

**Minutes of the Thursday, JANUARY 18, 2024, ANNUAL MEETING**

**Meeting called to order at: 7:00 pm**

**Roll call of Officers and Board members**

* Commodore – Rich Vieghey - present
* Vice Commodore – Gary Smith - absent
* Agawam Rear Commodore – Ed Kelley - present
* Chester Rear Commodore -Donna Bielefield Merli - present
* Treasurer: Fred Siedel - present
* Secretary: Michelle Velazquez- present

**Board of Directors**

* Steve Buoniconti -absent
* Michael Morassi - absent
* Mat Wright - present
* Dan Merli - present
* Wayne Harrington - absent
* Butch Wagner – absent

**Report of the Commodore-**

Good evening, everyone. I will keep this short and sweet. As my last night as Commodore, I wish to start with a BIG THANK YOU to those who serve on the Board and the members who supported us this past year. We have had a good year. It was sometimes frustrating, satisfying and certainly a year of learning. The month of July was certainly a trying for boating and any kind of outdoor activities. Rewarding in that we got a camara system set up for everyone's safety. Thank you, Dave Lankowski, Mark, Scott and Paul for installing it.

Learning the club from functionality perspective makes me apprciate all the work and effort that the board members and volunteers do to make this place enjoyable, for which I am grateful to be a part of.

Finally, thank you Jeremy for taking over the position of Commodore, it came at the most convinient time. I wish you the best in your leadership role. You have my support in leading this club to future success. Thank you.

**Report of Vice Commodore-**

The beginning of the year, the house had a few inspections done. I met with the Agawam Fire and Building Inspectors. We also have the Fire Service group who checks the in house fire and smoke detectors. All fire extinguishers are brought to Mass Fire to be checked.

The past year has seen some new improvements to the house. There was a broken water pipe in the basement last February because the water was left on. A new frost-free outdoor faucet was installed.

The upstairs kitchen refrigerator finally quitworking. I was able to find a new stainless steel one that fit in the kitchen area nicely.

After a lot of discussion about security cameras, we were able to get a nice system. This system is set up to monitor inside and outside of the house and also the basin. A big THANK YOU to Dave Lankowski for volunteering his time to install the system, along with all the help he had.

During the past year we had over a dozen member rentals for Wilber Hogan Hall and porch. The Pioneer Valley Surf Club and the Springfield Power Squadron still rent the hall for their meetings.

The house cleaning committee kept the house looking clean with weekly cleanings. The committee is made up of Falg members whose resposibility is to serve for one year.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Smith

**Report of Rear Commodore Cheste**r –

2023 was a good year despite the weather.  The season opened with a huge effort from everyone to clean the grounds with special thanks to Andrew for his chipper truck which we couldnt have completed without him.

Mat was a huge help in securing a tree service to remove the rotted trees from the point.

Thank you to the basin committee and dock master for all of your hard work and always working on a project from safety issues to repairs.  The reuse of the small boats to make planters and looks nice to everyone entering the basin by car or boat, it was a great touch by our green thumb crew.

Thanks to Dan for the machines for putting the ramps in and out and the dump trailer for the unplanned work parties and many dump runs, and to everyone who spent the time and gas working and going back and forth

The slip raffle was a big success thanks to Kim for taking this on and selling so many tickets.

I would like to personally thank all of the Chester crew and the SYCC board for helping me navigate through my 1st year as rear commodore, without all of you I could not have done it.  I look forward to the 2024 season to continue and see what else we can achieve together.

Sincerely,

Donna Bielefield-Merli

Chester Rear Commodore

**Report of Rear Commodore Agawam –**

I’d like to begin by saying “Thanks” to the membership and officers of the club for their support and assistance during the past year as Rear Commodore. A special thanks to Gary Smith for keeping an eye on the place when I couldn’t.

The 2023 season got off to a late start due to river conditions and Mother’s Day. (Love you Mom). We finally put the docks in May 21. The work party was well attended and the work progressed smoothly.

The rains began shortly after that, leading to some issues during the July 4, festivities. About mid-July, a series of heavy rains up the river valley, caused us to pull out the boats, and bring the docks in. These storms flooded several areas in Vermont, then the flood moved southward. Marinas above and below us, suffered significant damage to their docks and boats. Due to the quick response of the club members, we suffered no damage. The basin was shut down for a couple of weeks.

By mid-August, the docks were back out and most boaters had returned to their slips. The rains continued, but the severity and duration had lessened. We had good water depth, but the water stayed dirty for remainder of the season. The rain brought a lot of debris to the docks. The chain saw was used several times during the season. Thanks to all those who helped keep the docks clear. It seemed never ending at times.

The fall work party, October 16, went well with the docks being removed and stacked as usual. 6 sections were put by the deck for replacement in the spring.

Some of the good things that happened include adding two new sections to the North side dock, increasing capacity by 2 boats. Repairing some rot found on the barge, replacing the floats on the barge to increase lifting capacity and through bolting the lifting structure so we could safely pick the barge up and move it during spring and fall work parties. The metal on the barge also received a paint job.

I need to take a minute to thanks the folks who made this work happen. First, Thanks to Eddie Spellacy for managing the dock construction crews during the spring build. His knowledge, skills and tools allowed for the building of new dock sections to go smoothly. Thanks to Tina Michelle and Jen for the food and drinks during the work parties and dock builds. Lastly, a huge Thanks to Mike Morassi and the folks at Sunbelt Rentals for providing the equipment that made the work possible. A JCB fork lift, provided the muscle for installation and removal of the docks. Thanks to all who participated. You make it happen.

The planning has begun and updates will be coming as we move forward..

Lastly, the basin is in good financial condition, and our assets in good shape. Prices will increase slightly for the 2025 season.

Respectfully submitted

Ed Kelley

Agawam Rear Commodore

**Report of the Treasurer:**

**Bank balances 1/1/23 12/31/23**

**Checking $51236.31 $66269.39**

**Agawam Future projects $64023.46 $67716.60**

**Chester Future projects $29286.33 $52752.33**

**House future projects $12270.82 $19566.14**

**Perm Fund/Edward Jones $39100.58 $46080.54**

**Budget Balances 12/31/23**

**Agawam Basin ($2574.71)**

**Chester Basin $55228.66**

**House ($3648.93)**

**Perm/Edward Jones $1000**

**Membership Committee –**

Year end 2023 member totals:

104 Active members

10 Flag members

21 Senior and Honor members

3 Out of Port members

2 Voting only

As of 1/1/24, there are 3 Members in Waiting. Pleae keep recruiting as our financial needs within the club dictate how much our dues are going to be in the future.

**Entertainment/Education Committee –**

Please see flyer

The meeting was adjourned at: 7:07 pm pm

Respectfully submitted by,  
Michelle Velazquez