

**Five Mile River Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes: July 24, 2014**  
**The Boardroom, Rowayton Community Center**  
**33 Highland Ave., Rowayton, CT 06853**

**Commission members in attendance:**

Matthew Marion, Chairman  
Dirk Leasure, Commissioner  
William (Wim) Jessup, Commissioner  
David Snyder, Assistant Harbor Superintendent

**Guests:**

Steve Bartush, Norwalk Resident

Matthew Marion opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. with three Commissioners present. He noted that the minutes of the June 12, 2014 meeting had been unanimously approved by the Commissioners electronically, then filed with Darien and Norwalk.

Chairman Marion confirmed that the Commission's recommendations regarding the dock and bulkhead application for 17 Butlers Island Road, Darien, had been submitted to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP"), and noted that the DEEP would hold a public comment period as part of its review/approval process.

Chairman Marion opened the floor to discussion surrounding usage and policy regarding grills/open fires on boats in the Five Mile River, both on mooring strings and dockside. Discussion included the types of grills and fuels used for cooking, both within cabins and on deck. The Commissioners and Assistant Harbor Superintendent agreed to canvass the private marinas within the River and elsewhere, as well as other harbours, before finalizing their policy.

The Assistant Harbor Superintendent circulated a draft permit application covering the temporary storage of floats/ramps on designated moorings prior to winter storage at marinas. The ensuing discussion covered topics such as the length of such storage, location of the temporary storage site, cost, likely commercial demand, and the application process generally. The Commission endorsed a rate of \$10 per float/ramp for three calendar days of moored storage, with a per diem rate thereafter. Based upon current inventory, 94 floats and 66 ramps are winter stored at four marinas as follows:

- The Boatworks: 29 floats//26 ramps
- Cavanaugh's Marina: 40 floats//35 ramps
  - B&G Marine - 27 floats and 32 ramps at Cavanaugh's Marina
  - Gary Wetmore - 2 floats and 1 ramp at Cavanaugh's Marina
  - Norm Edwards - 11 floats and 2 ramps at Cavanaugh's Marina

- Five Mile River Works: 11 floats//3 ramps
- 119 Rowayton Ave: 14 docks/2 ramps

The Harbour Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent will confirm the number and size of floats and ramps that can be accommodated in the temporary storage area.

Assistant Harbor Superintendent Snyder delivered current financial results for the Commission, with YTD income of \$46,950 and expenses of \$6,764.11, according to Administrative Assistant, Tammy Papp.

Assistant Harbor Superintendent Snyder reported the findings of the dock patrol, which was tasked with inspecting boats docked at marinas to determine whether they were displaying current year FMR decals. In total, 122 vessels have failed to display the current year decals. The next steps will include advising the boatyards about the specific vessels not displaying their registrations and, potentially, following up directly with boat owners.

Steve Bartush reported Connecticut had recently created a new, quasi-public agency, known as the Connecticut Port Authority, to market and coordinate the development of the state's ports. The new entity will have state-wide jurisdiction over harbors, commencing on 10/1/15.

Chairman Marion convened an executive session at 8:30 p.m. and Steve Bartush left the meeting. The Commission will discuss its enforcement policy covering boat owners who are delinquent in paying their FMR river use fee at its next public meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The remaining meeting dates for 2014 are September 11<sup>th</sup>, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, and December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

David Snyder  
Assistant Harbor Superintendent