Saco Coastal Waters Commission
Minutes of the March 3, 2010 Meeting

I. Call Meeting to Order – At 7:00 p.m. a Saco Coastal Waters Commission meeting was held at City Hall.

II. Roll Call of Members – The members present constituted a quorum. The members present: Vice-Chairman Mike Gray, Treasurer Robert Barris, Secretary Robert Steeves, Todd Stewart, James Katz and Thomas Casamassa (7:07 p.m.). Also present: Harbormaster Daniel Chadbourne, Public Works Deputy Director Patrick Fox and Council Liaison Jeffrey Christenbury. Absent this evening: Chairman Gary Marston (Notified), and Dock Master Jerry McMillan.

III. Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2010

Treasurer Robert Barris noted a correction needed to be done on page 1, letter #B-1. Strike the words “bid process” and add the words “purchase approval process”.

Todd Stewart moved, Robert Barris seconded to approve the February 3, 2010 minutes with the correction as noted. The motion passed with five (5) yeas.

IV. General
   A. 5000 Account Review
      1) Account Summary & Discussion

Treasurer Robert Barris reviewed the Revenues and Expenditures thru February 28, 2010.

Summary of Saco Coastal Waters Commission YTD Revenues and Expenditures for FY2010

Updated Through February 28th, 2010

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
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James Katz moved, Robert Steeves seconded to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented. The motion passed with five (5) yeas.

A copy of the report is on page 4 as Attachment A.

   1) General Update by Members in Attendance

   • Saco River Navigation Clarification

The following is a brief version of the e-mail that Biddeford Asst. Harbormaster Paul Lariviere received from Jay Clement of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on February 15, 2010, regarding the Saco River navigation.
According to the 2007 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), the channel has not been deauthorized, it’s been redesignated an anchorage which is exactly what you folks supposedly wanted. The idea was that the municipalities of Saco and Biddeford could locally designate and mark a channel or fairway through the anchorage. By redesignating it an anchorage, it was not taken off the federal books (meaning we’re still on the hook for maintenance) but more important to the locals, it allowed the municipalities to use it to moor vessels. When it was a channel and/or maneuvering basin, it technically was against our regulations to moor vessels.

The following is the wording right out of the Act: “(d) SACO RIVER-MAINE- The portion of the project for navigation, Saco River, Maine, constructed under section 107 of the River and Harbor Act of 1960 (33 U.S.C. 577) and described as a 6-foot deep, 10-acre maneuvering basin located at the head of the navigation, is redesignated as an anchorage area.”

Biddeford Asst. Harbormaster Paul Lariviere also received an e-mail from Duban Montoya, Navigation Project Manager of the US Army Corps of Engineers on February 19, 2010 which stated that he would send Mr. Lariviere a survey showing the area that was changed from a turning basin to an anchorage. Nothing else was changed. That area is still part of the Federal navigation project (and under our authority/jurisdiction to maintain).

C. Harbor Master
   1) Comments/Issues

   No comments or issues.

   2) The 25th Annual Maine Harbor Master’s Association Training Program held on March 17th, 18th and 19th this year.

   Harbormaster Daniel Chadbourne will be attending.

D. April Officers and May Term Expirations - Candidates

   Officers will be elected in April.

   Robert Barris’s term will expire on May 7, 2010. This will be his second term completed, so he will need to take at least one year off from the commission before he can be appointed again.

   Thomas Casamassa’s term will also expire on May 7, 2010. This will be his first term completed, so he can be re-appointed. Mr. Casamassa stated that he was interested in serving another term.

V. Coastal Waters Planning
   A. Status of Standard US Army Corps of Engineers Dredging Questionnaire

   Saco Public Works Director Michael Bolduc, Saco Dep. Dir. of Public Works Patrick Fox, Saco Harbormaster Daniel Chadbourne and Biddeford City Engineer Thomas Milligan met to discuss the questionnaire. They will be meeting again on March 22nd to pull everything together. Saco Public Works will draft the Questionnaire and send it out.

