CONNECTICUT HARBOR MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING June 13, 2002 Bridgeport, CT

President Severance called the meeting to order at 4:45 P.M. Members present: Joel Severance, Dave Dunavan, Al Grunow, Peter Holecz, Bob Sammis, Mary VonConta, Geoff Steadman, Lou Allyn

Minutes of the March 7th meeting were approved unanimously with no discussion. The Treasure's report was approved unanimously with no discussion.

Dave Dunavan reported on the progress of the Association's web page. Susan Green has completed the contract work and will charge \$35 per hour from now on for edits and additions. There was discussion on what information could be kept in a password protected area. Lou Allyn, webmaster of <u>www.townofstonington.com</u>, offered to be Susan's backup. He will send information about a free "hit counter" to Dave.

Joel Severance reported on the progress in the legislature of two warfing out initiatives. The one requiring the EP to hold a public hearing if petitioned by 25 or more signatures was not voted upon. The second, which considers visual impact, was voted and not passed.

Geoff Steadman gave a dredging up-date. The full report, *The Federal Maintenance Dredging Process in the State of Connecticut: Findings and recommendations from a Study by the CHMA*, is nearly complete; John Roberge is working on the Executive Summary.

The EPA and army Corps are proposing to focus the EIS on the western half of Long Island Sound in order to meet the 2004 central site closure date. The status of funding is unknown.

Geoff passed around the April/May 2002 issue of *CT Business Magazine* with the article, *Dredging to maintain Connecticut's ports and harbors*, written by Geoff, John Roberge and Daniel Stapleton. Bob Sammis reported that the DOT has designated the Connecticut Port Authority to be the advocate for dredging but it only has about a \$10,000 budget. The Pilots Association also recognizes the need for a dredging advocate. The CHMA wants a cabinet level person but the advocacy will probably be part of a maritime high level "cluster".

Dave Dunavan will post the letter to Senator Lieberman on the CHMA web site.

The meeting then recessed for a tour of Bridgeport harbor. There are several large projects in various stages of development which will greatly revitalize the harbor.

The meeting resumed with a Joel Severance update on Under Sound Utilities. There are problems in New Haven harbor with ledges and shellfish beds being impacted by sediment plumes. It was decided to put the CHMA questions and our answers on the web site; Geoff will prepare a draft.

A tentative date and time of 4:30 October 17th was set for the Annual Meeting. The proposed speaker's topic is New England Maritime Homeland Security. The DEP (Rick Huntley) may be interested in displaying their application for a No Discharge Zone in the Pawcatuck River/Stonington Harbor area.

Mike Griffen has written a letter to Ken Roberts regarding harbormaster liability when using their own boat and any municipality exposure. Assistant Attorney General Pernerewski is preparing a response.

Geoff Steadman has talked with John Volk of the DEP about speaking at the Spring/Summer Seminar. The topic would be the relationship between shellfish commission and harbormasters. A proposed site is the Bridgeport Aquaculture School.

The City of Groton has requested CHMA to assist them in obtaining DEP approval of their Harbor Plan.

Lou Allyn will contact Paul Bates in Groton for background information.

After a discussion of possible changes to the bylaws regarding fees for groups not yet full Harbor Management Commissions it was decided to leave the fees as is

Discussion was had as to the next newsletter. Al Grunow is planning to publish 4 sides in early September.

The next meeting will be Thursday September 12th at 4:30 in either Old Saybrook or Mystic.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Louis P. Allyn