



REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. WHITE BEAR CITY HALL
MINUTES of July 17, 2007

APPROVAL DATE: 8/21/07

1. CALL TO ORDER The July meeting of the White Bear Lake Conservation District was convened by Chair Gary Cox at 7:00 pm

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

3. AGENDA

Strike item 8b2, application withdrawn.

Item 8b1. Docks of White Bear draft dock proposal. LUC looked at, felt full board should offer feedback on site and advise on application process.

Cox - public has not been notified, don't want to have presentation yet.

Steinworth – need to notify neighbors as usual, public needs to be involved.

Motion – (Cox/no second) Move to strike item from agenda. No second. MOTION FAILS.

MOTION # 1 (Michaud/Donovan) Move to approve agenda as amended. 9 aye, 1 no (Steinworth) PASSED.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #2 (Michaud/St. Germain) Move to approve minutes of June 2007. All aye, PASSED.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

Mr. & Mrs. Nelson, Birchwood

Confused on why they need permit for dock when they have less than 4 boats.

Would like to know what rule they broke, why their dock had to be removed. Is their easement less important? Rules need to be enforced fairly.

Cox – Action taken was voted by whole board. Letter went to city of Birchwood, they had to decide how to bring site into compliance.

Michaud – Any dock on public property requires permit. This property has conditional use permit for one dock already. We will not debate the land issue. WBLCD made decision based on bringing the site into compliance with permit which allows for 1 dock. Letter was sent to recorded site owner (City of Birchwood) requiring compliance. We will continue to enforce. WBLCD is not telling you you don't have rights there, courts will have to figure that out. That is not issue for this board.

Parenteau – read Ordinance # 5 and understand. Permit is required for more than 4 boats on private property. A dock on public property needs permit, regardless of number of boats.

Jim Simney, Birchwood

Has boat on Dellwood dock Assoc.

Extension request was put back to City of Birchwood. Boats can't get off dock due to low water. Proposal was to move dock out from shore, rather than extend overall length.

Michaud – City did not pass this proposal, so it is not on our agenda tonight. Now assoc. is here asking to move dock.

Cox – we can't consider this because we don't have application in front of us.

Need to have application from site owner (city of Birchwood) to amend the permit.

Public comment time closed

6. NEW BUSINESS

6a. Water Ski Courses

Thomas – we have one course that has been moved around lake. When in the Birchwood area generated lots of phone calls. Would like general discussion on courses.

Cox – we have permitted courses for years and would address complaints as we received them. This year we received complaints.

Donovan – Birchwood area is highly populated. Thinks some of the complaints are legitimate. Other areas of lake are better for courses. Nuisance more than anything. Would like to establish time of use for next years permit.

Parenteau – permit holders are not the only users, its open to public. Need to ski where and when it's calm, when they have time to use it – often early in the am before work.

Hoffman – other areas on lake are not as dense. Why do we need multiple courses and not just have one?

St. Martin – we have to be careful trying to regulate use times. Anyone can make noise. Don't regulate certain groups of people.

Michaud – course is moving based on complaints that it was permanent in St Germain Bay. Lake Use Committee determined that it is legitimate use of lake. Maybe we don't need 2 courses. LUC knew moving it around would generate input. Appropriate use of lake, by moving it we share the wealth. This is public body of water, similar to living by park or golf course then complaining about users.

Steinworth – noise regulations are in place our five communities. Same courtesy could extend to the water as well. We have obligation to be in compliance with communities.

Hoffman – is there place for permanent course?

Michaud – that is what we had, we decided to move it so it wouldn't affect same people everyday. No public notice on this, even to permit holder. No action can be taken.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

none

8. REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

8a. Lake Quality Committee

8a1. Lake level 922.2, last month 922.46. 3 inches down. Mike is going to look at levels in the 80's.

8b. Lake Utilization Committee

8b1. Docks of White Bear Lake

LUC meeting tonight looked at drawing of ideas for reconfiguration near shoreline. They would like to install a permanent dock along shore. Committee wanted to bring it before the board. If this turns into formal application, it will come from site owner.

discussion

Brian McGoldrick, Docks of White Bear & Steve Gaffney Bruggeman Properties
Steve – Would like to get feedback from the Board before they submit formal application. City has seen this plan. Proposal is in conjunction with city's comp plan for triangle area. This would help connect Veterans and Lions park. Plan reduces impervious surface, better runoff control. Permanent structure is being proposed for safety and maintenance. Proposal is currently in review with the DNR.

Steinworth – is this 1st public presentation?

Brian – not formal presentation, just looking for feedback

Cox – how does this relate to city proposal?

Steve – this is segment of header dock system that will connect the 2 parks.
Parenteau – is this beginning of permanent structure all along here? Basically creating land, partially over water.
Steve – dock allows for space for garden. Trying to look at big picture and plan ahead. Site is owned by Trach properties.
St Martin – structure would require permit
Cox – this would be complex – requires permitting structure on water that also includes structure on land, so is different than most. All parties would have to agree.
Steinworth – question on runoff and gardens.
Steve - Decreasing impervious space by 70%.
Steinworth – you are privatizing a portion of the public water space. No one can own public water for their own private gain. This plan does that. Structure allows for sidewalk and tables. Public has not been invited. Concerned with city vision of lakeshore when they haven't been here.

8c. Lake Education Committee report

- Water level data is now on website.
- The LMCD cruise / tour is July 30. They have invited 2 Board members.
Tom plans to go, let him know if your interested.

8d. Treasurers report

MOTION # 3 (Michaud/St. Germain) Move to approve July treasurers report and pay checks 3765 – 3770. all aye, PASSED.

8e. Board Counsel report

none

8f. Administrative staff report

none

9. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION # 4 (St. Germain/Parenteau) Move to approve consent agenda. All Aye, PASSED.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michaud – encourage members of board to go look at Docks of WB site.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #5 (St. Germain/Michaud) Move to adjourn. All Aye, PASSED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

ATTEST:

Administrative Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

Board Chairperson

Date