VI. Old Business
   A. Maintenance & Care of City-Owned Waterfront Facilities
      1) Status of Pier Surveillance Equipment Purchase

      The equipment will be purchase now, but it will not be installed until April or May.

      2) Camp Ellis Float Dredging
The dredge was done on February 22nd, and it has already started to fill back in. A couple hundred yards was removed. The sand that was removed was taken over to Fairhaven and put on the geo tubes. It will be dredged one more time before the April 1st deadline, with about the same yardage being removed.

3) Down and Up River Hoist Power In/Out Doesn’t Work and Shafts Show Stress Failure

Public Works has been a little short on staff recently, but they are working on the down river hoist, and it will be back in soon.

The city Electrical Inspector Marcel Desrosiers has looked into the other hoist issue. When the access key is used it seems to trip the hoist off. It is working, but it may need to be rewired.

4) Pump Out Station & Public Restroom

This item has been Tabled.

5) Planned Off Season Pier Maintenance – Pending Requests
a. Move Pier Parking Attendant Building Further into Parking Lot to Allow Vehicle Access to Window
b. Pour Concrete Anchor Pad for Pier Ramp Area Floats
c. Purchase 4 New 20’ Pier Floats for Installation the End of April/Relocate 2 Existing Floats to Pier Ramp Area

Public Works has taken care of the 4 new floats, but the relocation of the other floats will need to go through the permitting process.

d. Trim and Cap Outside Fender Piles of the Pier
e. Pier Signage: Use of the Pier Requires a Permit

No new information on items a, b, d, or e.

VII. Other New Business

A. Sea Level Adaption Working Group

Southern Maine Regional Planning commission (CMRPC) has received grant funds to create a working group that would develop and implement climate change adoption strategies, to respond to rising sea levels and to become more resilient to coastal storms.

The cost for the Study is $50,000. The State Planning Office will provide $25,000 with the condition that there be a match of $25,000. The communities of Saco, Biddeford and Scarborough will be a part of the Sea Level Adaption Working Group (SLAWG) and will be providing a cash match of $4,167.00 from each community and an in-kind contribution of staff time with a value of $4,167 from each community. Saco’s cash match will come from the Contingency Account.

B. Complaints/Concerns

- Waited too long for the Hoist to be Fixed

Thomas Casamassa noted that the hoist should have been fixed before now. There were two hoists working, but there was a problem with the up-river hoist on a Friday evening. It took 3 hours to get his boat unloaded because he had to wait for the 4 other boats to unload using the one working hoist. Public Works and the cities Electrician did get the up-river hoist going again, but it was an inconvenience for the evening. It was noted that the Public Works Dept. has been having staffing problems, and that is why it has taken awhile to get it fixed.
• **Commercial Anchorage Dredging**

Thomas Casamassa noted that the commercial anchorage is getting to be a danger in some of the full moon low tides. This needs to be addressed as soon as possible. Harbormaster Daniel Chadbourne noted that this is being worked on with the US Army Corps.

• **Docks where it was just Dredged**

Thomas Casamassa noted that the finger piers were removed and some skiffs got damaged during the storm. The finger piers should have been put back in after the dredging, so the skiffs have something to hide behind from the weather. Some of the skiffs did get put up top, but one was too large to do that and it got smashed up. Dep. Dir. of Public Works Patrick Fox stated that these were removed because of the storm and that they were going to fix them while they were out. He thanked Thomas for the feedback. Harbormaster Daniel Chadbourne stated that when people know that a storm is coming in, they should take precautions to make sure their equipment doesn’t get damaged.

**VIII. Adjournment of Saco Coastal Waters Commission Meeting**

Todd Stewart moved, Robert Barris seconded to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. The motion passed with six (6) yeas.

Attest: Michele L. Hughes, Recording Secretary

Date Approved: April 7, 2010

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**ATTACHMENT A**

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