

**VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE**  
Walworth County, WI

**Lakefront and Harbor Committee**  
Wednesday, April 28, 2010  
(Official Minutes)

The monthly meeting of the Lakefront and Harbor Committee was called to order at 4:30 pm on April 28, 2010 by Chairperson Micki O'Connell.

**Roll Call:** Trustee Micki O'Connell, Rick Pappas, Ed Snyder, Joel Bikowski, Lee Eakright, Steve Beers, Robert Chanson

**Also Present:** F.J. Frazier, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, Eddie Snyder, Tom Whowell

**Visitors Heard**

Eddie Snyder stated that the Abbey Harbor Condominium Association will be dredging the channel to Geneva Lake sometime during the next week. The project will take two or three days, most likely from Tuesday through Thursday. Ed Snyder stated that he had requested for an item to be placed on the agenda for the Fontana Shores Condominium Association's request to cost share with the Village on a project to repair and stabilize the stairs that lead to the lakeshore path. Ed Snyder stated that the total cost of the repair project will be about \$4,000. Ed Snyder requested that the item be placed on the agenda for next month's meeting. Rick Pappas stated that he wanted to make it part of the record that there were 35 shore stations and one double jet ski lift stored on the Country Club Estates beach property again this winter season. Pappas stated that it would be nice if the Glenwood Springs Association shore stations and lift could be stored elsewhere during the winter season, not on the beach. O'Connell stated that the stacked up shore stations look terrible and asked if the Glenwood Springs Association could store them elsewhere away from the lakefront, like the Village and the other associations. Joel Bikowski stated that he will relay the concerns to the Glenwood Springs Board.

**General Business**

**Approval of Minutes – March 24, 2010**

Snyder/Eakright 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the March 24, 2010 minutes as submitted, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Country Club Estates Association Contract Renewal Recommendation – Tabled 3/24/10**

The original 10-year contract that had a 10-year rollover expired in December 2009. O'Connell stated that the lease is for the Village owned pier and the rate was \$1 per year. Country Club Estates Association President F.J. Frazier stated that the association wants to continue to be good neighbors and work with the Village on maintaining the site. Frazier stated that the association has allocated funding over the years for the construction of the new beach house in its parking lot and for other repair and maintenance projects. Frazier stated that the association is willing to take care of its area and will also send the golf course landscaping crew members down to the lakefront to take care of the beach area during the summer season. Frazier stated that the association would like to have the eroding sidewalk adjacent to the channel repaired, the bridge cleaned, pressure-washed and painted, the railroad ties in the hill remounted, and the speed limit in the channel enforced by the Geneva Lake Law Enforcement Agency. O'Connell stated that she will address the maintenance concerns with the Department of Public Works, and relay the speeding on the lake concern to the GLEEA Board. O'Connell said with regard to the lease renewal, she thinks a five-year term would be better than another 20-year contract. Pappas stated that he agrees with O'Connell and the term of the renewed contract should be shortened. Ed

Snyder stated that he would suggest a five-year term for the renewed contract, with three five-year extensions. Ed Snyder stated that way the Village and the association can review the contract every five years to determine if there are any new issues or concerns to address. Frazier stated that the association would like to renew the same contract terms. Eakright stated that he agrees with the suggestion made by Ed Snyder. Beers stated that he would not object to renewing the same contract that expired. Chanson stated that either way is fine with him and he has no concern renewing the lease, unless some new concern comes up, or if there is some sort of abuse of the use by the association in the future. Bikowski stated that he thinks it's a good idea to review the lease every five years. Frazier asked if it was a problem that the lease has a clause that prohibits jet skis and some of the slips have personal watercrafts, like wave runners. Pappas stated that if the personal watercraft are moored on slips, not on ramps, it would not be an issue according to the methodology the committee is using to review the DMAs.

Snyder/Pappas 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend approval of a five-year term for a renewed lease between the Village of Fontana and the Country Club Estates Association, with three five-year renewal periods, with a \$1 annual fee. The MOTION carried on a 6-1 vote, with Beers opposed.

