City Admin

From: City Admin
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 2:37 PM
To: Jeff Steinke (jeff.steinke@ryancompanies.com); Kim Peterson
Cc: Tracey Breazeale; City Clerk
Subject: Additional Option for Docks and Parks meeting, additional rating of options

Hi Jeff and Kim,
As I discussed with each of you on the phone, Council requested four options be reviewed at your meeting. Unfortunately, none of the four options meet Parks' recommendation to open the view to 150ft. I think the reason this occurred was that the map that was distributed at the meeting showed seven slips highlighted without reference to the fact that this is over 150 ft and council assumed the seven highlighted slips equaled 150 ft. I proposed that at each of your meetings, an additional option is added, **Option #5 - to relocate five slips resulting in an approximate opening of 150ft**.

I also asked that your group categorize each option as directed by council (preferred and why, could live with and why, could not support and why), and also rank each of the five options from most preferred (1) to least preferred (5). After your meetings, I will provide council with the categorization of each of the five options and the rankings of each of the five options.

Since this email was not part of the original packet, I will email this to both groups and have copies available at their respective meetings.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you,
Heidi

Heidi Honey
City Administrator
City of the Village of Minnetonka Beach
PO Box 146
Minnetonka Beach, MN 55361

MINNETONKA BEACH - Dock Committee

Chair:
Jeff Steinke

Vice Chair:
Jim Knudsen

Members:
Jack Foss, Jim Knudsen, Lucian Panait, Todd Pottebaum, Jeff Steinke, Dan Van Handel, and John Whitaker

Staff/Other:
City Council Liaison Tracey Breazeale, City Administrator Heidi Honey & City Clerk Jane Burgess

Dock Committee Meeting Agenda
Monday, November 25, 2024 - 5:30 pm

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Approve Agenda**

3. **Approve Minutes**
   3.1. October 28, 2024 Dock Committee Meeting Minutes

4. **Old Business**
   4.1. City Council Objective - Explore Improved Configurations at Beach Docks 12-16 and Recommendation

5. **Adjournment**

City of the Village of Minnetonka Beach
Dock Committee Meeting Minutes - UNAPPROVED
October 30, 2024 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Present: Chair Jeff Steinke, Vice Chair Jim Knudsen; Committee Members: Jack Foss, Lucian Panait, Todd Pottebaum, Dan Van Handel, Johnny Whitaker
Absent: Council Liaison Tracey Breazeale
Guests: None

Staff: City Administrator Heidi Honey, City Clerk Jane Burgess, Public Works Superintendent Jason Hilgers

1. Call to Order
   Chair Steinke called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approve Agenda

(Pottebaum motion, Foss second to approve the agenda of October 30, 2024. All ayes.). Motion passed.

3. Approve Minutes of September 26, 2024 Dock Committee meeting

(Van Handel motion, Whitaker second to approve the September 26, 2024 Dock Committee meeting minutes. All ayes.) Motion passed.

4. Old Business
   4.1. City Council Objective – Explore Improved Configurations at Beach Docks 12-16
   Steinke stated that at the last Docks meeting there were questions and clarification needed. The answers provided by City Council and others are in an email that is page 8 of the packet.
   - What does good or success look like? Council made a motion at their October 7,2024 meeting supporting the Park Commission's recommendation asking the Dock Committee to achieve Parks motion to open up the swim beach views by 150' prioritizing the southwest view.

     Additional discussion: Parks recommended detail to the original Dock Commission objective. A map in the packet shows 150 ft, and docks displaced to meet their 150' request. Steinke stated up until now, they were working on a generally stated objective to improve views, safety and water quality. They have focused on safety and views because the swim beach water passed all tests this summer. This input from Parks recommends 150 ft of view from the beach and that is new information for the Dock Committee. The motion from the Council meeting was on page 8. The park commission motion was also in the packet which supports Parks.

   - Requested Comprehensive Plan excerpts specific to the swim beach and docks: Page 12 of this meeting packet have the comp plan excerpts from the October 7, 2024 Council packet related to swim beach and views.

   - Timeline: City Council requested a plan be presented at their November 12 meeting, and if they cannot meet that deadline tell them why and also an appropriate date when one will be submitted.

   - What are quantifiable measures improved views? Answer: See answer to #1.

   Whitaker then reported on the pier concept discussed at the previous meeting. The cost for this system is approximately $235,000 for the 25 slips configured as previously presented in a "U" or rectangular shape on the south side. Boathouses are not allowed with this system. Installation would be $60,000 annually, $30,000 each for in and out. Van Handel thought this cost is similar to buying all new docks. The dock would still be wobbly depending on the amount of muck at the lake bottom.

Whitaker had a question for Parks and Council. He stated a neighbor wanted to donate a skateboard half pipe to the city, but Park Commission recommended declining the donation and one of the main reasons was that they did not want to draw non-residents to the park. He then stated if the view is opened a large amount, the city will draw non-residents to the city beach. He thinks Parks and Council should considerer this unintended consequence. He added that this configuration is very dangerous to maneuver.

Steinke stated the cons for the pier concept are #1 safety, and #2 cost. Prevailing wind is south and west. It would be very difficult to navigate when it is windy. Van Handel agreed that with his wake boat, it would be very unsafe to navigate. Pottebaum would be very hesitant to put this in front of Council because of stability and safety concerns. It could create liabilities for Council. The same reasons apply to the proposed reconfiguration with existing docks.

Knudsen asked if they rotated the layout 90 degrees. They would need to go out 200 ft or have two piers going out not as far. The proposed configuration to the south does not improve views. The views will always be compromised with any docks there. The further out you go, the less safe it is and it may impact views more. To go out 200 ft, they need to give up 50% of the shoreline.

Whitaker understands Parks' wish but with safety issues and feasibility, he thinks there are unintended consequences with the reconfiguration. Commissioners agreed that the current configuration is the safest with all boats pulling straight in. Steinke recommended removing boathouses and leaving lift canopies on for one year to see if it would make a difference. He stated it accomplishes what they were originally tasked with. They have now risen the bar and asked for 150 ft but he thinks they can still accomplish the original objective of improving views by removing boathouses. This was Dennis Klohs' recommendation also. There was discussion about polling all slip holders in the city about removing boat houses. Van Handel expressed concerns about removing boathouses and that it may look worse with all the boats at various heights and all of their stuff being exposed.

