

**VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE**  
**WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN**  
(Official Minutes)

SPECIAL JOINT SESSION OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
with the CDA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, PLAN COMMISSION, LAKEFRONT AND  
HARBOR COMMITTEE, FINANCE COMMITTEE and PARK COMMISSION

**Wednesday, January 18, 2006**

President Whowell called the Special Joint Meeting to order at 5:00 pm in the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

**Trustees present:** Roll call vote: Petersen, Larson, Pollitt, O'Connell, President Whowell

**Trustees Absent:** Turner, Bromfield

**Plan Commissioners present:** Roll call vote: O'Connell, Treptow, President Whowell, Poivey, Larson, Eakright

**Plan Commissioner absent:** Spadoni

**CDA Commissioners present:** Roll call vote: Petersen, Chanson, Bliss, Fisk, Hibbard

**CDA Commissioner absent:** Chairman Turner, Wilson

**Finance Committee members present:** Roll call vote: Chairman Pollitt, Feeney, Gilchrist, Loenneke, McCue, Patek

**Lakefront and Harbor Committee members present:** Roll call vote: Chairman O'Connell, Beers, Bikowski, Chanson, Eakright, Rosenow (arrived at 5:10 pm)

**Lakefront and Harbor Committee member absent:** Snyder

**Park Commission members present:** Roll call vote: Chairman Treptow, Geye, O'Brien, Larson, Chupich (arrived at 5:20 pm)

**Park Commission members absent:** Horvath, Lobdell

**Also present:** Joe Eberle, Village Administrator Kelly Hayden-Staggs, Librarian Nancy Krei, Dr. Steven Lelyeld, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, CDA Executive Director Joseph McHugh, John O'Neill, Village Treasurer Peg Pollitt, Don Roberts, Paul Sloth, Public Works Director Craig Workman

**General Business**

**Pioneer Park Boat Turnaround**

McHugh presented a brief history and overview of the turnaround issue, which included a description of the former Lakefront and Boat Launch Solutions Committee study on the issue, and some of the alternative options that were previously considered to solve the problems associated with the congestion at the village boat launch. McHugh also discussed the memos he distributed that addressed the design issues of the turnaround proposal. The memos were written by Planning & Design Institute and Ruekert-Mielke, and they addressed the design process and traffic issues. Joe

Eberle of Ruckert-Mielke then presented an overview of the traffic issues and the reasoning behind the recommendation to develop the turnaround. Eberle stated that although the Pioneer Park boat turnaround proposal isn't an ideal solution to the boat traffic congestion problems, given the other options, he believes it is the best way to go to try to address the problems. Larson stated that if the turnaround is constructed, it will route the boat traffic away from Kinzie Avenue to Third Avenue, which will still be in a neighborhood. Geye stated that when the final engineering is planned, the village needs to keep in mind pedestrian safety issues adjacent to the Reid Park Tot Lot. O'Brien stated that she is not sure that the boat turnaround is going to solve the problem and she asked why the village would spend money on the turnaround to shift the problems to another area of the lakefront. Bliss responded that three different consulting firms endorsed the Pioneer Park turnaround as the best solution to the existing congestion problems on the lakefront. Bliss stated that it is the obligation of the Village Board to vote on the issue, and the only issue pertinent to the joint committee meeting was whether or not the village would go through Pioneer Park with the turnaround proposal. Larson stated that there are a number of people who oppose the plan because it may not solve all the current traffic problems in the launch area and it may create more problems in other areas of the lakefront. President Whowell stated that the boat launch congestion has caused problems for the village for 30 years. President Whowell stated that Pioneer Park initially was the site of the building before it was purchased by the village, and the village planned to use the land as a staging area for the boat launch at that time. The proposal was not approved when residents of the Fontana Shores Condominiums objected, and the land was developed into Pioneer Park. O'Connell stated that personally she is against developing the park land into a boat turnaround; however, the professional planning consultants hired by the village feel it should go through the park. O'Connell stated that even though she doesn't like the proposal, she would vote to approve it; however, the Village Board should wait until all the members are present before the vote is taken. Petersen stated that the lakefront congestion problems require immediate attention, and the turnaround should be developed in Pioneer Park. Petersen stated that he would go along with the other Trustees with regard to when the vote should be taken – either at the joint meeting that night, or at the next regular monthly meeting of the Village Board. Larson asked how the Village Board could vote on the proposal if the matter was tabled by the Plan Commission. President Whowell stated that the Plan Commission only makes a recommendation on the issue to the Village Board, and it is up to the Board if it wants to follow the recommendation. Larson stated that she was not ready to vote on the issue at the joint committee meeting. Trustee Pollitt stated he thought the joint meeting was a good event and the Trustees gathered a lot of important input from the committee members present at the meeting. Trustee Pollitt stated that he also thinks the village should approve the proposal to develop the boat turnaround through Pioneer Park; however, the Village Board should wait until the next monthly meeting to vote on the issue so all six Trustees will be present.

Trustee O'Connell/Trustee Petersen 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to table the Pioneer Park boat turnaround proposal until the Village Board meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2006, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 pm on a unanimous vote of the Village Board, CDA, Plan Commission, Lakefront and Harbor Committee, Finance Committee and Park Commission.

Minutes prepared by: Dennis L. Martin, village clerk

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Village Board, CDA, Plan Commission, Lakefront and Harbor Committee, Finance Committee and Park Commission the official minutes will be on file at the Village Hall.

APPROVED: VB – 02/07/06; CDA – 02/08/06; PC – 02/28/06; Park Commission – 2/15/06; Finance Committee – 02/16/06; Lakefront & Harbor Committee – 03/06/06