

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE

Walworth County, WI

Lakefront and Harbor Committee

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

(Final Minutes)

The meeting of the Lakefront and Harbor Committee was called to order at 4:00 pm on March 29, 2023 by Chairman Pappas.

Committee Members Present: Chairman Trustee Rick Pappas, Don Holst, Bob Chanson, Ed Snyder

Committee Members Absent: Steve Beers, Joel Bikowski

Also Present: Pat Kenny, Theresa Loomer, Drew Lussow, Jacob Schmidt

Visitors Heard

None

General Business

Approval of January 18, 2023 Meeting

Chanson/Snyder 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes for the January 18, 2023 meeting, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Channel Marker and Swim Buoy Replacement – Tabled 11/30/22 & 01/18/23

Administrator Loomer explained that she obtained quotes from both Walsh Marine and Gordy’s. Walsh Marine quoted an amount of \$210.00 for the replacement buoy plus a shipping charge of around \$200.00 and Gordy’s quoted an amount of \$431.00 for their buoy. Pat Kenny stated he knew the owner of Walsh Marine and would work with him to avoid the shipping charge. The Committee felt that this would be a better deal if the shipping charge could be avoided.

Snyder/Chanson 2nd made a MOTION to approve the purchase of the swim buoy in the amount of \$210.00, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Discussion or Action on Lifejacket Program Bin Proposal at Boat Launch

Chairman Trustee Pappas stated we received an email from a resident who is suggesting a lifejacket program. This program would establish a bin at the boat launch for people to donate lifejackets so that if someone forgot to bring theirs or needed an extra, they could use one from the bin and return it to the bin after use. Committee Member Chanson asked if there would be any liability on the Village should one of the lifejackets not work properly or if any were damaged and someone sustained an injury while using one. Administrator Loomer explained that she didn’t believe that the risk would fall onto the Village, however she did mention that in the past programs like this have been brought up and it usually ends up with the Village having to supply the lifejackets, maintenance to the bin, and replacing lifejackets that are lost or stolen. Overall, it ends up being something additional that the Village would then have to manage. The Committee members had some further discussion and felt that although this proposal has good intentions, they did not want the Village to have to manage another project and be stuck with the upkeep of the project.

Snyder/Chanson 2nd made a MOTION to recommend denying the lifejacket program bin proposal at the boat launch, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Discussion or Action on Proposed Ordinance Amendments to Section VII – Preventing the Spread of Aquatic Plants and Invasive Animals in Geneva Lake & Surrounding Bodies of Water

Jacob Schmidt from the GLEA was present to explain the proposed ordinance amendment to Chapter 30 Section VII regarding preventing the spread of aquatic plants and invasive animals in Geneva Lake and surrounding bodies of water. Chairman Trustee Pappas explained that the request has been sent out to all

communities along the lakefront to see if they would be in favor of adding it to their own ordinances. Chairman Trustee Pappas explained that what is presented is just a rough draft and that Village Attorney Thorpe would need to look over it and draft it to be compliant with the Village of Fontana's ordinance if the Committee was in support of adding it. Jacob Schmidt added that adding this ordinance would allow for local lakefront staff to turn away boaters who don't follow what is in the ordinance and they can also write down the boaters' information to supply to the DNR for potential tickets and fines to be levied against them. He stated that the hope is all neighboring municipalities adopt something similar to keep our lakes clean and safe for all to use and enjoy.

Holst/Chanson 2nd made a MOTION to recommend approval to Village Board for proposed ordinance amendments to Chapter 30 Section VII, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

GLEA Surface Water Grant Application Update

Jacob Schmidt stated that with the grant money they received they have installed CD3 units at the Village of Fontana's launch for boaters to use. At the installation stations they contain instructions for how to use the machines and how they are to be operated. Mr. Schmidt stated these machines are very easy to use and also low maintenance and great for the lakes to help keep invasive species out. The grant allowed the units to be covered 75% by the DNR and 25% by the GLEA. The only costs that the Village would be on the hook for would be the installation fees. After that any yearly maintenance would be handled by GLEA.

Discussion or Action on Temporary Mooring Buoys for X-Boat Regatta

Chairman Trustee Pappas stated that he received a letter from sailing school instructor, Marek Valasek, making a request to add temporary mooring buoys for the X-Boat Regatta event. Included in the letter from Mr. Valasek was also a site map of the event that indicated where the mooring buoys plan to be set up. The location of the mooring buoys looked to be placed in front of the Lake Geneva Yacht Club and this site map was included in all the meeting packets for review. Chairman Trustee Pappas then mentioned the event is looking to be held July 30th, 2023 and approximately 23 moorings would be placed into the water. The moorings would then be removed after the events on August 2, 2023. He lastly explained that this event has been previously held in Fontana in the past and they have had no issues.

Chanson/Snyder 2nd made a MOTION to recommend approval to the Village Board the request for temporary mooring buoys for X-Boat Regatta to be held on July 30th, 2023, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 4:00 pm.

Adjournment

Snyder/Chanson 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 4:16 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Drew Lussow, 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: 06/28/2023