Whitaker distributed his/Pottebaum's proposal titled "Phased Dock Reconfiguration and Boathouse Standardization Plan". The plan would require current renters to transition to green boat houses and new renters must have green ones. Two slips closest to the swim beach will be relocated as slips are vacated. Specifics of plan:

Phased Dock Reconfiguration and Boathouse Standardization Plan
This plan is designed to meet the city Council's goals of improving lake views, enhancing safety, and protecting water quality, all while preserving essential access for non-riparian users. It balances the immediate needs of current renters with a long-term vision for a more inviting and accessible lakefront community that honors safety, accessibility, and natural beauty.
By phasing in these changes over time, we ensure that progress aligns with Council objectives without causing significant disruption. Key benefits include respecting current renters' rights, enhancing visual cohesion, and gradually improving lake views while preserving accessibility and safety. This solution supports Council goals while creating a lakefront space that current renters and future generations alike can enjoy.

Proposal Outline

1. Grandfathering and Retaining Current Rights

- **Existing Boat Houses:** Current renters are grandfathered in and may retain their existing boathouses but need to transition to green canopies by 2035.
- **New Renters and Canopy Standards:** Upon vacancy, new renters must convert to all canopies to green.

2. Incremental Relocation and Reconfiguration

- **Gradual Relocation:** As slips are vacated, two slips closest to the swim beach will be incrementally relocated to improve lake views, prioritizing those obstructing key sightlines closest to the swim beach.
- **Safety Preservation:** The current configuration minimizes risks and enhances safe navigation and docking, especially during strong west and southwest winds, which are common in this area. Preserving this layout supports safe and effective boating.
- **Minimal Disruption:** This phased approach minimizes disruptions to current renters.

3. Standardized Boathouse Guidelines by 2035

- **Uniform Appearance:** By 2035, all boathouses will adhere to a standardized design and color scheme, creating a visually cohesive dock area that enhances the lakefront's appearance.
- **Phase-in Approach:** Renters with non-green canopies have until 2035 to meet the new standards, allowing for a smooth transition without immediate impacts.

Key Benefits

- **Minimal Disruption:** The plan respects current renters' rights by phasing in changes gradually, allowing time for adaptation.
- **Aesthetic Improvement:** Standardized canopy colors enhance the lakefront's visual appeal.
- **Safety and Long-term View Enhancement:** The current configuration prioritizes safe docking conditions in common high-wind areas. Incremental relocation of innermost slips improves lake views while maintaining non-riparian access, fostering an inviting and balanced lakefront community.

Knutsen distributed an excerpt from the Comprehensive Plan p. 48 which is the lake access plan and talks about preserving the number of allocated slips. Steinke added that the city also should not decrease the quality of the slips by moving to an inferior location. This was also referenced in Dennis Klohs' email documenting dock history. Whiteker stated to get a view, they will have to make a concession.

Steinke recommended removing boathouses for one year as he sees that as least disruptive. Pottebaum thought that was most disruptive because 24-25 people who are accustomed to having lifts have to store them at people's homes and that disrupts the harmony of the neighborhood. This takes something away from people who have been used to having it. This proposal is by attrition and will not impact anyone. He added this is a compromise and least disruptive.

Pottebaum stated the boathouses camouflage a lot. Van Handel recommended all boathouses at the same height.

Whitaker stated these are the best slips in Minnetonka Beach. They are the most convenient, there is a park there for kids to run around while parents load or unload the boat, and they are the safest. He has lived next to two city dock locations in the past and others are tricky for different reasons. He would like to remove the least number possible because these are the prime slips.

Pottebaum stated there is no perfect solution but this proposal for moving two docks is a reasonable compromise. If Council likes the proposal, they can see how it goes with moving two slips. One slip has vacated, and everyone would move over one spot.

Jim Dudley asked to speak. Steinke allowed it. Dudley stated they need to be careful yielding to a few people. There are many people living in the beach who are slip renters and have been here decades. When talking about removing canopies, that is serving one person's need or desire. Slip renters with boathouses are using them to protect their valuable assets. He went on to say that Council's suggestion is idealistic and the only residents using the beach consistently are Jack Foss, and Dennis and Kathy Klohs who sit at the same bench regardless of if the docks are installed or not. The beach is overwhelmingly used by people who do not live in the city. It is used by workers at lunchtime and people coming into the city to look at the sunset or sit there. He stated Whitaker had a valid point, and when the City started to see nonresidents using the beach, it installed the "Parking by Permit Only" signs to prevent the beach from being overwhelmed by nonresidents so residents could enjoy it. Dudley then suggested if they wanted to proceed with Whitaker's proposal, they would tell Council, while we respect what you suggested, these are the reasons we cannot do that: we can't realign the docks because of safety concerns, we looked at the feasibility of putting docks out further and it is very difficult, if views are greatly widened it will be like Wayzata swim beach where people come in from everywhere which is an unintended consequence that nobody had thought about, slip renters who have had these slips for many years do not want these changes, and residents across the street don't complain about the views. Council should think about all of these things and provide an in depth response. He did not think the Dock Committee has to yield to what Council is saying, and Council can choose to do whatever they want. He suggested the Dock Committee do what is best for the slip holders.

There was discussion about polling residents, and complexity of questions.

Whitaker discussed who lives there and who rents there and the impact on them. Rosendahl commented that moving two slips does not seem like it impacts anyone, but it does impact those on the waiting list. City docks are built into the value stream of properties and people bought homes here knowing that. Steinke suggested Rosendahl express these comments to Council at the November 12 meeting. Honey stated that residents may only comment during open forum for items not on the agenda and they may only comment on agenda items if called upon by the Mayor.

Steinke discussed locations to relocate the two slips. There are two jet ski slips at Arcola that could be reconfigured into one but that would not be a relocation.

Van Handel motion to reiterate why they do not want to make any changes and Dudley outlined.

(There were many conversations happening all at once)

Van Handel motion to not make changes to the current configuration given concerns for safety, and also to help preserve the number and location of desired boat slips (City Comprehensive Plan p. 48).

Whitaker feels they have conflicting ideas with Parks wanting to open views to 150 ft and that Parks doesn't want to encourage nonresident beach use and then Council mandating views. He agrees with Van Handel but he wants to come up with a solution that would be a compromise for Parks, Council and Docks to make it better. He doesn't want to send a motion that would remove the Dock Committee from the conversation.

