

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE

Walworth County, WI

Lakefront and Harbor Committee

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

(Official Minutes)

The monthly meeting of the Lakefront and Harbor Committee was called to order at 4:00 pm on May 20, 2015 by Chairman Rick Pappas.

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

Committee Member Absent: Steve Beers

Also Present: Darrell Frederick, Clerk Theresa Linneman, Administrator Dennis Martin, DPW Manager Brett McCollum, Joe Special, Trustee Tom Whowell

Visitors Heard

None

General Business

Approval of Minutes for Meeting Held March 25, 2015

Snyder/Bikowski 2nd made a MOTION to approve the March 25, 2015, minutes as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Glenwood Springs Proposal to Store Lift Stations on Municipal Beach

Martin gave an update on the proposal to establish a new path to access the small beach after losing permission to continue using the driveway from the new owners at 404 Harvard Avenue. The initial proposal for the design of the new access path called for a small portion to cross some of the lakefront parcel owned by Glenwood Springs, so the association board requested that the Village enter into an easement agreement in order to protect both parties. Martin stated that as part of the discussion on the need for an access easement, the Glenwood Association board requested that the Village authorize the association to store its lift stations on the lakefront during the winter. Village staff has since decided not to pave a path and simply develop a dirt path that runs straight down to the beach and for it to remain solely on Village property. Martin stated that the Village will not need an easement agreement with the Glenwood association; however, he still wanted to get the committee's recommendation on the request to store the lift stations on the village's lakefront parcel. In the past, the previous owner of 404 Harvard Avenue has allowed Glenwood Springs to store their lift stations on the driveway property; however, the new owner has denied permission. Due to the change, the Village granted permission for Glenwood Springs to store roughly 17 of its boat lifts on its property from the 2014-15 winter season. Martin stated he received five to six phone calls last winter regarding storage of the lifts on Village property. He said some citizens asked why only one association was allowed to store their boats on Village property and also complained it blocked the view to the lake. Pappas stated the Fontana Shores Association had previously asked for storage on the Municipal Beach and were denied; he asked where the line should be drawn and how the Village could allow one association but not another. Joel Bikowski said the precedent had already been set by allowing Glenwood Springs to use the space for storage last winter. Pappas replied it is not appropriate to allow one association permission and not another. It is unfair and allows a cost savings for one group but at the expense of the Village. He added it would be different if there were no other options, but there are plenty within the Village. Martin offered one option at the DPW garage site on Wild Duck Road where the Big Foot Lion's Club stores its tents and trailers for the lobster boil and steak fry. Bikowski said the Glenwood Springs annual meeting is scheduled for this Saturday and he would like to

take the information from this meeting and present it to the Glenwood Springs Association and revisit the topic at next month's meeting.

Snyder/Eakright 2nd made a MOTION to table the Glenwood Springs proposal to store its lift stations during the winter season on the Village's small beach parcel until the next monthly meeting following the Glenwood Springs Association meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

New Pier Construction Contract Proposal

Martin stated he had an initial conversation with Village Attorney Dale Thorpe regarding whether the new pier construction contract had to be put out to bid or if the contract could be awarded straight to a contractor. Initial feedback from Thorpe indicated the work would not necessarily have to be put out to bid, but Martin said he wanted to get a definitive answer. He tried to get in touch with Thorpe earlier in the day but he was out of the office. Darrell Frederick from Austin Pier Service was present and has done all the preliminary planning and permitting work for the Village's new pier. Martin added the Village is not necessarily legally bound to approve the low bid on projects. Pappas indicated since Frederick has already done a lot of work on the project, including applying and paying for the \$600 DNR permit, if the pier work does have to go to bid, the Village would certainly pay him for the completed work as well as the cost of the permits. Frederick said if the Village puts the work out to bid, it is highly unlikely it will be completed by next spring due to the length of time it takes to complete various aspects of the project. Martin updated the committee members regarding the Ad Hoc Committee that has been appointed by the Village Board and consists of Trustee Pappas, Trustee Dave Prudden, and Trustee Tom Whowell. The Ad Hoc Committee will determine who will get first priority option to be on the new pier and what the initial and annual costs will be. They will be meeting prior to the next Village Board meeting which is scheduled for Monday, June 1, 2015, and after hearing from Attorney Thorpe, will discuss whether the contract should be put out to bid or awarded to a contractor by the Village Board.

Chanson/Snyder 2nd made a MOTION to support and coincide with the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation on whether the pier construction should be put out for the bid process, and check with the Village Attorney Thorpe whether bypassing the bid process is appropriate, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Geneva Lake Use Items

- **Fly Board Ordinance**
- **Canopy Side Curtains**
- **Limiting Early Season Fishing Tournaments**
- **Big Foot Beach State Park DNR Improvement Plan**

The committee briefly touched on the first three topics listed under the Geneva Lake Use Items and described what they are and why they are deemed to be issues. The Fly Board Ordinance was discussed at October's Lakefront and Harbor Committee meeting with the directive that Geneva Lake Use Committee should draft an ordinance that could be adopted by the surrounding municipalities; however, nothing has been received. Whowell said there is currently a state statute in place that restricts fly boards the same as wave runners and jet skis and other personalized watercrafts which cannot be operated at a speed in excess of slow-no-wake within 200 feet of the shoreline. Don Holst gave an update on canopy side curtains, which according to state statute is only allowed to be up to 18 inches long. The DNR is now actively enforcing the law on Geneva Lake when they receive complaints. One member said Geneva Lake is a unique lake that contains many old, wooden hull boats which arguably cannot maintain their character if they are not protected by longer side curtains. The committee briefly discussed fishing tournaments in the early season. There are concerns about too many fish being caught at the beginning of the season, lessening the amount of fish for the rest of the summer, and the fish are being released at a different area of the lake than where they were caught. Holst and Pappas said no direction was given at the Geneva Lake Use Committee meeting and recommended waiting for direction before endorsing any changes. Pappas said the GLUC should draft an ordinance for each of the five

communities to adopt, rather than each community spending time and money to draft their own ordinance which may vary in restrictions resulting in regulations that are difficult to enforce. As a member of the GLUC, Holst said he would be attending the monthly meeting scheduled for later in the night and would update the committee with the Village's stance. Pappas gave an update on the proposal to construct a new launch facility in the lagoon at Big Foot Beach State Park, which was proposed to be reconstructed as a lake-wide boat launch to be funded in part with Lake Geneva TIF District funding; however, the project has been abandoned because the TIF funding proposal has been denied.

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was scheduled for Wednesday, June 24, 2015 beginning at 4:00 pm.

Adjournment

Chanson/Bikowski 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 4:39 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: 06/24/15