

THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MICHAELS
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Waterways Management Advisory Board
Virtual Work Session Meeting
Tuesday August 10, 2021, at 4pm

CALL TO ORDER – Roy Myers opened the meeting at 4:15pm.

Present: Roy Myers, John Marrah, Mark Van Fleet, staff Kim Shellem and Kimberly Weller. Mark Welsh and Dink Daffin were not in attendance. Also, in attendance via zoom -was CBMM President, Kristen Greenaway, and Jonathan Stewart of MDE.

Chairman Myers suggested that the Waterway Board should send a letter to those properties with non-conforming slips which were grandfathered at the last meeting.

Chairman Myers provided copies of the MD Code Regulations Section 26.24.04.02 – Piers and Boathouses, and Talbot County, MD. Section 190-75 Piers and related boat facilities, Bill No.1287 *As Amended*

Jonathan Stewart of MDE gave a brief presentation regarding floats vs. fixed floating docks citing the MD Code Regulations Section 26.24.04.02 – Piers and Boathouses. The state defines any structure in, on, over or under wetlands are considered a structure and needs approval based on its purpose and need.

- The ACOE and MDE considers floating or fixed piers under the term Structure and what's its purpose. Permits are required for any Structure that is in, on, over or under wetlands whether the structure is under or over 200 s.f. including the width of the pier to which it is attached for private piers, the State owns the substrate, above or under the wetlands. Limited to 6 parking spaces with a maximum of 4 boats can be placed on a private dock, 2 can be jet skis and with 6 mooring piles. A maximum of 2 finger piers (3' wide). A floating structure needs a minimum of 6" MLW so not as to impact the substrate.
- Commercial Marina's – do not have a 200 sq. ft. limit, no restriction on platforms but must have a water dependent activities/use.
- Platforms are not permitted if SAV (Submerged Aquatic Vegetation) is present and mapped within the last 5 years.
- Boatlifts are permitted but must be consistent with local state law restrictions.
- Permits are based on use, not zoning.

Myers spoke to who would apply for the permit. HOA would be the applicant whereas deeded slips the applicant would be the property owner. Member Marrah said since the state law would allow for floating docks in the harbor, he suggested providing an update to the Commissioners including an avenue/mechanism to move forward to permitting.

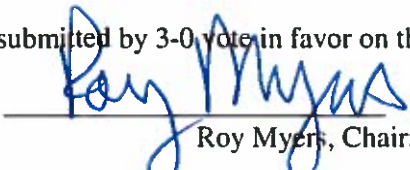
Myers discussed analyze what floats exists breaking the restrictions/regulations broken into groups/categories, i.e. Commercial businesses, Marina's, Private piers.

Jonathan said if it were legally approvable there is a fee associated with the MDE/ACOE permit.

Chairman Myers proposed drafting a template of recommendations to forward to the Commissioners.

Parking signs along Harbor Road designated for waterman was discussed whether it is meant for any commercial waterman or the waterman slip holder. Members proposed signage for each town leased slip be placed on the bulkhead stating, "Private Slip".

The meeting adjourned at 5:32pm. Minutes approved as submitted by 3-0 vote in favor on the 14 day of September 2021.


Roy Myers, Chairman