There was a discussion that giving Council a proposal like Whitaker's instead of Van Handel's motion would likely be better received by Council. The committee is working hard to work through this and has put in a lot of effort. There was discussion about getting community input. Pottebaum asked how Parks communicated to Council and now Council is communicating with Docks. He wondered if it was a timing issue with getting the input between Docks and Parks. Honey explained that there is a Council liaison for each committee and commission. Breazeale is the liaison for both Docks and Parks. Breazeale was unable to attend the October 1 Parks meeting and Mayor Pagano attended in her place. Whatever is discussed at the meeting is then reported back to the Council at their next meeting. It was part of an agenda item at the meeting. Panait stated he serves as a volunteer on both Parks and Docks. He was at the Parks meeting and confirmed Breazeale usually attends, and he was surprised to see Mayor Pagano there. He thought it seemed like Pagano had already had some discussion with a Park Commission member who suggested the 150 ft opening. There were some numbers discussed and rounding. He stated he was surprised by it because it was not based on any evidence.

Whitaker asked if they can suggest that their first answer is no change, it is too much of a loss of a city asset and the most safe. If change is required, let's start with moving one dock and see how it goes this summer. They can do this next season. Rosendahl asked who measures success. There was discussion that it is subjective. Whitaker thinks they were out maneuvered by the Park Commission making a recommendation to Council even though Docks has been working on this all year. Now they must respond to Parks requesting 150 ft. One dock would increase the opening to 69.5 ft.

Foss asked if people swim there. There are people who swim there. Foss stated the benches are set around the half circle which directs the views and the kids are centralized right there. He does not understand why the additional space is needed because as the benches and sand is set up, you are directed to see between the two sides of the docks. The benches do not need to be separated 150 ft apart. The houses are high enough so there is no issue. Foss stated they have lost slips through lawsuits, the beach is very favorable and they were moved there. He does not think there will be increased beach usage if the view is widened.

(There were multiple conversations happening at one time.)

Pottebaum stated if ideas one and two don't work, and Council wants a full analysis for a full reconfiguration this committee is not qualified to do a feasibility study. Volunteers are well intended and cannot provide the actual data they are looking for. This committee is a willing partner in the solution and not saying they are not willing to find one.

Knudsen stated this approach is not proposing anything. Van Handel stated if their opinion that relocating or reconfiguring slips is not safe is not good, and Council really values the slips and wants to preserve them, they need expert help.

Panait supports Whitaker's proposal. It will significantly improve views if canopies are the same color and height.

Whitaker summarized no change to configuration and require all green canopies by 2027. Steinke thinks this is not enough to satisfy Council. He encouraged them to provide as much detail on a plan for Council.

Whitaker asked if his proposal would be enough of a plan for Council. Steinke stated it is a start. He added that he does not think 150 ft is achievable, but he thinks they can achieve the original objective to improve the views which is achievable but not measurable. Van Handel said it is achieving a balance and that is why he is focusing on color and height of boathouses. Steinke state he thinks Council will not think Docks increased the view by visually unifying the boathouses. There was discussion about if Council understands the value of the beach slips where people pay a lot to live in the neighborhood and they can take golf carts to the boat and kids can play while parents get the boat ready. Moving slips from that safe and ideal location to Shoreline is not logical and very undesirable. That's why other slips have been moved to the beach. Everyone would love better views but the slips are very valuable to the community. Whitaker explained that it is like there are different conversations happening in a vacuum and there's a bit of a breakdown so he thinks it would be nice if they could present to Council so they understand all that went into this, and not just providing a plan. The minimal change proposal has been very well thought out. Steinke agreed and stated how it will be received by Council is the unknown.

Panait suggested a meeting with Parks, Docks and Council. Steinke is not sure that Parks understands all of the different ideas they have explored and the difficulty of this task. He suggested Parks may think there are more locations to move slips to than are available. Moving slips to 15 is extremely dangerous and not accessible. Knutsen stated the reality is that they do not have places to move 6 slips. Steinke stated they receiving a request for 150 ft tells him that Parks does not have an appreciation for how challenging this is. There was discussion that Parks does not understand the Comp Plan Lake Access Plan. Steinke stated Parks may think Docks has more move options than they do to work with. Pottebaum stated this is not consistent with the comprehensive plan. Van Handel read from Comp Plan Lake Access Plan Parks and Open Space Goal 4 (p.48): "Require that the public lake access be open to all residents" and stated if you put additional slips on 15, and you have multiple kids under the age of 12, that is not accessible, it's dangerous. Steinke suggested part of the motion be making note and making others aware that what Parks is asking us to do is really not achievable because there is no place to relocate these docks and City can't just lose them. Knudsen stated they need to be educated on the dock program adding that at the Council meeting, one of the members thought slip renters had deeded lake rights as non riparian landowners which is incorrect. It is loosely in the City Charter and reinforced by the Comprehensive Plan, so they need to be educated. Steinke stated the "why" behind the motion is important. Van Handel stated the Comp Plan requires public lake access be open to all residents and preserve the number of the City's allocated boat slips. He added other concerns of property values, and safety is #1. Whitaker stated Council should make the decision of moving a slip to 15 because it is unsafe. Its safety versus a view. Docks does not want that liability. Steinke supported that as a strong "why".

Commissioners discussed the "why" for their motion. Safety concerns for navigation of boats with a different configuration. There are kids in the water, kids on boats, and the bigger concern is hitting people not hitting other boats. Slips on 15 are not safe and accessible. Collapsing and giving up slips is contrary to the City's Comprehensive Plan. However, if more is needed a professional is needed to do a feasibility study because the volunteers of the committee have exhausted their ideas amongst themselves. Whitaker feels like they have given them what they thought (minimal change) and then they got back from Parks 150 ft and that made it even harder. He thinks the dialog needs to be opened to get a better idea or a joint solution. Steinke talked about a meeting with Parks so both parties understand the conversations that are taking place and they could come together on a solution. It is a step in the right direction. They would all love 150 ft views but they need to talk through solutions. There are complexities and many challenges that they would like Parks to understand. Panait agreed that should be the next step. Panait stated the Parks meeting ended with Parks saying they would like 150 ft views and it is up to Docks to figure that out and Docks is currently unable to do that without a budget and experts or a feasibility study. They need to come together to figure it out. The U shape solution is not feasible, Docks thinks it is highly unsafe and it is the only reconfiguration to explore with the PUD. It has been exhausted. There was discussion about using a surveyor but typically they will take an idea to him for him to lay it out to see if it works.

There was a request to invite the mayor to the meeting also since Breazeale is the liaison to both committees and it seems they should have another liaison there. With two people from the Parks sitting on Docks, this should be worked out but they just got notice of the 15 ft request a week before the meeting.