#### **Boat Launch Extended Season Information – Tabled 3/24/10**

O'Connell stated that updated financial spreadsheets on the Village launch receipts for 2009 were distributed. Pappas stated that the Village should try to keep the launch open until the end of October for one year and if it is a financial failure, the season can be switched back next year to end on October 15. O'Connell stated that the Village should try it and see what happens.

Bikowski stated that the committee approved a motion at its February 24, 2010 meeting to recommend that the boat launch ramp season remain the same as previous years, and he asked why the item was on the agenda again. O'Connell stated that the committee requested further financial information at its March 24, 2010 meeting, so the item was placed on the agenda again. O'Connell stated that if the Village extends its season to the end of October, then all of the municipalities on the lake will have consistent seasons. O'Connell stated that the Village has nothing to lose by trying it for one season. Tom Whowell stated that the Village already lost revenue by raising the commercial launch rate, and if the goal is to increase village revenue, the plan is not working. Pappas stated that the commercial rates were increased in an effort to make them more equivalent to what residents have to pay to launch boats.

Pappas/O'Connell 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend that the Village launch ramp season be extended to October 31 this year as a trial run, and the MOTION carried on a 4-3 vote, with O'Connell, Pappas, Snyder and Eakright voting yes, and Beers, Bikowski and Chanson voting no.

#### **Fueling Regulations and Portable Gas Containers Ordinance – Tabled 3/24/10**

O'Connell stated that President Petersen talked to Jerry Oglesby about the concern brought up at the February 24, 2010 committee meeting that last season at the pier used by Jerry's Marine, there were always three or four large, portable gas tanks stored at the end of the pier. O'Connell stated that Oglesby indicated to President Petersen that there will be no smoking signage posted and a fire extinguisher will be available at the pier site. Pappas stated that the Village should look into enforcing gas container regulations on both private and commercial piers. Pappas stated that the situation on the Jerry's Marine pier is not safe for the public. Ed Snyder stated that as well as fire safety, the portable gas containers also could create an environmental problem if they spill. Following discussion, the committee members were in consensus that the Village staff should look into regulating gas containers on all piers and determine what can be regulated by the municipality. The committee directed Martin to bring back an initial proposal from staff for fine tuning and a recommendation to the Village Board for final approval.

Pappas/Snyder 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend that the Village Board proceed with the development of Municipal Code regulations regarding portable gas containers on private and

commercial piers, and village staff should be directed to determine what can be enforced by the Village and what has to be enforced by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Pier Permit Application Filed by Steve Lombardo for Property Located at 1100 S. Lakeshore Drive**

Only the notice of application has been received by the Village, not a copy of the actual application. O'Connell stated that the property may also be part of a Planned Development and the pier application would be subject to the terms of the approved Precise Implementation Plan. Snyder/Chanson 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to table the item, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Pier Permit Application Filed by Dean Buntrock for Property Located at 892 S. Lakeshore Drive**

The application filed with the DNR calls for extending the existing pier by 13 feet to a total length of 80 feet, and moving one of the slips into deeper water. Pier Docktors also will install new posts if the plan is approved.

Pappas/Snyder 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Pier Permit application as filed, subject to final approval by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and with the condition that all the necessary building permits are obtained and Village requirements completed. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

**McHenry Area Youth Commission Beach Outing Proposal**

O'Connell stated that the McHenry Area Youth Commission submitted a request to the committee on April 6, 2010 seeking a group admission rate for an outing to the Fontana municipal beach on Thursday, August 5, 2010, from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm. The letter states that the Youth Commission would like to bring a group of 40 participants (first- through eighth-grade students), as well as four high school student volunteers, four adult staff members and two administrative staff members. O'Connell stated that the Village does not have a group rate established; however, discount admission requests for non-profit groups have been approved in the past. Ed Snyder stated that the committee should consider a 25 percent discount off the total admission fees since the Youth Commission is a non-profit organization. Pappas stated that he agreed with Snyder since the group is not-for-profit and the total time frame for the outing is only four hours on a weekday. Following discussion, the committee reached a consensus that requests for admission fee discounts for non-profit groups should be considered on a case-by-case basis. Snyder/Pappas 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval a 25 percent discount on the total admission fees charged to the McHenry Area Youth Commission for its outing to the Fontana Municipal Beach on Thursday, August 5, 2010, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Maintenance of Ramp Area Near Launch Site**

