Minutes of Meeting – Monday, July 16, 2018
Town Hall, Room 119

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm by Chairman Huffard

Present: Flip Huffard, William Cavers, Dave Dever, David Kahn, Tom Lochtefeld, Harbormaster Tom Bell, Eric Barrett, Audrey Weil, Frank Kemp, Grant Tankoos

Absent: Robert Vilter

The Minutes from the meeting on June 18, 2018 were read and approved

Chairman’s Report:

Chairman Huffard gave an update on Water Quality. He noted that he met with Harbor Watch and Health Commissioner David Knaup to discuss the health of the water and intermediation efforts. It was noted that the one leaky septic impacting Goodwives River was being remediated and other than that there appear to be little impact from human waste in the Goodwives River, although waste from dogs or wildlife may also be playing a role. He noted there needed to be further conversations about the excess nutrients in the water and speculated that a good portion of those nutrients could be caused by fertilizer on properties close to the water. He also noted that we should meet with the Environmental Protection Commission to see what if any efforts could be made to remediate the effects of fertilizer.

Audrey Weil noted that the Goodwives River was fairly clean and that DNA testing on E-Coli indicated it was not a human source. She also noted that the next step will be to coordinate with Stamford on testing Holly Pond and the Noroton River.

Harbor Master’s Report

Harbor Master Tom Bell reported not much new going on in the Harbor. He intends to do a survey in late July to make sure boats on moorings are registered for the mooring they are on. He also noted that
he had commissioned another harbor depth survey for October. This will be the third such survey by the same vendor ensuring consistency of method. Tom Lochtefeld noted that he hit is skeg twice the prior week travelling on a dead low tide, and it seemed like this was happening more in recent years. The costs of the depth survey will be shared with Noroton Yacht Club, and the Darien Boat Club.

Flip Huffard noted that there was a light blue Robalo double moored in the gut that seemed to be encroaching on the channel. Tom Bell acknowledged this and said he would look into it. Flip Huffard also asked about the empty space void of mooring balls on the east side of the harbor indicating he had surveyed the area at low tide with Yacht Club Commodore Tom Ross, and there looked to be room for additional moorings. Tom Bell noted that the mooring contractor didn’t think it would be prudent to place moorings there, but indicated he would look into that as well.

Shellfish Report:

Shellfish Commissioner David Kahn reported that the final 37 bushels of clams from Tim Pramer were distributed on the recreational beds and that he is waiting for the replacement sign for the Great Island side of Scott’s Cove which disappeared over the winter.

A discussion ensued amongst the Board on how to make the purchase of clamming licenses easier, including possibly selling at the beaches or outsourcing them.

Task Forces

Water Quality

Vice Chairman William Cavers noted that he is continuing to test the water bi-weekly and that he is now starting to take seaweed samples as well.

Other Business:

Frank Kemp noted that the Boat Camp was resurrected by another Power Squadron member and that there were a few openings left for the July 27th event

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:55 PM.