Pottebaum motion, Van Handel second retain the current swim beach docks configuration to maintain safety and the City's Comprehensive Plan. Additionally, by 2027, all slips would be required to have forest green canopies, and boat houses. Ayes – Foss, Knudsen, Panait, Pottebaum, Van Handel, Whitaker;

During the vote Steinke asked if he could abstain. There was discussion about the chair voting or abstaining from a vote. Honey stated the chair cannot make a motion, but he can second a motion and can vote. She added that he can do what he chooses. Honey also stated that anyone can abstain, but they are appointed to make difficult decisions and abstention is usually when someone could personally profit from the decision. The mayor only votes in a tie. Steinke stated he does not think this motion improves the views. There was discussion about moving Chip's slip and additional discussion that they did not feel there was anywhere for it to go.

During the vote another discussion started about the open slip. Knudsen reported that at the Council meeting, Council wanted a hold on the wait list for swim beach docks. He asked if the slip vacated by Chip Zawislak will be filled or not. Honey redirected back to the vote.

Pottebaum motion, Van Handel second retain the current swim beach docks configuration to maintain safety and the City's Comprehensive Plan. Additionally, by 2027, all slips would be required to have forest green canopies, and boat houses. Ayes – Foss, Knudsen, Panait, Pottebaum, Van Handel, Whitaker; Nay – Steinke (for the reason that it does not meet the objective and does not improve views). Motion passed.

Pottebaum motion, Van Handel second to establish a joint Parks and Docks meeting to explore the Parks motion, review challenges, and explore new options to create a joint solution. All ayes; Motion passed.

Foss stated that Steinke needs to explain there have been 100s of hrs. put in this, with outside consultants, and input from many people including neighbors to the swim beach. There is probably no other information to gather. They are unsure the docks can be relocated anywhere, and they cannot lose slips.

Knudsen asked if the Dock Commission update is scheduled for the next Council meeting. Honey stated it is. He said maybe Council will accept the first motion and direct them to work with Parks, or maybe they will come back with something else. It is unknown but if they ask for 6 slips to be relocated, they will end up 4 losing slips and that was not the intention and not a solution.

There was support for Steinke to delve deeper into "why" they made the motions that they did when he reports to Council. Docks does not want Council to think they are not trying hard. They have spent a lot of time and want a good solution. Richie Anderson spent a lot of time on configurations, and tried to make it safe as possible, and they did not find a solution that would work. His best option is unsafe. Docks is now responding to Parks request.

5. Adjourn

(Pottebaum motion, Foss second to adjourn; all ayes.) Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Others present: Jim Dudley, Wayne Ramaker, and John Rosendahl

Minutes taken by City Administrator Heidi Honey

Swim Beach Docks Objective for Views Updated 11/19/2024
(For Park Commission and Dock Committee Use)

At the 11/12/2024 City Council meeting, the Council discussed four options for the Park Commission and Dock Committee to discuss and make a recommendation on. They requested that both groups review the same options and have the same criteria and packet materials for their review. Option 5 was added by Administrator Honey after discussion with Liaison Breazeale, Chair Petersen and Chair Steinke to include an option that met Park Commission's initial recommendation.

The five options are:

1. Keep current configuration at the swim beach docks (no improvement to views)
2. Relocate the two interior slips at dock locations #14 and #15 (improve open vista by 30')
3. Relocate the two interior slips at #14 and #15 AND eliminate boathouses but allow lifts without canopies at five of the seven remaining slips at #14 and #15 (improves vista by 30' feet and partially improve 75' of vistas)
4. Relocating all seven of the nine slips at #14 and #15. (improves vista by a full 105' to 162')
5. Relocate 5 docks at #14 and #15 (improve vista by approximately 150')

Criteria for evaluating each of the five options:

1. Provides all lake users a reasonable view
2. Reduce risk of boats encroaching on swimming area
3. Demonstrates empathy for current Swim Beach slip renters
4. Demonstrates empathy for park users and slip renters
5. Preserves the number of slips within the City's dock rental program

Categorize each of the five options using the following criteria:

1. This is our preferred option and why
2. We could live with this option
3. We could not support this option and why

Rate each of the five options from 1 – most preferred to 5-least preferred

Packet materials to aid in your evaluation of the five options:
Tracey Breazeale's Summary
Comprehensive Plan Excerpts
Site Plan Map
Park Commission meeting minutes from October 2024
Dock Committee meeting minutes from September and October 2024

Additional items for your recommendation that have been previously discussed: attrition strategy, grandfathered privileges, starting in 2025 season, post 2026 season evaluation of progress.

Docks Discussion

Council's Direction to Docks

- Explore and recommend opportunities to enhance the broader resident experience at and around the swim beach to improve: Lake Views, Safety and Water Quality
    - Water quality largely taken off the table since tough to know impact docks have and no beach closures in 2024. Parks will continue to monitor.
- Share the Shore to provide improve park/beach experience for all residents
- Original direction lacked a quantifiable goal. Docks requested clearer objectives. Parks was asked for their input - suggestion was to open the view to 150 feet.
- Solution needs to maintain slips for non-riparians somewhere in city
- Show empathy - for slip renters and for community

Brief Overview of History

- Number of slips at beach has grown over the years - combination of loss at other locations and desirability of beach docks
- Size of boats/slips has grown
- Number and size of boathouses has grown
- Result is that beach park is not particularly inviting for swimmers or for people wanting to enjoy summer views

Docks Recommendation

- Docks along with involved city volunteers have been working diligently. They have put in many hours, likely close to 100
- Considered multiple new dock layouts to try to open the view and maintain same number of slips at beach: U-shaped at south or north end, pier "T" format
- Unfortunately none are feasible due to cost, safety
- At last meeting docks recommended keeping docs exactly as they are - Chair Steinke did not feel this accomplished the mission they were given and was the only one to vote against the motion
- Other ideas have been brought forward -
- At docs meeting Whittaker/Pottebaum put forward a proposal to relocate the 2 docks closest to the swim beach through attrition
- At an earlier meeting Dennis Klohs suggested elimination of all boathouses

Subgroup recap (Dock's Chair Jeff Steinke, Mayor Joe Pagano, Docks/Parks Liaison Tracey Breazeale

- Confirmation that slips could be added elsewhere in city - 2 at Arcola, multiple along 15, investigating others
- After much discussion, subgroup proposes council discuss:
- Build off the Whittaker/Pottebaum proposal and combine with partial Klohs idea
- Through ATTRITION relocate 2 slips closest to swim beach to other areas (probably Arcola)

- AND remove boathouses for the slips on interior of #14 and #15 (total of 5 additional slips) through ATTRITION and lift campsites.
- Continue to permit ALL slips at beach to have lifts
- Consider optimal arrangement of slips for "clean look" largest on the outside, moving to smaller on inside, then no boathouse
- Docks evaluate program/pricing for ways to highlight attractiveness of all spots
- Parks and Docks work together to enhance the ambiance of Arcola area

City Clerk

LMCD REP TO THE CITY AND RESIDENT

From: Dennis Klohs <dennis.klohs@me.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 10:02 AM
To: City Admin; City Clerk
Subject: Docks at Beach

Heidi and Jane,

The long complicated history of non-riparian access to the lake continues. We can all agree the city made a major mistake in 1979 when they vacated lake frontage on the east side of Huntington Point without specifying exactly how they wanted to retain non-riparian access into the future.

