

**DEEPHAVEN BOAT COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2013
MINUTES**

Call Meeting to Order

Dana Young called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present

Warren Nelson, Tom Drummond, Roy Quaintance, Doug Ruble, David Matteson, Jim van Bergen, City Administrator Dana Young

Members Absent

Michael Kelly, Sue Jerutis, David Irwin

February 13, 2013 Minutes

The Committee approved the February 13, 2013 minutes on a motion by Tom Drummond, seconded by David Matteson. Motion carried 6-0.

Matters from the Floor

There were no Matters from the Floor this evening.

Unleased Buoy Spaces

Dana Young stated that discussion had been held at the last meeting on potential strategies to generate more interest in leasing the 22 buoy spaces that are currently still available this year. He stated that the Committee had suggested leasing buoys through the Yacht Club or to actually lease directly to non-residents.

Jim van Bergen suggested that if the City decides to lease to non-residents, the lease payment should be higher for non-residents than the current residential rate. He stated that it would still be his top preference to leave the buoys unfilled and his second preference would be to offer the buoys to the Yacht Club. He stated that traffic and parking at the marinas, launch and beach is so high that he would prefer less traffic. He added that if the Council decides that the loss of revenue from the unleased buoys is critical, he recommended that the buoys should be assigned a higher lease rate so that the rate wouldn't compete with the rates offered by the Yacht Club.

The Committee was in agreement that the City's top priority should be to continue the current policy of filling the unleased buoys through Deephaven residents and the second priority, if the loss of revenue into the Marina Fund was a significant concern, consider the leasing of these buoy spaces to the Yacht Club.

Further discussion was held on the potential loss of \$9,900 to the Marina Fund due to the inability to lease 22 buoy spaces. Dana Young stated that, with the lack of significant projects planned over the next few years, the loss of this revenue was not critical. However, he added that as overall expenses in the Marina Fund continue to increase, such as with the All Bay chemical treatment plan, it may be necessary to consider a rate increase in the foreseeable future.

Discussion was held on the overall reluctance both with the Boat Committee, City Council, and leaseholders to increase rates. Dana Young noted that rates have not increased since 2008 and the City

of Deephaven continues to offer the lowest rates for boat slips on the lake. He stated that while every effort will be made to control expenses in the Marina Fund to help postpone a rate increase, he was concerned that there may be efforts to reapportion expenses in the Marina Fund to the General Fund, resulting in increased property taxes. He stated that unless this reapportionment of expenses was done objectively, it would effectively lead to the subsidization of the Marina Fund through the property tax levy.

Make-Ready Dock Project

Dana Young stated that discussion was held last month on Councilmember Keith Kask's objections to the overall design of the proposed make ready dock project during the Council's discussion of the 2013 Marina Fund Budget. He stated that this concern ultimately led to the decision to cancel the project.

Dana Young stated that Councilmember Kask has indicated in several conversations with Boat Committee members that he would prefer a design of the make ready dock that was less aesthetic and more practical for the actual users of the dock. He stated that the Boat Committee has indicated an interest in accommodating Councilmember Kask's concern by developing a more practical design of the make ready dock for future review by the City Council.

Security Cameras

Dana Young stated that Police Chief Johnson is looking into the costs and benefits of installing a security camera system similar to the one used by the Minnetonka Police Department at Gray's Bay. He stated that more information on security cameras would be forthcoming.

Progress of Shore Space Reconfiguration

Dana Young stated that the last step in the Shore Space Reconfiguration Project would be the development of several dock site plans for Council review. He stated that whatever final plan was selected would have to be accepted by both the City Council and general public. He stated that Tim Latterner with Dock & Lift had promised to stake out a dock configuration on the ice this past winter but was never contacted. He stated that it may be unrealistic to expect a contractor to develop a dock plan at no cost and the City might have to budget some funds to have site plans professionally developed.

Other

Dana Young stated that a substantial quantity of sand needs to be removed from the south slide area at St. Louis Bay. He stated that an excavation permit will be needed from the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District to obtain permission to remove the sand from the lake and beach area.

Discussion was held regarding the frequency of Boat Committee meetings. Dana Young stated that tonight's agenda was pretty thin but felt obligated to hold the meeting since the Boat Committee didn't meet last month. He stated that there was a reason the Boat Committee use to only meet quarterly as there often weren't enough discussion topics to meet monthly. The Committee suggested cancelling any meeting, even if it meant consecutive meetings, if there weren't sufficient discussion topics.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by David Matteson, seconded by Jim van Bergen. Motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Boat Committee will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2013.