

**DEEPHAVEN BOAT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016
MINUTES**

Call Meeting to Order

Dana Young called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present

Jim Friedlander, John Jaffray, Brian Chou, David Gross, Brian Larson, and City Administrator Dana Young

January 14, 2016 Boat Committee Minutes

The Committee approved the January 14, 2016 Boat Committee minutes on a motion by Brian Larson, seconded by Jim Friedlander. Motion carried 5-0.

Matters from the Floor

There were a number of residents present to discuss the Boat Committee's recommendations that were made at the January 14, 2016 Boat Committee meeting regarding the Ten Year Rule.

Mitch Landis (19025 Lake Avenue) stated that there have been a lot of changes made that are disturbing to people, one of which was the ten year lease limits.

John Jaffray noted that there was a change in 2008 on the ten year lease.

Mitch Landis expressed concern that there may be other changes coming up.

John Jaffray stated that the intent of the Boat Committee recommendations were to make the waiting list move faster. He stated that the Boat Committee decided that they didn't want to make economic changes to encourage turnover so it was decided to make everyone on the mooring spaces equal.

Mitch Landis stated that he doesn't want the docks made more expensive.

Dana Young stated that there have been no recent changes to the mooring spaces. The last change was in 2008 when ten year lease limits were established. He stated that the Boat Committee has submitted a recommendation to the City Council, which the Council has not yet acted on and may never act on.

Robert Combs (19450 Willow Haven) stated that he objects to the 20 year extension. He stated that everyone waited equally on the waiting list so everyone is on the same footing.

David Gross stated that the ten year rule created two separate classes.

Jim Friedlander stated that the Committee was looking to create equity. Right now, those who only have it 8 years are required to give it up in two years, while those who have had a slip for

30 years, get to keep it. He stated that there are two classes – those that have a slip permanently and those that will be removed from the docks. He stated that right now we have that inequity.

Robert Combs stated that once you are on the waiting list, you were promised a lifetime lease.

Mitch Landis asked if this proposal was as a result of a petition.

David Rogers (3865 Talton Place) asked what the current wait time on the waiting list is. He stated that the waiting list hasn't changed that much.

Dana Young stated that the waiting is approximately 22 years, which has gradually increased over the past ten years.

One resident stated that there are 47 residents who are grandfathered on the docks. He stated that this isn't two classes; it's just the rules that were established.

Mitch Landis stated that the 20 year extension would slow down the attrition. He stated that he is against a time limit on the shore spaces.

David Rogers noted that the fees for the shore space went up higher than the dock fees for the 2016 boating season.

George Sayer (3705 Westview Drive) stated that he is in favor of all things grandfathered. He added that he is currently joint leasing with another resident, which gives the opportunity for another resident to enjoy boating.

David Gross stated that when the ten year rule was established in 2008, there were ten additional slips added that were part of the reason for the establishment of the ten year rule. He stated that priority should be given to partnerships.

Bruce Christ (18850 Rutledge Road) asked if the Boat Committee had heard from everyone on this issue.

Discussion was held on the possibility of permitting power boats on the open buoys or swapping buoys for dock space. David Gross stated that this issue would have to be presented to the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District to allow this to happen.

Further discussion was held on adding more docks. Dana Young stated that the City is limited under LMCD rules on how many additional docks can be added. In addition, he stated that not every resident favors more and more docks at the expense of Deephaven Beach or the Back Bay.

Tim Lawless (19795 Cottagewood Road) stated that they have been promised that they could have a dock slip as long as you live here. He stated that he doesn't see this as inequality.

John Jaffray stated that he is not saying that he wants a permanent dock but feels that a ten year lease is just too long.

David Gross noted that these recommendations were developed over the past two years.

Jim Friedlander stated that it is up to the Council whether they want to review their recommendations.

One resident commented that he would support a 15 year term over a 10 year term, which he thought was too short.

Jim Friedlander stated that you won't see a velocity increase on the waiting list but, at a 20 year term, you'll start seeing those who are grandfathered drop off.

One resident noted that we are covering the same material and recommended that we utilize the data we have on hand to make a more rational decision by applying actuarial data.

Fred Ladner (18179 Shavers Lake Drive) stated that he is in the same boat as John Jaffray and has been on the waiting list for 20 years but will only be able to get a mooring lease for ten years. He noted that he doesn't really understand the proposal.

Jim Friedlander stated that if you have had a dock slip for more than 20 years, you have another three years on the slip. If you have had a slip for 15 years but less than 20 years, you will have a slip until you hit 20 years. If you had a slip less than 15 years, you get the slip until you hit 20 years.

Fred Ladner stated that this proposal is less fair than the other system.

Jim Friedlander stated that having a dock for 20 years is a reasonable expectation.

Fred Ladner noted that there are people on the waiting list who have waited 20 years.

Jim Friedlander stated that we could let the market determine how long someone wants to stay on the dock by charging more the longer you are on the dock.

David Rogers stated that you could have two options – one for those who don't mind getting off after 20 years and another for those who would be willing to pay more after 20 years.

John Jaffray stated that this is a reasonable idea and asked him to put this idea in writing.

Mitch Landis stated that he doesn't want to be charged more for the docks.

Tim Lawless stated that he was informed by members of the City Council that economics wasn't a part of setting the rates.

Jim Friedlander stated that the Committee also explored the idea that every year we need to see a specific turnover at the docks. If the natural turnover reaches that specific turnover percentage, no one needs to get off. He stated that the Committee looked at a lot of different options.

Dean Barland (3875 Monaltrie Avenue) stated that he has two points that he would like to make. First, any discussion that potentially affects the grandfathered residents should happen during the boating season, not when they are away during the winter. And second, there are six people on the list who joint lease, which works very well.

Hearing no further comments, Dana Young thanked everyone for coming this evening and sharing their concerns.

Management Report

Dana Young provided an update on the number of boat spaces available in 2016 and reported that Brian Girard resigned from the Boat Committee last month since he is moving to Orono.

Welcome New Member Brian Chou & David Gross

The Committee welcomed Brian Chou and David Gross to the Boat Committee.

Appoint 2016 Chair & Vice-Chair

Motion by Jim Friedlander to appoint David Gross as 2016 Chairman of the Deephaven Boat Committee. Seconded by Brian Larson. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Brian Larson to appoint John Jaffray as 2016 Vice-Chairman of the Deephaven Boat Committee. Seconded by Jim Friedlander. Motion carried 5-0.

Discuss 2016 Meeting Dates

Discussion was held regarding 2016 Committee meeting dates.

Discuss Boat Lifts

Dana Young stated that the last time the Boat Committee discussed this issue, the Committee decided to monitor the boat lifts that are allowed at the Excelsior city docks.

Jim Friedlander noted that he has also been approached by a resident regarding boat lifts at the city docks.

David Gross stated that he didn't like the idea of boat lifts because of the aesthetics but noted that the Yacht Club now allows them due to zebra mussels. He stated that the City should purchase the lifts and charge for them.

Brian Larson stated that he would be opposed to the City owning the lifts but the City could establish the standards necessary to allow boat lifts under certain conditions.

The Committee recommended that Dana Young should discuss this issue with Excelsior and report back to the Committee next month.

Discuss 2016 Committee Goals

The Committee suggested the following list of goals for 2016:

- Address the buoy openings
- Weed control under the docks
- Consider improving the dock electrical system and security system

Further discussion was held on whether there was any interest in changing the Committee's recommendation on the ten year rule. It was ultimately decided to let the issue take its course and leave it to the City Council.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Brian Larson, seconded by Jim Friedlander. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Boat Committee has yet to be determined.