

COASTAL POND MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

Town Council Chambers

Old Post Road
Charlestown, Rhode Island

January 5, 2015

Chairman Rob Lyons called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present:

Robert Krause
Jeffrey Burns
Rich Phelan
Mike Roy
Harbormaster Justin Vail
Chairman Rob Lyons

Absent:

Bob Smith

Chairman Rob Lyons declared a quorum was present.

Guests:

Steve McCandless (GIS Specialist)
Chris Johnson (Application CRMC 2014-11-045)
Dave Mandeville (Application CRMC 2014-10-029)
Dave Beutel (CRMC - Aquaculture Specialist)
Richard Sartor (Representing Board of Directors of Salt Ponds Coalition - 450 members)
Scott Wakeman (President, Quonochontaug Conservation Commission)

Old Business:

Harbor Management Plan

Steve McCandless reviewed Quonnie GIS use map and various overlays, including eel grass beds, mooring fields, spawner sanctuary, recreational shell fishing. Audience provided recommendations/updates to the map for Charlestown portion of Quonnie.

New Business

Aquaculture Lease Proposals - Quonochontaug Pond

Dave Beutel provided an overview of the aquaculture application process. Aquaculture lease - 1st lease is for 15 years, subsequent renewals are for 10 years. CRMC provides aquaculture guidance regarding size but provides for variance. Lease owner to have proof of performance bond. It illegal to harvest local shellfish w/in an aquaculture site

CRMC 2014-11-045 Johnson-Scappatura - Preliminary Determination

Chris Johnson reviewed company background and the application. Chris to make a change to avoid eel grass. 1700 ft from the point and 219-220' from one dock. Reviewed a 2nd potential location using rack and bag (2-3' deep) in more shallow water. Chris is to review further with Dave Buetel and attend a course on the topic (Roger Williams College). Chris to use public ramp and/or breachway to enter Quonnie. Chris is to consider eliminating the floating gear from the plan.

Audience feedback - Access to the site, size of the site, proximity to eel grass. Issue w/ floating gear. Letters received from Salt Pond Coalition, Shady Harbor and Shelter Harbor Assoc/Fire Districts and individuals. Access is a concern, as public ramp/lot is often full.

CRMC 2014-10-029 Mandeville Plot 1- Preliminary Determination

Dave Mandeville reviewed his back ground and his application. Dave to use rack (PVC) and bag. Application specifies a "rack and bag" system with the rack legs driven two feet into the sand and the oyster bags resting about foot off the bottom. Dave to access the site via public ramp and/or walking from the lot, approximately 1600-1700'. The site is 1 acre. Worked on a 6 acre farm previously. Conflicts w/ eel grass bed.

Audience feedback - Shallow area, size of the lease (1 acre), heavily used for recreation, fishing, clamming. Conflicts w/ eel grass bed. (CRMC eel grass assessment typically in July). Access is a concern, as public ramp/lot is often full. Scott Wakeman reviewed potential impact of a 15 year aquaculture lease to future dredging of the channel and the sand delta's on each side of the channel given location of the site on the eastern delta. Letters received from Salt Pond Coalition, Shady Harbor and Shelter Harbor Assoc/Fire Districts and individuals.

Chairman Rob Lyons reviewed draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) that was provided to CRMC for review / comment / consideration.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the December 1, 2014 meeting were reviewed.

Upon motion duly made by Jeffrey Burns and seconded by Rob Krause, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2014 meeting.

Financial Report:

Harbormaster Justin Vail presented an overview of Actual vs. Budget - December 2014.

Harbormaster Report:

None

Old Business (Continued):

Coastal Ponds / Harbormaster Budget Proposal FY 2015-2016

Harbormaster Justin Vail reviewed the revised budget proposal. Discussed removing /adjusting line items to avoid mooring fee increases. Reviewed labor schedule for 2015.

Upon motion duly made by Jeffrey Burns and seconded by Mike Roy, it was voted unanimously to update the budget as outlined below:

1. Eliminate Tablet expense of \$486 from #6020
2. Eliminate Tablet expense of \$1000 from #6075
3. Delete \$3,194.64 from #3540 (Retained Earnings) and add \$1708.64 to #3560 (General Fund)

Upon motion duly made by Mike Roy and seconded by Rob Krause, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: ___ As written
___As amended

Date_____

Rob Lyons