

CITY OF DELAFIELD LAKE WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

K. Attwell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Present

Kent Attwell
Jerry Bills
Jerry Burg
Lynn Morrison
Gayle Gaborsky
Dave Greenway
Gary Pratt
Lou Scopp
Don Tills
Dan Sisulak

Absent

Jerry Dunnick

On behalf of the entire Committee, K. Attwell welcomed Dan Sisulak to the Committee.

1. CORRECT AND APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 2010

D. TILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE LAKE WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 2010 AS PRESENTED. L. MORRISON SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO FURTHER DISCUSSION. ALL WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

2. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS PERTAINING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There was no one present wishing to speak at this time.

Without objection from the Committee, K. Attwell moved to Item 4a on the agenda.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- a. DISCUSSION ON BOATHOUSE ORDINANCE CHANGE APPROVED BY PLAN COMMISSION AND COMMON COUNCIL

K. Attwell reported the boathouse ordinance submitted by the Lake Welfare Committee had been approved by the Common Council.

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- b. THANK JERRY BURG FOR WRITING NEWSLETTER ARTICLE ON PIER REGULATIONS

K. Attwell thanked J. Burg for writing the newsletter article on pier regulations for next edition of The Communicator. J. Burg thanked D. Tills for his help with revisions.

- c. FOLLOW UP ON VETTELSON ROAD RUN OFF INTO KETTLE (D.TILLS)

D. Tills stated he had met with City Staff regarding the runoff into the Kettle area of the lake from Vettelson Road. T. Hafner agreed with D. Tills that the matter required further investigation and thus, later in the spring they would meet after a significant rainfall to walk the area for further understanding. More information would be available at a later date.

- d. WATERWAY COMMISSIONS PRELIMINARY GRANT PROPOSAL STATUS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

K. Attwell reviewed the Waterways Commission Grant status and noted consensus had been heard from the Dredging Plan B Committee regarding submission of the grant paperwork for consideration.

L. MORRISON MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE COMMON COUNCIL SUBMIT THE WATERWAYS COMMISSION PRELIMINARY GRANT PAPERWORK. G. GABORSKY SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO FURTHER DISCUSSION. ALL WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

- e. UPDATE ON NEW BUOY GRANT/PURCHASE FOR KETTLE ENTRANCE, ST JOHN'S BAY ENTRANCE AND SHALLOW WATER WARNING MARKERS AND POSSIBLE ACTION, COST ESTIMATED AT \$1500

K. Attwell explained this issue of additional placement of buoys in Nagawicka Lake at the Kettle entrance and St. John's Bay entrance as well as placement of shallow water warning markers had been discussed by the Committee in the past. As part of cost sharing measures, the cost to the City of Delafield would be approximately \$1,500. The original idea for the placement of these buoys and markers was the result of a DNR recommendation to enhance access north of St. John's Bay and direct traffic from the Bleeker Street launch area to the main lake. Since there was no dredging currently slated for the lake, the idea would also help to create a path for boats to travel resulting in deeper water depths. This would also allow lakeshore property owners to be able to navigate the excessively shallow areas near their shoreline.

Discussion ensued regarding the very shallow water depth in the channel areas. Concerns were heard for having to embed the buoys in muck. K. Attwell stated he did not think this would cause potential problems unless the ice would cause the location of these buoys to shift over winter.

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Mark Millot, 1001 Lake Drive, stated he lived in the area being discussed at the southeast corner of St. John's Bay. He agreed with the Staff recommendation to place three hazard buoys in that location as he had to pull approximately ten boats from the area last summer as they had run amok. He thought the rest of the buoys in that area should be left in their current locations as he thought they worked well to direct boat traffic. He was concerned that with the creation of boat lanes, there would be several lower units lost over the course of many years to create an appropriate depth for a travel lane. The buoys were functional currently and should be left alone.

K. Attwell stated the purpose of the hazard buoys was to prevent unfamiliar boaters from traversing the shallow water depths and he thought that made sense. He queried the Committee for idea to help property owners in that area that would not be dredged to better access the main lake.

L. Morrison suggested working together for placement of a longer pier with all boats moored to it as this would assist in creating a pathway over time until the dredging could take place.

K. Attwell also explained Staff had practical concerns related to buoy placement in that area as the barge that would normally be used to place buoys would not be able to access the area due to shallow water depth

Discussion ensued. D. Tills suggested the use of practicality in this matter. The center line buoys could be left in the current location, and an educational campaign could be undertaken to provide information to homeowners as well as providing signage at the Bleeker Street launch that explained to boaters the best way to traverse the area. J. Burg agreed.

