

# VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE

Walworth County, WI

## Lakefront and Harbor Committee

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

(Official Minutes)

The monthly meeting of the Lakefront and Harbor Committee was called to order at 4:00 pm on June 24, 2015 by Chairman Rick Pappas.

**Committee Members Present:** Trustee Rick Pappas, Bob Chanson, Joel Bikowski, Don Holst, Ed Snyder

**Committee Member Absent:** Steve Beers, Lee Eakright

**Also Present:** Carl Bergesen, Darrell Frederick, Clerk Theresa Linneman, Administrator Dennis Martin, Micki O'Connell, Greg Trapani, Trustee Tom Whowell

### Visitors Heard

An email from launch manager Greg Blizard was distributed to the committee providing an update on launch activity.

### General Business

#### **Approval of Minutes for Meeting Held May 20, 2015**

Snyder/Chanson 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the minutes from May 20, 2015 as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Glenwood Springs Proposal to Store Lift Stations on Municipal Beach**

At last month's meeting, there was discussion on whether the Village should grant permission to the Glenwood Springs Association to allow storage of their lift stations on the Village beach property during winter months. In past years, the owner of 404 Harvard Avenue has allowed Glenwood Springs to store some of their boat lifts on his property; however, the new owner has disallowed such storage. Due to the change, the Village Board granted permission for Glenwood Spring to store their lifts on the Village Beach for one winter season. Lakefront and Harbor Committee member and Glenwood Springs property owner Joel Bikowski requested that the item be tabled at last month's committee meeting to provide him with an opportunity to discuss the situation at the annual association meeting; however, he stated he did not have an opportunity to discuss the issue at the association meeting. Bikowski made an initial motion to table the request. Chanson stated that there is no reason to table the item again as it would not be fair to allow one association to store their lift stations on Village property and not the other associations; and he subsequently made a motion to deny the request.

Chanson/Pappas 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board denial of the request made by the Glenwood Springs Association to store lift stations on municipal lakefront property, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Indian Hills Request To Store Boat Lifts On Municipal Beach**

Chanson/Snyder 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board denial of the request made by the Indian Hills Association to store lift stations on municipal lakefront property, and the MOTION carried without negative vote. Trustee Pappas abstained.

#### **Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation on How to Fill New Pier Slips**

Pappas stated the Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Trustee Whowell, Trustee Prudden and himself have met twice since the last monthly meeting of the Lakefront and Harbor Committee. The committee's recommendation is to offer the new pier slips to the current slip holders in order of

seniority, then to the buoy holders in order of seniority. Once the individuals from both lists have been solicited, the new pier slips will be offered to those on the pier slip waiting list in order of priority. All lifts will be required to be hydraulic. Darrell Frederick of Austin Pier Service stated about 14 of the 20 new slip spaces will require deep water racks which run \$1,200 – \$1,400 and those that sign up for those slips will have to make that initial investment. Leaseholders will be encouraged to purchase their lift through Austin Pier, though it is not required. Frederick stated that if enough lifts are purchased through Austin Pier, he will be able to purchase them from the supplier for a cheaper price reducing the cost to the consumer. Staff will have to approve all new shore stations before installation. Pappas said if the recommendation is approved at the July 8, 2015 Village Board meeting, the proposed timeline is to contact the current slip holders by letter and provide information, they will be given until August 1, 2015 to respond if they are interested in a new pier slip, no deposit is required; next, buoy holders will be mailed letters and information on August 1, 2015 and an initial \$500 deposit is required by August 15, 2015 and another \$1,000 deposit is required by January 15, 2016. Roughly seven buoys will be available for the 2016 season and current buoy leaseholders in order of seniority may choose to keep their buoy until the end of the 2016 season. On August 15, 2015 letters will be mailed to the current Wait List members and the \$500 deposit will be due in order to receive the initial lease agreement with the additional \$1000 deposit due by January 15, 2016.

Snyder/Bikowski 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation on how to fill new pier slips and the timeline as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **2016 Village Mooring Lease Rates**

The Ad Hoc Committee recommended that the 2016 mooring lease rate for the Village's current 24-foot pier slip spaces be increased by about 3 percent to \$2,550. The Ad Hoc Committee recommended that the lease rate for the new 26-foot slip spaces be set at \$2,760, which is about 8 percent more expensive than the current slips since the new slips will be 2 feet longer. Following discussion, the committee members reached the consensus that the pier slips rates should be recommended to the Village Board for approval as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee, and the 2016 lease rates for the remaining buoys and for the ramp spaces be increased by 3 percent. Chanson/Snyder 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board Approval of the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation on the 2016 Village Mooring Lease Rates for the pier slips as presented, and to increase the 2016 lease rates for the remaining buoys and for the ramp spaces by 3 percent, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Club Unique Pier Addition Concept Review**

