



REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. WHITE BEAR CITY HALL
MINUTES of April 18, 2006

APPROVAL DATE: May 16, 2006

1. CALL TO ORDER The March meeting of the White Bear Lake Conservation District was convened by chair Gary Cox at 7:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL Present were: Chair Gary Cox, Vice Chair Luke Michaud, Directors Greg Donovan, Mike Parenteau, Thomas Hoffman, George St. Germain, John Steinworth, Tom Alvarez, Scott St. Martin. A quorum was present. Absent was Secretary/Treasurer Diane Longville. Recording secretary was Julie Yoho.

3. AGENDA

Move "permit forms" to item 8b6 under LUC.

Motion #1 (Donovan/Parenteau) Move to approve as agenda amended. ALL AYE, Passed.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March minutes: Motion #6, \$1900 is correct amount. Under roll call, all were excused.

MOTION # 2 (Donovan/Parneteau) Move to approve minutes from March as amended. ALL AYE, Passed.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

None

6. NEW BUSINESS

6a. Third and final reading of Ordinance 18 to replace Ord. 1.

Section 2c1. change language

MOTION # 3 (Hoffman/Parenteau) Move to change text in Section 2c1. to "excluded from speed limit restrictions are wind propelled/non motorized recreational vehicles and aircraft taking off". ALL AYE, Passed.

Subd 3. discussion over "as defined as defined by DNR". Should we reference?

MOTION #4 (Cox/Michaud) Move to change text in Subd. 3 to "as those terms are defined by the DNR" as per Alan's recommendation. ALL AYE, Passed.

MOTION # 5 (Cox/Michaud) Move to approve Ordinance 18 as amended. ALL AYE, PASSED.

- 6b. Winter Lake Use Study, Dick Osgood & Steve McComas
-2006 study used same methods as in 2000. Plan is to do these on 6 yr. cycle.
-Unusual winter
-No increase in use, but could be due to poor ice conditions, warm weather
-General trends are toward fewer permanent ice houses, more portables used, here and elsewhere.
-4 wheelers used to access, likely due to poor ice.
-XC skiing, other uses observed
-No conflict or safety issues observed. No new recommendations
-Overall trend seems to be less ice fishing on WBL. Decline in permanent ice houses. Portables are on and off in same day, more mobile, not licensed.

Michaud – note this was off year with warm weather
City of Mahtomedi posted sign with winter use regulations, thank you for posting the information.

Steinworth – was there motorized activity in marsh area?
-Nothing unusual or damaging was noticed this year.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7a. work plan updates – none

8. REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

8a. Lake Quality Committee

move after item 8b

8b. Lake Utilization Committee

8b1. Ramsey County Sheriffs Water Patrol contract.

Proposed for 2006 \$39.50/hr . \$38.58/hr is what we agreed to last year, and budgeted for '06.

MOTION #6 (Michaud/St. Germain) Move to approve 2006 contract with hourly rate of \$38.58 for total of \$21,103.26. ALL AYE, PASSED.

- Ramsey Co. kept lake closures on due to poor ice conditions county-wide this winter until ice out.

8b2. Nicholson waterski course

MOTION #7 (Michaud/St. Germain) Move to approve Nicholson waterski course permit for 2006, no change from last year, located on east end of Birchwood. ALL AYE, Passed.

8b3. Redpath waterski course

MOTION #8 (Michaud/Donovan) Move to approve Redpath waterski course permit for 2006, no change from last year, in St. Germain Bay Mahtomedi. ALL AYE, Passed.

8b4. Fast track events Manitou sprint triathlon

MOTION #9 (Michaud/St.Germain) Move to approve permit for 2006 Manitou Sprint Triathlon. ALL AYE, Passed.

8b5. Forest Heights Improvement Association application #2

- New information provided in this application:

3 boats on shore

dock has been moved 5 ft. north

dock has been angled approx. 5 degrees north, 20 ft. more north at end of dock

down to 10 boats

MOTION # 10 (Michaud/ Donovan) Move to approve Forest Heights Improvement Association application #2.

Discussion:

St. Martin – likes the angle and dock placement, what do other committee members think of this placement?

LUC Committee likes the shift, feels it addresses some of this issues.

Steinworth – did committee take action?

Michaud - No, discussed but decided not to make recommendation until before the full Board.

St Germain – moving dock 5 feet tried to alleviate concerns presented previously. Moves it closer to people on the north. Feels it should not angle, but go straight out so not to crowd north neighbor.

The Motion is for the application as it stands.

Steinworth – Seems it hasn't changed much, users will still have to go thru other's ADUA to get to dock. Too many boats still, doesn't seem to address concerns that caused permit to be denied 2 months ago.

Cox – address some concern of growth factor by going down one boat. 5 feet makes difference.

St. Martin – thinks angle is good idea, should try for 1 yr.

Hoffman – likes angle also, easier to navigate.

Steinworth – what do opponents feel about this app? Doesn't feel the association is compromising enough.