J. BURG MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE PLAN COMMISSION AND COMMON COUNCIL TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL 12 TOTAL BOUYS AND THAT 8 OF THESE TOTAL BUOYS WOULD BE PLACED AT THE KETTLE ENTRANCE, 1 HAZARD BUOY WOULD BE PLACED IN THE SOUTHEAST PART OF LAKE, AND 3 HAZARD BUOYS PLACED NORTH OF THE ENTRANCE TO ST. JOHN'S BAY. L. MORRISON SECONDED THE MOTION.

D. TILLS QUESTIONED WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE A BUOY AT THE SOUTH SIDE OF ZASTROW'S BAY NEAR THE ROCK PILE. K.ATTWELL. AGREED AS HE THOUGHT IT WAS DEFINITELY A HAZARD BUT IT WAS TOO CLOSE TO SHORE. J. EAVES EXPLAINED HE HAD SEEN THE MAP AND READ PAST MINUTES PRIOR TO COMING TO THIS MEETING. HE QUESTIONED WHETHER ALL BUOYS PRESENTED WERE NEEDED. K. ATTWELL CLARIFIED THE TYPES OF BUOYS AND LOCATIONS BEING PROPOSED. THERE WAS NO FURTHER DISCUSSION. ALL WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

K. Attwell moved to Item 3h without objection from the Committee.

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- f. SUMMER NEWSLETTER ARTICLE ON SHORE LINE RESTORATION TO BE WRITTEN BY GARY PRATT

G. Pratt agreed to write an article on rain gardens and the positive impact to the overall watershed for the summer City newsletter. K. Attwell thanked him for this effort .

- g. CONTINUE LAKE LEVEL DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

L. Morrison stated she had researched the original agreement from 1993 related to lowering the lake level. She explained the document noted there were specific dates related to the high and low levels allowable for the lake. After discussing this issue with City Staff, it was determined that the DNR had ordered this activity. Upon further research with DNR Staff person Michelle Snyder, L. Morrison found that it was not necessary to raise and lower the lake level; however when it is done, it had to be done within the limits and dates specified in the agreement. To remove this water level order, a water level order change would need to be executed. M. Snyder provided L. Morrison with an example of this documentation for future use if desired. L. Morrison stated she thought this change should be investigated further as it was not consistent with the dredging proposed. Historically, the lake activity had been sought on behalf of residents concerned with flooding in their area.

D. Tills stated he was very supportive of removing this order as the lake levels impacted spawning for the northern pike and aggravated the shoreline erosion over the winter months. D. Greenway noted the use of stormwater ponds and a new dam since the time of the agreement proposing this action. J. Eaves agreed also.

L. Morrison stated she would investigate the matter further as well as whether a city engineer needed to be responsible for processing the request.

K. Attwell moved to Item 3i at this time.

- h. CONTINUE DISCUSSION ON SMALLER WEED CUTTER/SKIMMER THROUGH PRIVATE FUNDING (JAMIE EAVES)

J. Eaves explained he had been present at the last meeting of the Committee and offered to investigate the idea of volunteer lake residents working together to skim the floating cut weeds off the top of the lake in the summertime. There were several people willing to participate in this weed skimming activity; however, he questioned the placement of the weeds once removed from the lake. In addition, insurance issues would need to be researched but he was confident this activity could be worked through regarding liability. With support of the Committee, he would begin to research cost estimates for the skimmer and training of use of the skimmer. He thought this might cost a bit of money but did not anticipate issues with the DNR as the weeds were not being cut only skimmed from the surface of the lake.

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D. Tills expressed concern related to the practicality of the skimming as he had not seen success in the past with this activity and was concerned it would not cover enough of the lake to make the purchase worthwhile. J. Eaves stated the use issues would need to be worked through in a sub-committee format and it was important to be creative in solving issues of concern for area lake users. He would provide an update on the skimmer at the next meeting of the Committee.

K. Attwell moved to Item 3f.

- i. ANNUAL LAKE AWARENESS MEETING TOPICS JUNE 9, 2010 AT CHRIST THE KING CHURCH, 1600 HWY C, 6:30PM TO 9:30 PM.

K. Attwell noted the following information as being pertinent topics for inclusion on the agenda of the Annual Lake Awareness meeting to be held June 9, 2010 at Christ the King Church from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. *Presenters from the Committee are noted in italics behind the topic as a result of discussions held on this item.*

- i. PIER REGISTRATION INFORMATION FROM THE DNR (*J. Burg and/or DNR Staff*)
- ii. PLAN B DREDGING PROJECT UPDATE (*A. Zietlow or other Dredging Plan B member*)
- iii. WEED CUTTING ISSUES/ SKIMMER IDEA-POSSIBLE FUNDRAISING (*J. Eaves*)
- iv. RAIN GARDENS/NATURALIZED SHORELINES (*G. Pratt*)
- v. STATE OF THE LAKE PRESENTED BY J. BILLS
- vi. DNR STAFF PRESENTATION ON LAKE ISSUES-*This topic was a duplicate and should be removed from the list of topics to be placed on the agenda.*
- vii. *Raising/lowering of the lake – This item was added for inclusion. If research on the topic is favorable, L. Morrison will present it at the annual meeting. If not, it will be removed from the topic list.*

K. Attwell thanked G. Gaborsky for assisting in scheduling the meeting.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. NW WEST CHANNELS ISLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN PROPOSED TO DNR FOR APPROVAL, UPDATE FOR COMMUNITY AND LWC (HERB RASMUSSEN)

K. Attwell noted the information had been distributed to Committee members on this item and introduced area resident Herb Rasmussen to the Committee.