There has been good input from the dock committee/parks and council. So here we are - what now? After all my time on the LMCD and being involved in dock location lawsuits, I know one thing for sure - the city does not want compromise non-riparian access. All council decisions on relocating docks were based on "no harm done". This meant when docks were moved, the new location had to be comparable and as SAFE. This was accomplished, with additional slips at the swimming beach.

So as to not repeat 1979 - No slips should be removed from the swimming beach. The city could remove canopies adjacent to the swimming area through attrition until the view corridor is determined adequate. This will take time - give it a chance.

Dennis Klohs
612-867-2972
Sent from my iPad

Relevant Comprehensive Plan Quotes

I. Community Character Statement (Page 7)
   a. "The Comprehensive Plan articulates the official City polices used to sustain, build and guide the community to maintain and improve upon the Community's unique Character".
   b. "Guiding Principle "e"-Protect our lake and lake views

II. Parks Goal #1 (Pages 40 and 41)
   a. "Protect, maintain and improve the Minnetonka Beach Parks and Recreational System for the safe use and enjoyment of residents and visitors"
   b. Policy 1.1 "Both the parks and open spaces aesthetics and function should be satisfied including: Establishing a pleasing experience and appropriate appearances for the park user and adjoining neighbors"
   c. Policy 1.2: "It is the policy of the City of Minnetonka Beach to work with the Park Commission to maintain and improve existing park and open spaces to meet the needs of residents of all ages (by) empowering the Park Commission to oversee and make recommendations regarding all park, public open spaces and recreational facilities, including policies related to their uses and strategies to implement such policies".
   d. Policy 1.4 Strategy: "Views of the lake, historic and natural amenities should be emphasized and protected."

III. City Swimming Beach Plan (Page 45)
   a. Design Standard: "maintain clear area around the swimming area as indicated on the site plan preserving the beach from encroachments from docks and boat traffic."

IV. Parks and Open Space Goal 7 (Page 51) Strategies:
   a. "Massing of structures on the lakeshore should be limited"
   b. "Preserve the City's boat slips"
   c. "When appropriate, review and update the residential dock system

LAKE ACCESS PLAN

This section of the Parks and Open Space Element of the Comprehensive Plan sets public policy to maintain and enhance access to Lake Minnetonka for Minnetonka Beach residents. The City open space includes fire lanes (public rights-of-way) that are an extension of platted and owned roads and Lake access on Smith Bay, Lafayette Bay and Crystal Bay. These open spaces are used to provide Lake access including private residence docks to Lake Minnetonka.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE GOAL 4: MAINTAIN AND CREATE ACCESS TO LAKE MINNETONKA.

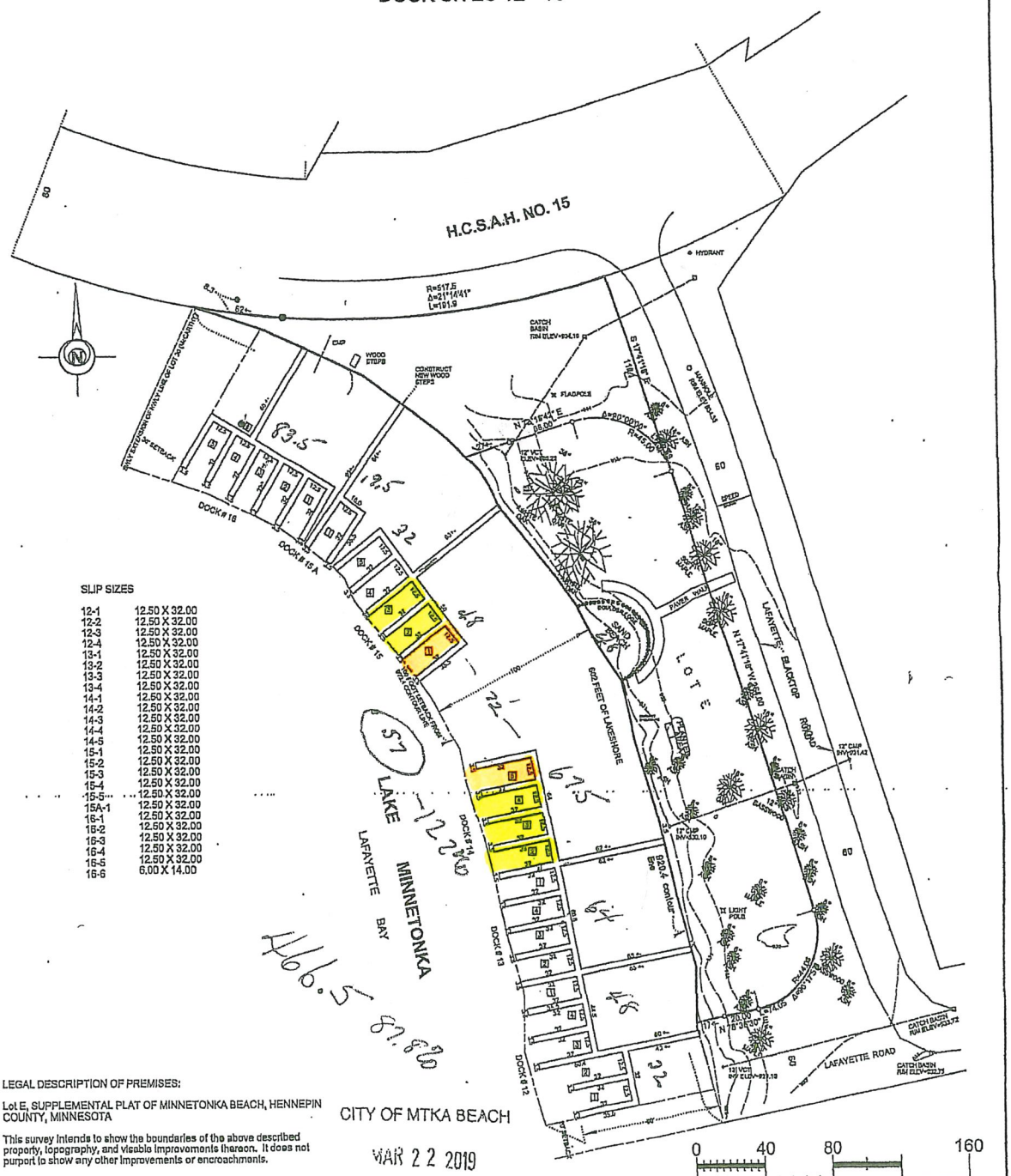
Policy 4.1: It is the policy of the City of Minnetonka Beach to preserve, maintain and create Lake Access for each home in Minnetonka Beach.

