

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE
Walworth County, WI

Lakefront and Harbor Committee
Wednesday, June 18, 2014
(Official Minutes)

The monthly meeting of the Lakefront and Harbor Committee was called to order at 4:30 pm on June 18, 2014 by Chairman David Prudden.

Committee Members Present: Trustee Dave Prudden, Lee Eakright, Ed Snyder, Don Holst, Joel Bikowski, Steve Beers, Bob Chanson

Also Present: Jade Bolack, Darrell Frederick, Trustee Bill Gage, Village Clerk/Administrator Dennis Martin, Larry Quist, Tom Whowell

Visitors Heard

None

General Business

Approval of Minutes for Meeting Held May 21, 2014

Snyder/Holst 2nd made a MOTION to approve the May 21, 2014 minutes as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Pier Permit Application filed with DNR for Former Freytag Property at 507 N. Lakeshore Drive – Tabled May 21, 2014

The Village has received a copy of the DNR Permit application; however, a Building Permit application has not yet been filed. Larry Quist of Pier Docktors stated that he typically applies for the required Municipal Building Permit after he receives DNR approval. The application was filed by Thomas and Kristen Freytag, 507 N. Lakeshore Drive, for the parcel at 521 North Lakeshore Drive, which is now owned by Robert Gee. The application is for the removal of the existing dock and the installation of a new dock, 100-feet-long by 8-feet-wide, with a 20-by-8-foot mooring platform.

Snyder/Bikowski 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the pier permit application for 521 North Lakeshore Drive, as filed with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, with the conditions that the permit is approved by the DNR, that the Village of Fontana Building Permit application is filed and approved, and that an as-built survey is filed upon installation of the pier. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Pier Permit Application filed by Gage Marine with Village for Mecum Property at 1028 South Lakeshore Drive

The permit applications were filed by Gage Marine with the Wisconsin DNR and the Fontana Building and Zoning Department to authorize the installation of a 100-foot-long pier, with two slips, at 1028 S. Lakeshore Drive. In his report to the committee, Zoning Administrator Ron Nyman states that the permit application plan shows the new pier will be 30 feet from the east property line, and it will be about 67 feet from the west property line, as measured along the shore. Nyman states that the ordinance regulating piers requires that the pier be depicted on a certified survey using both the lot line and knitter methods of measurement; however, the committee may wish to waive this requirement and only require an “as-built” survey upon completion of the project, if so approved.

Snyder/Bikowski 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the pier permit application as filed with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Village of Fontana, with the conditions that the permit is approved by the DNR, and that an as-built survey is filed upon installation of the pier. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

2014 Mooring Leases Approvals – Update on Remaining Buoys

Village mooring lease applications filed by Ann Dury, Mary Ann Sukys Kahl and William McCarthy for buoys, and by Ann Ruff for a ramp space, are in order and approval is recommended. There are still six buoys, and four ramps spaces for non-motorized watercrafts remaining to be leased this season.

Snyder/Chanson 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the mooring lease applications filed by Ann Dury, Mary Ann Sukys Kahl and William McCarthy for buoys, and by Ann Ruff for a ramp space, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Preliminary Discussion on Exchanging Village Buoys for New Pier Slips

Prudden stated that with the six remaining Village buoys left this year to be leased, and with several buoys that did not get leased last season, the committee is starting a preliminary investigation into exchanging some or all of the buoys with pier slip spaces on extended Village piers, and/or on a new pier that could be installed between the Lake Geneva Marine piers and the Village's 200-foot pier located adjacent to the Municipal Beach. The Village Pier Nos. 2 and 3 could be extended and up to four slips could be installed. Martin stated that the DNR informed him this past month that the DNR has approved proposals to exchange buoys and slips, as long as the total number of moorings is not increased. Martin stated that the DNR also indicated that pier extension proposals have been approved up to 200 feet. Prudden stated that the next step should be for the committee to review the cost estimates for the proposals to determine a cost-per-slip rate. Darrell Frederick of Austin Pier stated that if the Village just receives approval for extending the two existing piers out to 200 feet, a total of six more slips could be added. Snyder asked if staff could supply the committee a list of the current people who are leasing buoys and indicate if they are on the current waiting list for pier slip spaces. Prudden asked staff to work with Frederick to obtain cost estimates for the preliminary proposals to be presented at the next monthly meeting.

Launch Ramp Activity Report – Greg Blizzard

Village Launch Ramp employee Greg Blizzard stated that the season is underway and operations are up to speed. Blizzard stated that the beach house staff members again assisted in getting the piers painted this season. There was a boater who backed into the cement foundation wall adjacent to the launch ramp shack earlier this season. Blizzard stated that sometimes inexperienced boaters have difficulties with the wall, but it is not an overall concern. Martin stated that the village received reports that some of the commercial boat launch businesses are not using the honor box when the launch is not manned, so staff mailed a reminder letter to all the commercial boat businesses that use the launch.

Discuss Launching of Personal Watercrafts at Lakefront & Other Summer Issues

Martin stated that Police Chief Steve Olson created a sign that has been erected adjacent to the village boat launch ramp in a grassy area when people have been launching kayaks contrary to the Municipal Code. Eakright stated that although the sign has been erected, there are still people who are launching kayaks from the location. The village launch staff has been directed to contact the police department if they witness people launching watercrafts from the area. Eakright stated that there also are people who use the adjacent Sullivan pier, which is private property. Eakright stated that he will be contacting Olson to get the proper language for a private property notice to be placed by the Sullivan pier. Prudden stated that he also got inquiries about the ice boaters launching from the municipal beach during the winter. Martin stated that the committee specifically addressed the winter use of the beach by the ice boaters and approved a motion to authorize the launching and temporary parking of the automobiles and trailers on the beach during the winter months. Prudden stated that he also discussed with Blizzard a concern with the ramp spaces and the spaces that have waverunner and jet-ski lifts. The lifts and some waverunners take up the entire ramp space and sometimes infringe on the adjacent spaces. A discussion followed on the possibility of making the ramps a little larger, or the possibility of eliminating one space per ramp to create more space between the non-motorized watercraft and

the wave runners and lifts. Following discussion, Snyder suggested that maybe the village could install a kayak rack on the lakefront or across the street from the launch in Pioneer Park to make more room on the ramps. Prudden stated that he will review the ramp situation with Blizzard and report back with some possible solutions at the next monthly meeting. Prudden stated that he also had an inquiry on the chains that secure the village buoys, and they are checked out every other year and replaced or repaired if necessary.

Set Next Meeting Date

The next monthly meeting will be held Wednesday, July 23, 2014 at 4:30 pm.

Adjournment

Snyder/ Chanson 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 5:03 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Dennis Martin, Village Clerk/Administrator

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: 7/23/14