

Narragansett Harbor Management Commission - 2023-Feb-07 appr'vd 2023-Mar-07

Convene / Roll Call

- **Call To Order @ 19:00h** by Chair Bryan Couture, Site: Narragansett Town Hall, Conference Room
- **Roll Call**, Members: Bryan Couture, Ray Morocco, John Thompson, John Hughes, Don Vivenzio, Jeff Berry, Harvey Cataldo (1st alternate with full voting powers), Steven Marasco (2nd alternate)
Liaison Staff: Jill Sabo, Harbormaster: Kevin Connors
- **Exhibits Provided:**
 - Harbor Management Commission (HMC) meeting minutes of 2022-Jan-03
 - Agenda for this meeting

Consent Agenda

- **Item 1C, Minutes from 2023-Jan-03:** Minutes distributed before meeting. Approval of minutes as submitted moved by John Hughes, seconded by Ray Morocco and so marked by Secretary for re-release to Jill Sabo. Motion passed 8-0 (2 alternate votes included).
- **Item 2C, Harbormaster's Report:** Kevin Connors provided oral report of activities, comprising normal seasonal business. Moved by Jeff Berry, seconded by Don Vivenzio accept report. Motion passed 8-0 (2 alternate votes included).

Change of agenda sequence requested by Harbormaster Connors: Move Item 3R (Pond Closures/Water Quality) to later so that he could be present for Items 4R, 5R, and 6R. Moved by Ray Morocco, seconded by Harvey Cataldo to change sequence as requested. Motion passed 8-0 (members & 2 alternates).

Regular Agenda

- **Item 4R, Transient Mooring and Docking:** Chair Bryan Couture was asked by Town Council (Councilperson Susan Cicillini-Buononno) to discuss appropriate sites where a town-owned transient access dock with associated transient moorings might be constructed. Possible sites discussed: Champlin Cove, foot of Knowlesway Ext (in East Pond), Galilee. No site deemed favorable. Bryan to talk to Councilperson Susan C.B. as to HMC's finding.
- **Item 5R, Harbor Management Plan (HMP):** Determined that all HMC members should review 2018 plan and return ideas for desirable changes at next meeting. Noted that CRMC website has a guide for municipal HMP's. Desirable changes shall be carried forward by a subcommittee being formed for further consideration of this. Such subcommittee shall be comprised of Harvey Cataldo, John Hughes, and Don Vivenzio. Moved by John Hughes, seconded by Harvey Cataldo to form such committee. Motion passed 7-0 (members & 1 alternate).
- **Item 6R, Outhauls:** Focus on outhauls in Starfish Dr area of Great I. was prompted by the Santa Barbara dock construction complaint, which caused two to be eliminated. It is noted there are multiple outhauls in this area terminating at friendly private abutter land. All are of excellent construction and cause no complaint among residents. Consensus was to do nothing at this time to this outhaul field. Note HMP-2018 edition page 41 defines outhaul requirements.
- **Item 3R, Point Judith Pond Closures/Water Quality Update:**
 - A site meeting at Sunset Farm was held by Bryan Couture, Ray Morocco, Jill Sabo and representatives from town Engineering and Public Works departments to observe runoff paths to Pt Judith Pond. It was noted the topography yields a southwest flow towards Daytona Ave which would benefit from maintenance measures to slow down flow. The town officials (Engineering and Public Works) expressed willingness to explore initiatives here. There also exists runoff potential at the northern boundary of Sunset Farm towards Champlin Cove.
 - A subcommittee comprising John Thompson, Don Vivenzio, and Ray Morocco has been tasked with exploring Sunset Farm runoff issues. Motion by Harvey Cataldo, seconded by John Hughes to form such a subcommittee. Motion passed 7-0 (members and 1 alternate).

- There appear leftover funds of \$1,900 (this fiscal year) for water quality testing. Moved by John Hughes, seconded by Don Vivenzio to utilize such funds on freshwater sites such as Sunset Farm. Motion passed 7-0 (members and 1 alternate).

Reports from Commission/Staff:

- Chair Brian Couture notes the recent uptick in legislative initiatives to ban houseboats from Narragansett Bay being undertaken by RI, Newport, and North Kingstown. Per CRMC rules coastal ponds are already off limits to houseboats so Pt Judith and Narrow River are already prohibited.
- Dock applicant Coastal Coasters has emailed Town and CRMC asking us to rescind objection to their dock renovation plan. HMC recognizes CRMC as the appropriate vehicle through which all plan changes are to be submitted and passed along for our review. Without such a development , HMC sees no justification to respond.

Open Forum: none

Items for next agenda:

- Harbor Management Plan update, as discussed above.
- Pt Judith Pond Closures / Water Quality continued
- Presentation from Matt Dowling on Charlestown water quality best-practice measures

Adjournment: 21:07h, moved by Ray Morocco, seconded by John Hughes. Approved 8-0 (members and 2 alternates). Next meeting 2023-Mar-07, 19:00h, Narragansett Town Hall, Conference Room, or alternative site as required.

Respectfully submitted, *Jeff Berry*, NHMC Secretary