Strategies:

- Preserve and enhance Minnetonka Beach's public lake accesses at each of the "fire lanes," Lafayette Bay access areas, and Crystal Bay access area.
- Use the public lake accesses for dock installation, green space, public utilities, storm water retention and bio retention basin only.
- Require that the public lake access be open to all residents.
- Require that dock space be allocated to residents by an equitable system.
- Require that all docks be installed, maintained and removed in accord with the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District and City Code.
- Maintain the accesses as green space without additional impervious surfaces and limit vehicle access to City maintenance, dock installation and dock removal.
- Preserve the number of City's allocated boat slips.
- Treat storm water runoff utilizing best practices for retention and filtering.

APPROVED 5/8/19

BOUNDARY AND TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY FOR
THE CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF MINNETONKA BEACH
OF LOT E, SUPPLEMENTAL PLAT OF MINNETONKA BEACH
HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA
DOCK SITES 12 - 16



SLIP SIZES

12-1	12.50 X 32.00
12-2	12.50 X 32.00
12-3	12.50 X 32.00
12-4	12.50 X 32.00
13-1	12.50 X 32.00
13-2	12.50 X 32.00
13-3	12.50 X 32.00
13-4	12.50 X 32.00
14-1	12.50 X 32.00
14-2	12.50 X 32.00
14-3	12.50 X 32.00
14-4	12.50 X 32.00
14-5	12.50 X 32.00
15-1	12.50 X 32.00
15-2	12.50 X 32.00
15-3	12.50 X 32.00
15-4	12.50 X 32.00
15-5	12.50 X 32.00
15A-1	12.50 X 32.00
16-1	12.50 X 32.00
16-2	12.50 X 32.00
16-3	12.50 X 32.00
16-4	12.50 X 32.00
16-5	12.50 X 32.00
16-6	6.00 X 14.00

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PREMISES:

Lot E, SUPPLEMENTAL PLAT OF MINNETONKA BEACH, HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

This survey intends to show the boundaries of the above described property, topography, and visable improvements thereon. It does not purport to show any other improvements or encroachments.

o : Denotes iron marker
—932—: Denotes existing contour line

Bearings are based on an assumed datum.

CITY OF MTKA BEACH
MAR 2 2 2019
RECEIVED

0 40 80 160
SCALE IN FEET

DESIGNED	REVISION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
	1	3-22-19	REVISIONS TO DOCK 15A AND 16
DRAWN			
CHECKED			

GRONBERG & ASSOCIATES, INC.
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS
SITE PLANNERS
440 N. WILLOW DR. LONG LAKE, MN. 55356
952-473-4141

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN, SPECIFICATION, OR REPORT WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER AND LAND SURVEYOR UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

Richard S. Gronberg
DATE 3-22-19 MN LICENSE NUMBER 12755

SCALE	1"=40'
DATE	12-2-09
JOB NO.	19-063

Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 5:30 PM
CITY OF MINNETONKA BEACH
PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:	**Chair Kim Petersen, Vice Chair Laura Paine**
	Commissioners: Dave Christiansen, Jolynn Gamble, Lucian Panait and Patty Rezabek
Absent:	**Curt Holt**
Staff Present:	**City Clerk Jane Burgess and Public Works Superintendent Jason Hilgers**
Council Liaison:	**Mayor Pagano**
Guests:	

Petersen opened the meeting at 5:32 pm.

Oath of Office – Dave Christiansen and Patty Rezabek
Burgess administered the Oath of Office to Christiansen and Rezabek with terms expiring August 2027

1. Minnetonka Beach Business

1.1. Approve Agenda – October 1, 2024

Panait motion, Rezabek second to approve the October 1, 2024, meeting agenda. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

1.2. Approve Minutes – August 6, 2024

Burgess amended the minutes as requested.

Christiansen motion, Rezabek second to approve the August 6, 2024 meeting minutes as amended. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

2. Administration

2.1. Administrative Calendar - LP

Rezabek asked if there will be tree planting this fall and Petersen said she would discuss that later in the meeting. Petersen stated that there is one more meeting this year and she reminded commissioners to turn in invoices or receipts to Burgess no later than November 22nd. She added that she will be presenting the 2025-2029 5TP final draft to the City Council on October 7th and will request approval of it.

2.2. 2024 Budget Audit - KP

Petersen stated that the Park Commission will finish the year within the approved budget. Rezabek stated that she still has not heard back from Prairie Restoration for Invasives Removal (Buckthorn.) Petersen stated that Pleasant View Gardens also does Buckthorn Removal so the commission can get another bid. They reviewed recent invoices received at the City, invoices yet to be billed, and discussed what work came in under budget.

- Public Works and Hard Asset Spend Down Plan – JH
- Green Team Spend Down Plan – CH
- City Hall Spending - JB

2.3. 2025 Draft Budget Review and Approved in October by City Council.- KP

Petersen stated that the total Park Commission budget for 2025 is the same as 2024 at $19,800 for Parks without Public Works whose new budget for Parks is $18,950 or $34,800 together for 2025 total. There were some reallocation of categories done and shifting of Public Works projects.

2.4. Parks 2025-2029 Five Year Plan

- Final Draft to City Council – October 7
  Petersen will present the 2025-2029 Five Year Plan to City Council on October 7th. Tonight an approval motion is needed for the plan. Commissioners praised Petersen for all her efforts in creating this plan and she added that Breazeale and Paine helped greatly with the project. Pagano stated that every deadline was met with this project creation. Petersen stated that Burgess will create a binder with tabs housing the new plan to pass on to the next generation of Park Commissioners. Petersen expressed her thanks for the plan template created by Pagano when he was on the Park Commission.

Rezabek motion, Paine second to approve the 2025 – 2029 Five Year Plan and recommend City Council approval. All ayes, the motion carried.

