at 8:03 p.m. pending Chairman Marion's delayed arrival.

The income and expense reports provided by Tammy Papp, administrative assistant showed income of \$40,500 YTD 2010 and expenses of \$8,861. In 2009 income for the same period was \$41,700 and expenses were \$17,541. (See attached reports). Of the \$17,541 in expenses, \$10,000 was due to back pay for Ray and Tammy that was delayed by an agreement between the City of Norwalk and the Internal Revenue Service. It was noted that interest on the money being accumulated for future maintenance dredging comes close to covering the commission's annual expenses.

A listing of 256 dock customers showed that 63 had not paid the harbor use fee so far this year. All non-paying boat owners are being contacted to pay the fee.

Matthew Marion arrived at 8:23 p.m. and took the chair.

Nicole Davis, regional planner, SWRPA, presented an overview of an initiative to develop a Watershed Based Management Plan for the Saugatuck, Mianus and Five Mile Rivers funded by a \$100,000 government grant aimed at improving water quality. Ms. Davis urged commissioners to attend an October 22, 2010 workshop to identify uses, priorities, functions, values and goals for each of the three watersheds. Dirk Leasure noted that the Darien Land Trust was a good resource for the study. David Snyder and William Jessup noted that in 2009 water samples of Five Mile River were collected for a local agency by Down

Under Kayaking. It was suggested that Ms. Davis contact the agency to learn about the results of the testing.

David Wenger of the Rowayton Yacht Club urged the commissioners to establish a transient mooring just off the docks at 151 Rowayton Ave. A general discussion ensued and there was agreement that the commission should establish and maintain a transient mooring in that location. The commissioners plan to cast a final vote on the subject at the upcoming October 19, 2010 meeting.

To keep kayakers from using the Federal Channel, the Harbor Superintendent recommended installing several small size yellow marker buoys between the western string of mooring buoys and the mud flats, thus establishing a "kayak trail." The commissioners agreed to move forward and install the buoys.

Chairman Marion declared the start of an executive session at 9:27 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

The remaining meeting dates for 2010 are October 19 and November 30. Both dates fall on a Tuesday. All meetings start at 7:30 p.m. and are held in the boardroom of the Rowayton Community Center, 33 Highland Ave., Rowayton, CT.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Meurer
Harbor Superintendent