



## ***Parks & Recreation Committee - Board of Representatives***

Linda Cannady, Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 20, 2010

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** Republican Caucus Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Government Center,  
888 Washington Boulevard

The Parks & Recreation Committee met as indicated above. Present were Chair Cannady and Committee Member Reps. DePina, Fedeli, Franzetti, Heaphy, Pia and Taylor. Also present were Clerk Summerville and Reps. Adams, White and Zelinsky. Also present were Jim Bartley of the Stamford Harbor Commission; Frank Fedeli of Citizens Service Bureau; Julius Magyari of Halloween Yacht Club, James Ryan of Stamford Yacht Club and Doug Hamilton, City of Stamford Marine Operations Supervisor.

Chair Cannady called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. PR28.005	REVIEW; update on Mill River Park and Greenway	<b>HELD IN COMMITTEE 6-0-0</b>
2. <a href="#">PR28.007</a>	APPROVAL of public hearing to approve a resolution implementing a fee schedule for boat moorings.	<b>COMMITTEE APPROVED 7-0-0</b>

Chair Cannady stated that Mr. Selkowitz was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the item was held by a vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Bartley reported on the background of the fee request:

- There are 2 fee proposals: 1) an application review fee; and 2) a mooring fee for \$75.
- Proceeds from the fees (approximately \$16,000) will go to a fund managed by the Harbor Commission. They intend on using these proceeds to 1) pay an outside firm that uses GPS to locate and track all moorings; 2) pay a consultant to review waterfront land use permits;

3) provide additional Harbor Master presence in the harbors; 4) handle emergency matters such as the removal of damaged/abandoned vessels; and 5) maintain the former marine patrol boat which has been given to the Harbor Commission.

- Non-profits would pay the initial \$75 fee; they would pay \$5 for any subsequent annual fees.
- The Harbor Master has always required that mooring users provide documentation proving the vessel is registered and insured. This will still be required; in addition, the owner will either have to hire an outside firm or personally certify that the mooring meets State standards and is in sound condition.
- Greenwich charges \$100 per mooring; Norwalk charges \$3/foot; Bridgeport charges \$200 per year. The State caps the charges at \$200 per year.
- The Harbor Commission originally wanted to charge \$100/year, but after the public hearings, they agreed on \$75.
- The current records on mooring holders are in poor condition. The firm they recently contracted with will bring all records up to date. The firm will charge \$5 per mooring to maintain the records (most of its income is derived from advertising on its website).
- There are about 61 moorings in Stamford Harbor and Westcott Cove. In addition, Stamford Yacht Club has about 150. There are also commercial moorings.
- The Harbor Commission is entertaining the idea of assessing charges for commercial moorings as well as for use of the harbor by commercial vessels. Stamford's harbor has a tremendous amount of activity – at least 1,600 commercial vessels per year use the harbor.
- The fee proposal has been approved by corporation counsel.

Rep. Franzetti stated that he does not want to see the harbor become over-regulated. All funds that are generated do not go to the general fund but go to the Harbor Commission, and he doesn't want to see the Commission turn into a giant money-making entity. Rep. Franzetti feels the City should be the recipient of any fees.

The Committee reviewed [a letter received from Stamford Yacht Club](#) (SYC) and a [response from the Harbor Commission](#) (see attached). Basically, the SYC feels it is exempt from the fees, however, per Mr. Ryan, while the SYC is not opposed to paying the fees, it does not believe it is fair for the SYC to be disproportionately charged with the responsibility of supporting the Harbor Commission. Mr. Ryan stated that the fees generated are going to support activities that all boaters will enjoy, including those who use slips, and the burden of paying for these activities would fall disproportionately on the SYC, which owns 165 out of the 219 moorings.

Mr. Frank Fedeli pointed out that slip users pay, for example, \$521 for a 16' boat, while mooring users presently pay nothing. Mr. Ryan responded that they are also receiving a slip, with water and electricity.

Rep. Mary Fedeli stated that she has not come to a conclusion on the matter, but committee members should ask themselves: regardless of what the funds are used for, why should people moor their vessels and not pay anything?

### **As Secondary Committee**

Chair Cannady asked members to attend the Appointments Committee meeting. She will either schedule a vote prior to the Board meeting or waive the committee report at the Board meeting.

1. A28.031     **Parks & Recreation Commission**  
Dave Winston (R)     Repl. Thomas Lombardo  
1128 Cove Road     (exp. 12/01/04)  
Stamford, CT 06902  
Term Expires: 12/01/10
  
2. A28.056     **Golf Commission**  
Thomas Pia (R)                     Reappointment  
18 Windell Place                     (Term Exp. 12/01/03)  
Stamford, CT 06906  
Term Expires: 12/01/12
  
3. A28.057     **Patriotic & Special Events Commission**  
Pat Battinelli (R)                     Reappointment  
81 Cowing Place                     (Term Exp. 12/01/08)  
Stamford, CT 06906  
Term Expires: 12/01/10
  
4. A28.058     **Patriotic & Special Events Commission**  
Martha M. Dombroski (R)             Reappointment  
204 Cascade Road                     (Term Exp. 12/01/06)  
Stamford, CT 06903  
Term Expires: 12/01/12
  
5. A28.059     **Patriotic & Special Events Commission**  
Marc A. Lorenti (D)                     Reappointment  
102 Fawn Drive                     (Term Exp. 12/01/02)  
Stamford, CT 06905  
Term Expires: 12/01/11
  
6. A28.060     **Patriotic & Special Events Commission**  
Penny J. Mazzucco (D)                 Reappointment  
17 Ledge Terrace                     (Term Exp. 12/01/09)  
Stamford, CT 06905  
Term Expires: 12/01/12

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Cannady, Chair