O'Connell stated that the proposal is to replace the small grass area with the same crushed granite stone that was installed a few years ago for the Geneva Lake shorepath. Ed Snyder stated that if approved, the stone area and the path need to have borders installed on the edges to prevent the stone from washing down the hill. Ed Snyder stated that a deeper edge is needed on the path portions that were installed a few years ago.

O'Connell/Snyder 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to authorize the installation of the crushed granite stone in the grass area owned by the Village adjacent to the Village boat launch site with the condition a substantial edge is installed in the new area and along the shorepath to keep the stone in place. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Pier Painting/Pier Maintenance Report**

The lakefront staff reportedly has most of the painting completed. Chanson stated that in the past, the staff has scraped the piers after they are in the water and the paint falls right in the water. Chanson stated that the staff members should be directed to not scrap the paint into the water; it should be scraped from the edge of the pier into the middle and swept-up for disposal. Chanson stated that instead of dumping the paint into the water it could be accumulated in buckets and then disposed of properly.

Chanson/Snyder 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to direct Village staff to scrap the paint on the piers from the edges toward the middle where it should be swept-up into dust pans and receptacles and then properly disposed of, and not dumped into the lake. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Sea Wall Clean Up**

O'Connell stated that the Village has two people who have to complete court-ordered community service and they will be used to clean the sea wall this season. There also is some provision in the contract with Blackstone Landscape, Inc. for sea wall cleaning duties. Ed Snyder stated that wall should be cleaned at least once prior to the season opening. Chanson stated that he would like to see the wall cleaned at least twice during the season. Chanson stated that the Village needs to pay more attention to keeping the lakefront clean on a daily basis when necessary. Ed Snyder stated that he would recommend that the Village have Blackstone clean the wall at least once prior to the next meeting. Chanson stated that the Village should have the wall cleaned once in June, July and August. Pappas stated that Martin should check the current contract with Blackstone and determine if it includes sea wall clean up duties, and the committee can decide what to recommend at its meeting in May when the total cost can be considered. Chanson stated that the committee should consider a motion to have Blackstone perform shoreline maintenance duties once a month in June, July and August. Tow Whowell stated that the sea wall also needs to be cleaned in the fall, when leaves are falling into the water, and the Village should save some of its budget to make sure the work can be scheduled for the fall. Ed Snyder stated that the committee should consider a motion to allocate the community service work hours for lakefront clean-up work, including the sea wall duties, during the month of May, and make a decision on maintenance for the months of June through September at next month's meeting when all the contract and financial information can be reviewed. Chanson stated that the motion should include the recommendation that the sea wall be routinely cleaned a minimum of four times per season. The committee directed Martin to research the Blackstone contract and if the contract calls for an hourly rate, how long it typically takes to clean the sea wall.

Snyder/Chanson 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to direct Village staff to have the community service people clean the sea wall in May, to defer a recommendation on shoreline maintenance for the months of June through September until the monthly committee meeting on May 26, 2010 when the contract with Blackstone Landscape, Inc. can be reviewed, and to recommend that the sea wall and shoreline be routinely cleaned a minimum of four times per season. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Set Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting date is Wednesday, May 26, 2010 at 4:30 pm.

### **Adjournment**

Chanson/Beers 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Dennis L. Martin, village clerk

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Lakefront and Harbor Committee, the official minutes will be kept on file at the Village Hall.

APPROVED: 5/26/2010