

Parks & Recreation Committee - Board of Representatives

Jim Caterbone, Co-Chair Carl Franzetti, Co-Chair Committee Report

Date:	Tuesday,	December	22, 2015
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**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

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

The Parks & Recreation Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Co-Chairs Caterbone and Franzetti and Committee Member Reps. de la Cruz, Heaphy, Hoch, Mahoney, McGarry, Pratt and Ryan. Also present were Rep. Zelinsky and Ernie Orgera, Director of Operations.

Co-Chair Caterbone called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

## Item No. Description Committee Action

1. <u>PR29.034</u> REVIEW; Non-Resident Marina Fees Charged by City of Stamford. Report Made & 08/05/15 – Submitted by Ernie Orgera and Rep. de la Cruz 08/27/15 – Held in Committee 10/01/15 – Held in Committee 10/13/15 – Held at Steering 11/09/15 – Held at Steering

Rep. de la Cruz explained that he brought up this item in response to a request from a constituent who is a non-resident who owns a business in Stamford. The constituent could not find a posted fee for non-residents. He believed the fee he was quoted when he was called was excessive. There is a policy allowing rentals to non-residents as long as there are no residents on waiting lists for vacant slips. The proposed resolution permits non-residents who own businesses or property in Stamford pay the same fees as residents, and other non-residents should pay a premium.

Director Orgera stated that non-residents will not rent boat slips in Stamford because the fees are higher than in surrounding areas and as a result, slips are going vacant. He would recommend reducing the fees for non-residents to 1.5 times the price charged to residents. People who pay taxes in the City, but do not have vehicles registered in Stamford do pay a higher rate than residents for beach passes, but not as high as non-residents pay. He believes all non-residents should pay the same rate, since they don't

live in Stamford and spend the money that a resident would spend here.

Committee members discussed:

- The current policy only applies to boats registered in Connecticut.
- Private marinas cost more than City marinas and private marinas are often full
- Whether this would create a problem for beach stickers
- A non-resident fee schedule was approved by Resolution 2693 in 2002.
- There are 3 price points for beach stickers residents, non-residents who pay taxes, and non-residents
- The Committee needs to know what private marinas charge and whether what the City currently charges is lower
- Residents start to rent slips after January 1<sup>st</sup>

For next month, the Committee asked Director Orgera to provide needs a comparison of rates of other boatyards and a schedule of proposed fees and an analysis of the marinas, the number of slips and how many are filled (Cummings is still closed, due to Superstorm Sandy)

Co-Chair Caterbone adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Caterbone, Co-Chair

This meeting is on video.