H. Rasmussen, 3098 Stonebridge Isle, explained that he represented various non-riparian owners in the matter of developing an island management plan for the Northwest Channels island area. No one was paying him for this plan; however, he had been working with the DNR on the plan for cutting and maintenance of the plant life on the islands in the northwest channel area. His purpose in being present before this Committee was at the request of the DNR

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as he was to provide an update to the community and gather public input on the plans proposed. Three people owned four islands to the north of the six total islands facing the lake side of the channel area. The remaining two islands were state property. Of some issue, were the cattails in the islands area. DNR Staff had expressed concern for removal of the cattails as they were beneficial in mitigating erosion and they should be retained as a buffer. The people that lived near these islands also wanted visibility to the lake and as part of his plan the islands would revert back to marsh. His plan encouraged herbaceous growth and would bring the island back to the original marsh-like property they originally were in the early 1940's.

D. Tills stated he had worked with H. Rasmussen and he thought the goals of the plan presented were good as it made sense to create an ecological balance on the islands. This plan would also remove the woody plant growth and would create a more diversified natural habitat for the islands.

J. Bills offered the use of historical photos for assistance in plan development.

D. Tills explained that in historic photos the islands were almost 100 feet larger than current day. He had spoken with Southeastern Regional Plan Commission (SEWRPC) Staff regarding this matter. Staff thought that the islands were eroding due to wave action or possibly due to the drop in lake level each winter as the low lake level allowed ice to form deeper than normal and this worked to carve out areas below the island root systems. Ultimately, the cause was undetermined, but had been occurring since 1941.

M. Millot questioned how long had the practice of dropping the lake levels in the winter time had been taking place. L. Morrison stated this activity had taken place since 1993.

K. Attwell thanked H. Rasmussen for attending the Committee meeting and providing notification to neighbors by placing this item on the Committee meeting agenda.

Without objection, K. Attwell returned to item 3a.

b. **REVIEW OF WATERSHED SIGNS TO BE POSTED ON MAJOR ROADS WHEN ENTERING INTO THE DIRECT DRAINAGE AREA OF LAKE NAGAWICKA (JERRY BILLS)**

K. Attwell explained J. Bills had provided a report to all Committee members regarding signage to be posted on major roadways related to entering the Watershed boundary. J. Bills stated he had heard this idea while attending a recent educational session on lake policy. He thought the idea would help to provide education to area residents and provide unity in responsibility for Nagawicka Lake. Prevention was cheaper than restoration and he thought this effort could be undertaken with other municipalities as well as county and state agencies to move the project forward. Signage costs were \$45 per sign.

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Discussion ensued regarding possibilities for signage locations and the best educational methods for conveying the information to all residents. J. Eaves suggested the use of the City website. D. Sisulak suggested working with area Boy Scout troops to further designate the stormwater drains as draining to the lake. J. Burg stated the signage could identify and show watershed boundaries. A flyer could also be distributed at the annual lake meeting. L. Morrison stated it would be helpful to have more detailed signage at the boat launch areas as well. J. Burg further suggested signage be placed near detention pond areas noting the drainage to the lake. Further discussion ensued regarding appropriate locations for the signage.

K. Attwell suggested the signage be placed downtown just north of the ice skating pond, at the municipal border with the Village of Nashotah. Signage could also be placed near the intersection of Highway 83 and Interstate 94, with one on the north side and one on the south side along Highway 83

Consensus was heard for the idea of watershed signage. This item would be discussed in greater detail at the next meeting of the Committee.

c. **UPDATE ON PLAN B COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND DISCUSS WAYS THE LWC CAN HELP THEM ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS**

M. Hausman and M. Millot were present from the Dredging Plan B Committee to provide an update. A discussion of timeline of Committee work was provided. M. Hausman noted efforts were being made to understand the work of the Lake Welfare Committee related to dredging and progress was being made on that task. Information gathering and education were the immediate short term goals of the committee. Specific recommendations would be determined at a future date. All efforts being undertaken by the Dredging Plan B Committee were to maximize the work that had already been done with the Chapter 30 permit in a timely manner.

5. **ADJOURN**

D. GREENWAY MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MARCH 10, 2010, LAKE WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING AT 7:56 P.M. L. MORRISON SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes prepared by:

Accurate Business Communications, Inc.