



PIERS, HARBORS & LAKEFRONT COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019 – 5:30PM

CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM 2A

AGENDA

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Skates
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Minutes from August 14, 2019 meeting as prepared and distributed
4. Comments from the public limited to 5 minutes, limited to items on this agenda
5. Harbormaster's Report
6. MSI
 - a. Riviera Restoration Project Update
 - b. Roof Replacement Request for Proposals
7. Starry Stonewort Update
8. Harbormaster position update
9. Discussion/Recommendation regarding clean boats/clean water grant application
10. Adjournment

*This is a meeting of the Piers, Harbors & Lakefront Committee.
No official Council action will be taken; however, a quorum of the Council may be present.*

cc: Aldermen, Mayor, Administrator, Harbormaster, Media

PIERS, HARBORS & LAKEFRONT COMMITTEE MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019– 6:00PM

CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM 2A (UPPER LEVEL)

Members: Chairperson Doug Skates, Shari Straube, John Halverson, Rich Hedlund and Tim Dunn

Meeting called to order by Chairman Skates 6:00 pm

Roll Call: Chairperson Doug Skates, John Halverson, Shari Straube, Rich Hedlund and Tim Dunn.

Approval of Minutes: Halverson so moved to approve the minutes of July 17, 2019, Straube seconded. Motion carried 4-0

Comments from the public limited to 5 minutes, limited to items on this agenda

Casey Schiche (address inaudible) addressed agenda item seven (7). Stated that the fee comparison sheet distributed to the committee previously does not fairly compare the services other lake communities offer in relation to the rate charged. Also suggested that the city possibly “contract” out the Harbormaster position to an outside firm.

John Walker (540 Franklin) stated that there are still dogs on the west pier and also questioned why proposed regulation signs for the west pier have not been installed. Also stated that the police response to calls regarding the west pier is unsatisfactory.

Charlene Klein (817 Wisconsin Street) spoke out against the absence of handouts and attachments on the online agenda packet.

Spyro Condos (1760 Hillcrest Drive) stated that the Riviera building needs a new roof and questioned the need to do the entire building. Stated that the city hasn't been adequately maintaining the building.

Mr. Bosworth (1224 W. Main Street) stated his concern that the entire west end fishing pier is overrun with individuals and dogs that should not be there.

Bill Hintress (1215 Pleasant Street) stated his concern that the city government is ignoring promises it made previously concerning the installation of signs (and other measures) related to the west end pier.

Harbormaster Report: Interim Harbormaster Donna Crook reported that the elevator at the Riviera has been repaired and is working well. New swimming area buoys are scheduled to be installed soon. She has also hired some replacement boat launch employees.

Discussion / Recommendation regarding roof options for the Riviera building:

2nd Floor Concept Discussion (Riviera)

Adam Wolfe with MSI reported that that 3D scanning of the Riviera Building interior will be taking place in the near future. The scanning will generate precise measurements to allow for a better discussion as to what can or cannot be done in regard to remodeling of the second floor. This item will be discussed again at next month's committee meeting.

**PIERS, HARBORS & LAKEFRONT COMMITTEE MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019– 6:00PM
CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM 2A (UPPER LEVEL)**

Riviera RFP discussion and action

Adam Wolfe and Dave Luterbach reported to the committee that the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the exterior / shell work of the Riviera project (including the roof) is scheduled to be posted on September 4, 2019. A “pre-proposal conference” is scheduled for September 11, 2019 starting at 10am at the Riviera Building.

Proposals are due September 18, 2019 at 10am. At that time MSI and city staff will review all proposals and make a recommendation at the Piers Committee meeting that same night.

Rich Hedlund so moved to direct MSI to proceed with the Riviera RFP. John Halverson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Riviera Building Architecture discussion - Ann Krogstad, MSI Architect

Adam Wolfe and Dave Luterbach of MSI reported that due to the change in the meeting date for the August Pier meeting, Ann Krogstad was already committed to attend another meeting and would be unable to be present tonight. Ms. Krogstad will be scheduled to attend next month’s committee meeting.

Historical/grant discussion – Riviera Building

Adam Wolfe and Dave Luterbach of MSI reported to the committee that, due to the short time span for releasing the RFP and starting work in January of 2020, there are virtually no opportunities to pursue grant money for the Riviera project. Alderman Flower (in attendance at the meeting) expressed her disappointment to MSI.

West End Pier update/discussion and action

General discussion was held concerning the possibility of expanding the number of piers available for the city to rent. Consensus to bring this topic up again in November or December.

Starry Stonewort Update

Chairman Skates provided an update to the committee on this topic. GLEA, DNR and other parties are still in discussion about this topic and what next steps are needed. Some discussion held about improving the city’s boat launch to assist with this problem as well as identifying and pursuing any grant options.

Harbormaster position update

City Administrator Nord reported that the new job description was approved at the last city council meeting and a job announcement will be published shortly. The current interim Harbormaster is compiling a manual to assist the new hire’s orientation process.

Discussion/Recommendation regarding Parking for boat traffic near Gage Marine’s office near the Riviera. Some general discussion was held among the members concerning the possibility of offering a valet service or temporary parking for boats wanting to come to the downtown area to shop or eat.

Rich Hedlund so moved to adjourn at 7:40 pm, second by Halverson. Motion carried 5-0.

Starry Stonewort- Now What?

Starry stonewort has been a major issue in Geneva Lake's management for over a year. Dredging, dewatering and chemical treatment, have all been a few of the options investigated as means of managing starry stonewort.

It was first discovered in Trinke Lagoon in August 2018. Since then numerous meetings, research and a lot of learning has taken place. Efforts were made to dredge the lagoon in the spring and fall of 2019. Unfortunately, the reality of the matter did not allow for those dredgings to take place.

During the summer of 2019 it was discovered that starry stonewort had moved into Geneva Lake and has been documented at several spots. With this finding, a reassessment of its management was needed. After much discussion and two open meetings, the Geneva Lake Environmental Agency Board of Director's voted on August 29, 2019 to table any action on dredging and chemically treat starry stonewort in the lagoon.

Experience has found that chemical treatment has been more successful at containing and controlling SSW than dredging has been in eradicating starry stonewort. To date, there is no lake where dredging or any combination of management that includes dredging has been successful at eradicating starry stonewort from a lake.

The decision comes down to, do we still attempt to eradicate or shift management to control/containment? The Geneva Lake Environmental Agency feels that eradication is no longer cost effective nor is it likely to succeed. Thus, we must now focus our efforts on containing and controlling starry stonewort in Trinke Lagoon and in Geneva Lake.

Both chemical treatment and dredging have significant impacts upon the lake bottom community. Keeping a healthy lake and having a bottom community that is diverse and comprised of native species is the best management for controlling any infestation by an invasive. Just as keeping a healthy lawn is the best way to keep weeds out of the lawn, so must we work on keeping a healthy lake bottom (littoral community). This includes minimizing disturbance or significant changes to that lake bottom community.

Clean Boats, Clean Waters is a Wisconsin program that helps reduce the spread of invasive species. Its key component is the education of boaters at the launch sites. All Geneva Lake communities are being asked to part-take in the Clean Boats, Clean Water program. Grants are available for implementing the program and will be applied for by the December 10 deadline.

Geneva Lake has faced invasive species for years. Because Geneva Lake has been a healthy lake, those invasive species have established themselves but not at a nuisance level. There are many invasive species knocking on our door. Only through a conscience effort by all lake users, residents and visitors, can we protect Geneva Lake from invasives. Remember only you can prevent the spread of invasives.

Theodore W. Peters, Director
Geneva Lake Environmental Agency

