

# Stamford Harbor Master's Report 09/20/2016

## Moorings.

- Renewals are now more or less complete. Mooring status (*as of 8/16/2016*);
  - Approved - 74
  - Awaiting inspection - 04
  - Under review - 05
  - EXPIRED Renewal not received - 06
  - Held inactive for 2016 season - 06
  - Not being renewed - 11
  - Revoked - 01
- The Ford North shell fish lease mooring issue is again due before a Judge on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Harbor Activity

- On August 22<sup>nd</sup>, a report from manager of the temporary boat yard that a boat had sunk alongside a dock at Harbor Point North. Owner was contacted and gave written authority (to manager temporary boat yard) to do whatever was needed for recovery and mitigation of pollution risk. A local commercial fishing vessel assisted with recovery and towed it to the temporary boat yard for removal from the water. The cause of the sinking is not known.



- Harbor Fest and the associated fireworks display went off well. Shoreside facilities were well attended and the cardboard canoe race was quite exciting. The organizers safety cover was supplemented by the visiting Coast Guard boat and the Harbor Commission boat.

The evening fireworks event was covered, again, by the

Harbor Commission boat and the Stamford Police Harbor Unit. Also in attendance were police vessels from Darien and Greenwich. Very few visiting boats attended and there were no issues.

I personally hope that the event continues next year and advise that the lack of on the water incident this year should not result in reduce cover next year.

- Labor Day weekend was quiet on the water in large due to the forecast effects of tropical storm *Hermine* (which never actually materialized). The exception was the Vineyard Race which I understand was a great success.
- Over the past 10 days, a small boat was seen stranded on top of the outer breakwater. A brief search was conducted by the DHM and police harbor unit to ensure that nobody was in distress. An owner has not been traced and the boat was recovered to Czescik Marina on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> where it will be dealt with by the city.
- Police harbor unit have identified that the 'speed marker buoys' outside of the main entrance to the harbor are in need of replacement. I can confirm their poor condition. I respectfully ask that a start be made to the replacement process so that new buoys are available for installation prior to the 2017 season.



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## Meetings

- On 9/13/2016 I met with and presented to the local USCG-Aux regarding the harbor hurricane plan and other practical/operational matters. There was a good discussion session and a very positive response. Their personnel will clearly be a valuable resource during a real event.
- On 9/22/2016 I am due to attend a meeting (with others) with the Mayor and Mr. Scott Bates, Chairman of the CT Ports Authority regarding funding for ongoing and future projects within the harbor.

## Garbage and Debris

- No appreciable change from last month. It is still not good and the heavy rains of the past few days has resulted in an increase in visible debris in the northern branches of the harbor.



- The abandoned docks in the East Branch, just above the Hurricane barrier have now completely broken up and more than 50% sunk making recovery and removal both time consuming and costly. I note the lack of city response to my frequent requests for removal.

## Expenses outstanding

- The promised West Marine account has still not been set up. As a result, we (the Commission/Harbor Master) has outstanding bills with no means of payment.
  - Likewise, the fuel account with Seaview House Marina (Vinnie's fuel dock) remains unpaid since June.
- I respectfully request a firm time-line for these accounts to be dealt with as it is getting embarrassing trying to run and maintain city equipment with no indication of if, when or how payment will be forthcoming.
- Harbor Master (personal) **\$ 0.00**

Respectfully submitted

Captain Eric Knott

State Harbor Master

Captain Yale Greenman

State Deputy Harbor Master