Cox – issue was safety and crowding.

St Martin – this is for 1 yr and situation will be monitored closely.

Cox – will now entertain public comments only on the changes noted this application

Lee Alnes,- North neighbor

- Doesn't feel change will be watched closely, they didn't conform last year.

- Waste of time, not different enough from previous app.

- Compromise would be discussing problems with neighbors. One boat less is not compromise. This is unacceptable.

John Deveny – south neighbor

- If your going to try this, put condition on the permit that they will not use his ADUA.

Cox – we can't do that, it is public water. ADUA allows people to use area for dock, it does not allow exclusive use of area.

Peter ?? – lives north 4 houses

- Concerned over the impact of changing land use over time on neighbors
- Went from no boats to 10 very quickly
- If this were a park or planning commission issue, city would not approve due to land use and safety issues.
- Not an experiment anyone would want in their backyard.
- Marina does not fit here. 4 boats would be ok.

Neighbor – lives 4 houses south

- Feels Association is trying.
- His perception is that they are trying to be responsible. We have privilege to use this resource.

John Schwietz – member of assoc.

- Have been trying to get along with neighbors, decided there is nothing they can do to keep them happy. Never heard of any safety related concerns/comments from sheriff's Dept. or from neighbors.
- Safety issues would have been addressed. Would not do anything unsafe to anyone else.

John Deveny

- With the first application made, they raised safety issue to the Assoc. No personal injury yet, but there will be while boats are traveling thru neighbors ADUA.

St. Martin – dock may not be aesthetically pleasing, but it is nice to see green space at this lot rather than a large house. Give and take is needed.

Steinworth – ADUA's define areas of use, here it is conflicting. Neighbors know this is too many boats for this space.

MOTION # 10 Vote: 8 AYE, 1 NAY (Steinworth) PASSED.

Motion carries. Permit for Forest Heights approved for 2006 as submitted.

8b6. Permit form revisions

MOTION # 11 (Michaud/ Donovan) Move to approve permit form revisions as shown ALL AYE, passed.

8a. Lake Quality Committee

8a1. Water Quality Trend Analysis. Steve McComas

- water quality is improving, this is a long term significant trend.
- Annual phosphorus levels in lake are declining.
- Challenge is to maintain
- One of few lakes in metro with "A" report card for quality.

- Trend has been tracked from 80's to '05
- Impact of road salt on lakes. Chloride levels are increasing from 60's. Levels are still low, way below problem levels.
- Discussion over salt levels
- Dry years less snow, less salt on roads
- Way to lower levels is decrease salt use
- Even though levels are up, salt is not a problem at this point

8a2. Aquatic plant survey completed for 2005. Steve McComas

- Full lake survey was done, and spot checks
- Milfoil has not taken over lake. Cottage park and Matoska marsh are areas where it is more prevalent, but not at nuisance levels.
- Overall number of species of plants has been consistent, slightly increasing. Likely due to water clarity. Long term, milfoil won't take over new areas and will remain low - Unless water quality changes.
- Hybrid milfoil has appeared in WBL. Eurasian and Northern have crossed. Has many characteristics of Eurasian, has Northern bottom & roots. Found in east metro lakes only.
- Northern milfoil is native. Levels have varied. Good plant to have.
- Now have 18 yrs of milfoil maps and data.
- Curly pond weed has become nuisance in other lakes. It is present in WBL, but not nuisance. It is non-native & invasive. Has been in state since 1890.
- Purple loosestrife in Halls Marsh area
- Zebra mussels not found, could be future problem.
- Recommend doing a survey of culvert outfalls. (Rice Creek Watershed could maybe do) to get handle on sediment outfalls on WBL.
- Overall, good news to report

8a3. Marina Triangle Development

- Meeting to be held April 25. Another plan is being presented.

8c. Lake Education Committee report

8c1. protect our lakes ad due to run in the WB Press. Hoffman will review and may update language in the ad.

MOTION # 12 (Hoffman/Michaud) Move to spend up to \$500 to run ad in WB Press. ALL AYE, Passed

8c2. White Bear Lake homeowners association newsletter. Want to work closely with them. May consider formal liaison role for a board member.

8d. Treasurers report

MOTION # 13 (COX/PARENTEAU) Move to approve April Treasurers report and pay checks 3667 – 3673. ALL AYE, Passed.

2007 budget worksheet has been handed out. Do we want to have workshop to complete budget this year? No

8e. Board Counsel report

no report

8f. Administrative staff report

Will develop new plan/priorities for the office remodeling, now that VLAWMO is moving out.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION # 14 (Hoffman/St Germain) Move to approve consent agenda. ALL AYE, Passed.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOTION # 15 (Michaud/Donovan) Move to have buoys placed by Phil Bonin for amount not to exceed last years charge. ALL AYE, Passed.

Peter Salisbury will go along to be back up.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION#16 (Michaud/St. Germain) Move to adjourn. ALL AYE Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm

ATTEST:

Administrative Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

Board Chairperson

Date