- Project Recommendations
  1. Shoreline Restoration
     They discussed the Crystal Bay Shoreline Rip Rap project and the fact that Niccum, who is doing the project has staffing issues that may delay the project which is being paid for by CIP funds. Niccum is honoring his quoted price which is good. They also discussed asking the City Council for approval to pursue an Opportunity Grant for the green space on the Crystal Bay shoreline. Parks will work with the DNR to help determine the scope and timeline of the three-year project implementation. There will be more details presented at the Council meeting.

  2. Reforestation of Arcola Woods Water Treatment Plant site
     They discussed partnering with the City to do this reforestation project and also work with Hennepin County.

  3. Forest Restoration and Stewardship
     Petersen stated that areas in need at Half Moon Park and Ray Peters Park will be evaluated to focus tree planting efforts for next year as many trees were lost there. There is more sunlight now so the natural forest can be brought back to that area. She added that the strip of land on the left side of the path going up to Ray Peters from Half Moon Park has not been maintained. This area should be amended to make it a woodland floor instead of a garden that needs maintenance. Christiansen used the brush hog there too to cut back invasives. They will use the 2006 Forest Restoration and Management Plan that was created for Minnetonka Beach as a guide. Christiansen asked if that area will be sprayed this year, and they discussed whether to do it now or wait until spring. Hilgers recommended waiting until spring as the area looks great right now. Petersen is hoping that the Tree Trust will have trees in the spring that can help in the City – at this time they do not have any available.

     Hilgers noted that City turf was looking great and then the rain stopped…..

3, Operations

3.1. SPOC (Single Point of Contact) Updates

- Green Asset Team – CH, KP, PR, DC
  They discussed hiring Grounds Crew to do two spraying in back of City Hall to eradicate the invasive Snow on the Mountain problem. Hilgers added soil and seeded the area along the sidewalk, and it looks great now. The Hosta that was there always turned brown at the end of summer, so it's gone it is gone and now there is a clean simple look there. Hilgers added that

he will have the irrigation redone so water can reach areas farther away. They discussed how good the native plantings look and that C20 was applied around trees in Lafayette Park to help them.

- Hard Asset Team – JH, LP
  Hilgers put gravel down on the walking trail along Shoreline Drive. He added that Hennepin County might cut down 10-12 Ash trees next to the Dakota Trail this winter. That will leave 3-4 trees left there that are non-Ash. The City might be able to use money to buy larger trees than the size that Hennepin County will be planting which could be seedlings or bareroot. The commission can discuss this over the winter. They discussed that Bi-annually there is money in the budget for EAB and tree replacement next up for 2026. They will discuss this at a later date. They discussed the Diane Rogers Garden on Arcola on the Hennepin County Rail Authority's land and Hilgers said he will meet with them to see what they want to do with that garden. Hennepin County Rail has authority over 55 miles of corridor along the Dakota Trail and they are addressing the privatization issues that many residents have done along there. The goal is to determine what CAN be done for Minnetonka Beach residents who live along the trail, not what CAN'T be done. This includes mowing the promenade along the trail and Hilgers is waiting for an answer to that. He applied for a permit to mow along the promenade a year ago and has not received an answer if can mow the promenade.

  Panait stated that there were no beach closures this year as the beach water was tested each week by Hennepin County. No one knows why there were not high levels of E Coli all summer. Hilgers stated that the wind blew in a different direction than normal, so Tonka Bay had the weeds Minnetonka Beach normally does and they failed some water tests this summer. Panait praised Waterfront Restoration and Vi Hilgers for keeping the Swim Beach very clean this summer.

  Panait provided an update on the Swim Beach Docks issue from the recent Dock Committee meeting. He stated that at the committee's first meeting in May, resident and marina owner Richie Anderson presented dock layout plans he created as a possible solution to the Swim Beach Docks issue. The goal is to open up the view of the beach and lake for all residents and possibly reconfigure the docks. The commission discussed boat maneuvering difficulty with Anderson's plans due to wind and the design itself. The group then considered three different options. One option was canopy removal and just have covers for lifts but not canopy boathouses. The downside to this is boat heights will be all different with different kinds of boats. He added that no conclusion was reached about that possibility. The next step is the committee will ask for additional options from Anderson to be considered at the November 12th City Council meeting.

  Christiansen stated that he and Pagano had a discussion at the City's fall cleanup event about the history of the swim beach docks. He said that he was a member of the Park Commission at the time when more docks were added at the Swim Beach, and they were not involved in that new reconfiguration. Christiansen stated that the Dock Committee went directly to the Council with the reconfiguration and bypassed Parks. They discussed the City lawsuit history and how that affected City Docks and movement of them. Panait stated that a plan is under consideration to reduce the number of docks at the Swim Beach by two by attrition. One dock was vacated there this summer, and it may not be rented as an option. He added that the goal of how to open up the views at the Swim Beach is unclear at this time. He explained that a Lake Okoboji design was presented at the Docks meeting as a possibility by a resident who has experience with large dock installations. Other than that, there has only been one other professional involved so far and that is Anderson.

Christiansen asked the commission to consider what they want to see at the Swim Beach and what is their priority for that area. Parks should make a recommendation to the Council as they were tasked to do so taking into consideration Dock Committee Chair Steinke's clarifying questions and also the Comprehensive Plan.

Pagano stated that there needs to be collaboration amongst Docks and Parks, and in 2016 the Park Commission voiced these same concerns about the Swim Beach docks and the view at the beach. He shared the ***Share the Shore*** concept and referred to the Guiding Principles of the Comprehensive Plan to protect the views of the lake.

Petersen stated examples of other similar communities in Washington and Vermont that have swim beaches and docks, but do not have boathouses and lifts that impede the views of the water unless it is a marina. She added that the increased amount of docks at the Swim Beach has changed the character of Swim Beach Park, and it is not an open space for all right now. Rezabek agreed.

Panait stated that the City was not involved with the installation of boathouses at different heights and different colored canopies on them. He added that it is hard for a City to control things when they do not have ownership of it.

Christiansen stated that Panait provided a fair assessment, and it is difficult to reel established things back in and some residents may be frustrated and angry.

Rezabek stated that Swim Beach Park is a city park for all residents. She spoke about when there were only about five docks at the Swim Beach. She spoke of legal issues resulting in slips being moved to the Swim Beach.

They discussed people having personal agendas resulting in the view at the swim beach now just 57 feet wide. They discussed possibly removing boathouses, and some slips to widen the view. They discussed the difficulties with reconfiguration plans with variables such as wind and mucky bottoms, and how it does not feel safe swimming in Lafayette Bay.

