

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

**Lakefront and Harbor Committee**  
Thursday, May 5, 2011

(Official Minutes)

The special meeting of the Lakefront and Harbor Committee was called to order at 4:32 pm on May 5, 2011 by Chairman Thomas McGreevy.

**Roll Call:** Trustee Tom McGreevy, Rick Pappas, Bob Chanson, Ed Snyder, Joel Bikowski  
**Committee Members Absent:** Lee Eakright, Steve Beers  
**Also Present:** FJ Frazier, Administrator/Treasurer Kelly Hayden, Chris Hibbard, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, Debbie Quist

**Visitors Heard**

None

**General Business**

**Approval of Minutes for Meeting Held March 30, 2011**

Snyder/Chanson 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the March 30, 2011 minutes as distributed, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Pier Permit Application Filed by Pier Docktors for Robert Gee Residence, 1014 S. Lakeshore Drive – Tabled March 30, 2011**

The application was filed with the Village of Fontana Building and Zoning Department on the same day the last monthly committee meeting was cancelled. At the May 2, 2011 Village Board meeting, Building Inspector Ron Nyman reported that he reviewed the pier permit application for the proposed slip addition to the existing pier and recommend approval of the plan and the application pending concerns brought by the DNR or by the Lakefront and Harbor Committee. Nyman reported that as part of the permit process the applicant will be required to submit an as-built survey and photograph depicting the completed project. The DNR previously informed the Village that it had preliminarily approved the Pier Permit application as filed. The Village Board approved a motion to approve the Pier Permit application as filed on April 25, 2011 by Pier Docktors, Inc. on behalf of property owner Robert Gee, 1014 S. Lakeshore Drive, with the condition an as-built survey and photograph of the pier are filed with the Village, and contingent on final review and approval by the Lakefront and Harbor Committee. Pappas stated that the Village staff should be sure to file the final approval document from the DNR with the pier permit.

Pappas/Snyder 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to endorse the May 2, 2011 approval by the Village Board, with the condition an as-built survey and photograph of the pier are filed with the Village by December 1, 2011. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Country Club Estates Pier Lease Personal Watercraft Concern**

The Village Board and committee members received a letter dated May 3, 2011 from Country Club Estates resident/taxpayer Chris Hibbard, who requested that the Village amend its pier lease agreement with the association to allow for personal watercrafts on the ramps. Hibbard's letter states in part that up until last year, personal watercrafts were allowed on the ramps. Pappas stated that the initial lease between the Village and the association was amended to remove a prohibition of "jet skis." Pappas stated that the amended lease that was approved by the Village Board and

Country Club Estates Association prior to the 2010 season includes a provision that states: "Personal watercraft shall be permitted to be moored at the pier, but shall not be permitted on any ramp associated with this Lease." The initial 20-year lease that expired on December 31, 2009 includes a provision that states, "It is further understood and agreed, that at no time shall the watercraft, commonly known as 'jet skis' be moored or in any way utilize said 'Pier' and mooring areas, including the boat slip or shore station attached thereto." Pappas stated that the committee recommendation in April 2010 was to allow jet skis and other personal watercraft including wave runners to take slip spaces on the pier; however, the recommendation on the ramps was related to his concern about watering down the provisions of the initial approval. McGreevy stated that he currently leases one of the Country Club Estates slips and he previously had a ramp space, so he would not be voting on the issue; however, he wanted to provide some input. McGreevy stated that in the past there have been wave runners moored on the 10 ramps spaces, despite the previous lease's prohibition on jet skis. McGreevy stated that he understands that in the past there was a lake-wide concern about jet skis and the need for high-powered starts to enable to riders to stand up from a submerged starting position; however, times have changed and the wave runners are much safer and do not create the same concerns as the old jet skis. Hibbard stated that he would like to see the committee and Village Board members approve an amendment to allow for the wave runners, especially since he had been waiting for a ramp space for several years and they had been allowed up until this year. Chanson stated that he thinks if the other village associations are allowed to moor personal watercrafts on their ramp spaces, the Village should allow the Country Club Estates as well. FJ Frazier stated that the ramp spaces also have sailboats, fishing boats and dinghies stored on them, but there are some lease holders who would like to have wave runners. Pappas stated that his concern is not about personal watercrafts; he is concerned that the initial provisions established in the lease 20 years ago may have been put in there by the officials at that time for good reasons and they might not have approved the initial lease if they knew those provisions were going to be watered down in the future. Chanson/Snyder 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend that the Village Board amend the pier lease with the County Club Estates Association to also allow for personal watercrafts to be moored on the ramps, and the MOTION carried on a 3-1 vote. Pappas voted no and Trustee McGreevy abstained.

#### **Set Next Meeting Date**

The next monthly meeting date is Wednesday, May 25, 2011 at 4:30 pm.

#### **Adjournment**

Chanson/Snyder 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 4:43 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: 5/25/11