

MINUTES OF WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING

SEPTEMBER 25, 2007

A meeting of the Waterways Management Committee was duly called and held on Tuesday, September 25, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chairman, Chris Hemingway. The following people were present: Robert Metcalf, Norman Peloquin, Gerald Hickey, and Ira Perry. Excused were Warren Hathaway and Roger Race. Also present was Mr. Steven Melo, Harbormaster.

Mr. Hemingway reviewed the agenda for the meeting. Mr. Hickey would like to add update on the Rogers Street property. Mr. Peloquin moved to accept the minutes as amended. Mr. Metcalf seconded. So Moved.

Harbormaster Report.

Zodiac Boat. Mr. Melo said he went to Georgia to see the boat. He presented pictures of it. He stated it is better condition than the orange boat we received a few years ago. He said the military removed a generator and all armament. The gauges and wiring look fine, there are no electronics. He will check out the engines when it arrives. The trailer is in good condition and can be used for other Dept. boats. There is a dent that should be repaired. It is grey and insulated inside cabin. He has a contractor that will bring the boat up by road for a cost of \$1,200. under his commercial towing insurance.

Disclosure to Select Board. Mr. Melo submitted in writing his disclosure on his marriage. He is awaiting an answer and will forward to. He thanked the WMC for their letter of support.

Dr. Joseph Burke Letter. The letter was a request to reinstate his denied request to move his mooring. Mr. Melo said Mr. Burke has a mooring for a 15' whaler, his boat of record, and he wants to move the mooring to accommodate a 35' boat. Mr. Melo said he sent a letter of denial stating it was not a proper request; he would have to go on the waiting list. Dr. Burke never had a mooring for the larger boat. Mr. Hickey asked about people getting a larger/smaller boat and how it was handled. Mr. Melo said that there is a form to fill out, otherwise they go on the waiting list in accordance with the regulations.

Old Business.

Concordia, Inc. Mr. Melo said this meeting was set back in March, minutes of meeting attached, for an update on the progress of Concordia's ACE permits. Ms. Carol Hill presented the WMC with a copy of the Public Notice from ACE on their permit. She said it was posted on the website with a response date of October 26, 2007 for anyone to contact ACE or Concordia with any concerns. She said they have been in contact for the past few weeks. She said there is now an end-point in sight. She said there will be another 10 days after the due date for comments review. Ms. Hill stated that a precedent has been set since there was another site that was grandfathered with a large amount of moorings in Marion. That permit was signed by Karen Adams. She also said they have been looking into setting up a public launch service. She has contacted people regarding this; one that answered her was a partnership servicing the Marblehead area. This company is looking to expand with a larger launch. She met with them and tried the old launch out, this would service their needs fine, they would also be willing to help set up the launch service here. Ms. Hill said they would like something in line for next year's season.

Mr. Hemingway asked what the time line is for an answer from ACE. Ms. Hill said that Brian Valiton would not commit to any date outside of the deadline in the public notice with a 10-day response time. She feels there is more positive comment than negative and it may happen soon, she doesn't want to put pressure on him. She feels there may not be a public hearing unless there is a demand for on. Mr. Brody

McGregor of Concordia stated he wishes he knew when they would get an answer on a date. He feels the ball is rolling and will be solved soon. Mr. Peloquin said we need an answer on this to have time to implement any needed changes for next year. Mr. Hickey said Concordia should have an answer soon, they know the position the WMC is in. Ms. Hill said things seem to be happening. Mr. Perry said things seem to be happening. He feels there should be a final deadline set in December. Mr. Melo said all the mooring permits expire December 31 and have to be renewed by March 31, 2008. Mr. Hickey said that we need a few plans to go forward when the answer is received – all bases have to be covered. Mr. Perry said he thinks some moorings might be approved fast; others with problems such as the swing area may take longer. Mr. Hickey said we have plans by December on what will be done depending on the answer. Mr. Melo feels we are looking at two issues: 1. comment during this public notice, we need to decide if the Commission should file a written comment on this and 2. Does the Commission want to request a public hearing by the Corps? Mr. Peloquin said a letter was written in October, 2004 that is on file. Mr. Perry said it should be updated, he doesn't feel a public hearing is necessary. Mr. Metcalf asked what moorings will be moved when the channel is moved. Mr. Melo said as many as 26 moorings could be moved including some of Concordia's. Ms. Hill said this was taken in consideration; also she doesn't feel the swing of their moorings will be a major issue. She said circles can overlap the channel; maybe they would have to move some of their smaller boats. Ms. Hill said the October, 2004 WMC letter is part of the application they submitted to ACE. Mr. Melo suggested putting the public notice on the website with a link to the ACE site. Mr. Hickey moved to do it. Mr. Perry seconded. So Moved. Mr. Melo stated that any permit from ACE is subject to local regulations, which the regrid will fall into. He said we could move their moorings during a regrid; this proposed regrid is one big change since the October, 2004 letter.

Mr. Hickey suggested having a meeting on October 2, 2007 to discuss the October, 2004 letter and also discuss the upcoming meeting with the Finance Committee regarding the CPC grant. Mr. Metcalf moved to have a meeting on October 2, 2007. Mr. Peloquin seconded. So Moved.

New Business.

CPC Grant. Mr. Melo said that on September 27, 2007 there will be a meeting with the Finance Committee regarding the CPC Grant. Mr. Hickey and Mr. Peloquin will be there, Mr. Metcalf will try to make it. Mr. Hickey said he met with DPD Captain Dennis McGuire regarding the Rogers Street site and Capt. McGuire wrote a letter of support the funding for this site. They will be willing to help. Mr. Melo read the letter; they would like to see the site cleaned up since it is a problem site for the police. Mr. Peloquin asked Mr. Melo to put some statistics together on how this site may be used and how it will impact the landing at Appongansett. Mr. Melo feels that the numbers will speak for themselves. Mr. Hickey has spoken with people regarding lawn cutting prices, etc. He feels a policy should be in place that any expenses have to be approved by the WMC beforehand. He said the CPC money is a grant, not to be repaid. He commended John Quinn who pledged his support for this project. Mr. Hickey said the support of the neighbors would be helpful.

Public Comment.

Mr. Don White would like to compliment the WMC on the work done at this site. Mr. Metcalf said there are conservation restrictions at the site. Mr. Melo will try to get Mr. Mike O'Reilly on this. Mr. Hickey said a group consisting of Mr. Michael Gagne, Mr. David Hickox and others will go and look at the site, he feels someone from the WMC should be at this meeting.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane L. Vieira