A preliminary proposal was submitted by Darrell Frederick of Austin Pier Service for a pier addition plan for the Club Unique DMA and a subsequent exchange of existing buoys for new pier slips spaces. The preliminary proposal calls for extending the current pier from 170 feet to 224 feet. The buoys are presently located as far as 400 feet out from the shoreline. Frederick said he wanted to get initial feedback from the Lakefront Committee to determine whether or not to move ahead with the permitting process. Frederick stated that the DNR has indicated that an application for the pier addition permit should be filed with the municipality for approval consideration prior to the filing of a DNR Pier Permit application. Pappas stated that there are two zoning concerns with extending the pier to 224 feet. First, the Municipal Code establishes a pierhead line on Geneva Lake at a distance of 100-feet waterward from the shoreline; and second, the ordinance requires 12.5 foot setbacks from the property lines, neither of which would be met with the proposed pier. The only way to get around the 12.5 setback requirement would be either to change the ordinance or issue a variance. Approval to extend a pier further than 100-feet waterward would have to be approved at the Village Board level. Pappas said he has talked to the owners of the lakefront parcels located on both sides of the Club Unique DMA, and neither neighbor supports the proposal as it would decrease their view of the lake; however, Trapani argued that is not entirely true. The committee recommended Nyman review the DMA area and the adjacent lakefront parcels. Chanson pointed out that although the request seeks authorization to exceed the 200-foot mark, which are the longest piers approved by the Village to date, it would reduce the length of water usage by over 100-feet if the buoys are removed

and replaced with pier slips. Frederick stated that he will meet with staff to further discuss the proposal and the Municipal Code pier and mooring regulations.

#### **Boat Launch Parking Lot Update on Lake Geneva Yacht Club Usage**

Martin stated the boat trailer parking lot filled up last weekend and with the Yacht Club using five spaces the Village lost some launch revenue. Per the established agreement, the Yacht Club will reimburse the Village for the lost proceeds. Whowell stated the agreement should expire on its own and will not need to go back to the Village Board next month as completion is scheduled for July 4, 2015.

#### **Rockford Scuba Group Fontana Lakefront Event Approval for Oct. 18, 2015**

An email request was received from Chief Olson regarding the Rockford Scuba Group's annual lakefront clean up event scheduled for October 18, 2015. The group does volunteer work cleaning the underwater trash in Geneva Lake after the summer months and the only cost involved with their service is providing a dumpster.

Snyder/Chanson 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Rockford Scuba Group Fontana Lakefront clean-up dive event on the Fontana Lakefront on October 18, 2015, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Request to Lease Buoy for Weekly Rate**

The current buoy lease rate for the 2015 season is \$902.03 for a village resident. The Village received a request to rent a buoy on a weekly basis and since there are currently seven unoccupied buoys the request was brought to the committee for consideration. After discussion, it was decided a daily rental would not be offered because it would create too much bookkeeping hassle for staff; however, the Village will offer a weekly and monthly rental for \$150 and \$400, respectively. The short-term rentals will only be available so long as there is a surplus of buoys; in the event the demand for buoys increases, first priority would be given to annual leaseholders.

Chanson/Pappas 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend the Village Board authorize the rental of Village buoys for a weekly rate of \$150 and a monthly rate of \$400, as long as there are available buoys, and the MOTION carried without a negative vote.

#### **Launch Ramp Concrete Wall Concerns**

There has previously been discussion about removing the concrete wall along the south side of the launch ramp; however, in the past it had been deemed too expensive. The wall has been recommended for removal because trucks with trailers often hit the curb when launching damaging vehicles and boats. Martin stated that DPW Manager Brett McCollum preliminarily thought he may be able to jackhammer and straight cut the curb out by doing all or a part of the work himself in order to make it an affordable project to complete. Pappas suggested that the curb may be able to be saw-cut at the surface level, and the entire foundation would not have to be removed.

Snyder/Chanson 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION for McCollum to pursue getting estimates on saw cutting the south side of the launch ramp curb and present the quote back to the Lakefront & Harbor Committee or Village Board, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Rock River Multi-Sport Group Rate Request for Beach Admission Fees**

The Rock River Multi-Sport Group requested a reduced group rate for admission to the beach. Martin stated the only discounts that have ever been given in the past have been for non-profit groups and school outings. The committee agreed they did not want to open the door to discounting private groups and set a precedent for the future.

Snyder/Chanson 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend denial of the Rock River Multi-Sport Group's request for group admission fees to the Fontana Public Beach and the MOTION carried without negative vote, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Fly Boarding Update**

Martin stated he spoke with DNR Boating Law Administrator Roy Zellmer regarding the committee's previous discussion that Fly Boarding should be governed under the personal watercraft

laws as they are pulled by wave runners and jet skis. Current state statutes require all personal water crafts, and Fly Boarding, to take place out of the “slow no-wake zone,” at least 200 feet from the lakeshore and 100 feet from any other boat or watercraft. Martin stated he was informed that often other boaters are attracted to the Fly Boarders and it is difficult for them to maintain the required distance. Martin was directed to write a letter to Geneva Lake Law Enforcement Agency Boat Crew Commander Tom Hausner on behalf of the Lakefront Committee and request that Don Holst, as a member of the Geneva Lake Use Committee, report the Village’s findings at the next committee meeting.

Holst/Snyder 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to direct Administrator Dennis Martin to send a letter to the GLLEA on behalf of the Lakefront and Harbor Committee, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Set Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting date was scheduled for Wednesday, July 29, 2015 beginning at 4:00 pm.

**Adjournment**

Snyder/Pappas 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 4:47 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Theresa Linneman, 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: 08/26/15