Christiansen motion, Rezabek second that on behalf of the Park Commission's Oath to Protect, Maintain, and Improve the Parks and Public Lands of the City of Minnetonka Beach For the Safe Use and Enjoyment of All Its Residents, we support a plan to achieve a broader perspective and view at the Swim Beach at a minimum of 150 feet of exterior dimension between the south and north openings prioritizing a southwest view. All ayes, motion carried.

- Administrative & Financial – PR, JG, LP

4. Commissioner and Liaison Comments

Paine reviewed the park survey results. There were 24 total responses with 9 having various recommendations including swings, swimming, boating. 15 respondents provided usage responses with a list of a variety of items they would like to see at each park. When asked to look into the future and list what respondents would like to see in the parks there was a long list of suggestions. Some respondents answered the Safety Concerns question 4 items listed. Of note, many grandparents shared that they use the parks with their grandchildren.

Hilgers, Rezabek and Paine said the Fall Cleanup went great! Rezabek stated that this is the first event ever that families did not come to help – more individuals than famililes. There was wonderful representation

by Parks and City Council and all goals for picking up brush and branches on the trails were met. Rezabek suggested having another event. Petersen thanked everyone for helping.

Mayor Pagano complimented the event and said it was very well organized from snacks and drinks to Hilger's plan where everyone knew what to do. He added that the Park Commission has struck a high level of competency, and they are looking towards the future identifying realistic project priority lists.

5. Closing Comments and Adjournment Co-Chairs

Rezabek motion, Paine second to adjourn the October 1, 2024 Park Commission meeting. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Public in attendance:

Respectfully submitted,

_____

Jane Burgess, City Clerk

DRAFT

City of the Village of Minnetonka Beach
Dock Committee Meeting Minutes - UNAPPROVED
September 26, 2024 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Present: Chair Jeff Steinke, Vice Chair Jim Knudsen; Committee Members: Jack Foss, Lucian Panait, Todd Pottebaum, Dan Van Handel, John Whitaker; Council Liaison Tracey Breazeale
Absent: Chip Zawislak
Guests: None

Staff: City Administrator Heidi Honey, City Clerk Jane Burgess, Public Works Superintendent Jason Hilgers

1. Call to Order
   Chair Steinke called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. Approve Agenda

(Foss motion, Pottebaum second to approve the agenda of September 26, 2024. All ayes.). Motion passed.

3. Approve Minutes of February 6, 2024 Dock Committee meeting

(Van Handel motion, Panait second to approve the February 6, 2024 Dock Committee meeting minutes. All ayes.)
Motion passed.

4. Certificate of Appreciation – Chip Zawislak was unable to attend, a certificate will be mailed to him.

5. Old Business
   5.1. 2023 Fall Dock Removal Feedback
   Steinke stated it appears dock installation and removal is improving a great deal and that it is important to keep the new habits that have been established. Hilgers stated a new dock contractor will be taking care of the swim beach docks. Pottebaum stated the residents at the swim beach did not think the spring installation went well. Timelines and promises were not kept. They decided to move to a new contractor and hope for a better installation next spring.

   5.2. City Council Objective – Explore Improved Configurations at Beach Docks 12-16
   Steinke stated that Council charged the Dock Commission to explore and recommend to City Council opportunities to enhance the broader resident experiences at and around the swim beach to improve: Lake Views, Safety, and Water Quality."

   The swim beach was not closed the entire season due to water quality issues. Burgess was asked her opinion on why. She stated that there is no specific explanation for this besides the Hennepin County water testers performing testing properly, as tests were not done properly last year. The county made an emphasis on training for this season. The city has tracked storms, drought, geese, and many other potential reasons but found no pattern for high levels of e.coli.

   Steinke explained that their goal is to have a recommendation to City Council to improve beach docks. Although some committee members are swim beach slip renters, he asked that they all think of the broader community and ignore any personal interests. At a workshop in May 2024, many people attended who discussed various possible configurations and ideas. Steinke reviewed a chart in the packet which shows three ideas that came out of the workshop and pros and cons for each. They are:
   1. Reconfigure docks to the south in rectangle shape (similar to Excelsior),
   2. Move interior slips to other locations within the city (highly challenged/most difficult), and
   3. Remove boathouses and canvases but allow lift canopies (longest list of pros, least number of cons)

   Steinke referred to an email in the packet from LMCD representative Dennis Klohs who supported option #3.

Van Handel did not support #2. Pottebaum explained that it did not mean that current slips holders would be moved but, when a slip is vacated, the slip would be moved. Pottebaum also added a 4th option, which is to do nothing.

Van Handel asked if the 3rd option would adequately solve the issue. Whitaker did not know if that would eliminate a blocked view if lift canopies are allowed.

Steinke referred to Option #2 stating that James J. Hill's vision was for non-riparians to have equal access to the water and each slip available to a non-riparian is a golden nugget and something special for the community. The community does not want to give up any slip, and the consideration is to move some.

Breazeale asked Burgess how many slips could be moved to County Rd 15. She responded that she has no idea and Honey stated they did not know water depths or any other information and docks need to be located off of firelanes. They can't be on private property. The part off the golf course may be owned by the golf course or not city land. Whitaker suggested connecting slips along Shoreline to cluster them together and move slips there.

Foss stated he has been on a dock on Shoreline Dr (County Rd 15 and Lake Rd) for 50 years. Crossing is a negative as it is dangerous for adults and especially dangerous for children, and there is no parking. It is also very mucky. He does not think getting rid of boathouses makes a difference to improve views because boats are on lifts. He asked who is unhappy with the views. He has a kayak at the swim beach and does not see the beach used much. Most people who live across from the swim beach have a slip there. He is wondering where this is request coming from. He added that they have worked really hard to get what they have, and they have given slips up when property was given to adjacent homeowners and those slips had to be moved elsewhere. There has been a lot of movement of docks over history. He added that he is at the swim beach often and you can still see the sunset from the beach. He thinks this exercise takes a lot of time and he does not know if it is necessary.

Van Handel asked if Dock 15A would have to remain where it is currently located because it is a Priority 1 dock. Burgess and Honey explained that the property owner should be able to have a private dock but due to the curvature of the shore, it does not work. Honey doesn't know if the location would have to be the same. There was discussion that Dock 15 isn't a view blocking slip. Van Handel said if 15A isn't an issue than 16 shouldn't be considered a view blocker either. Burgess clarified the area they are talking about is Docks 14 and 15 where there is an open area between them. There was discussion about creating a PUD for a reconfiguration and going out 200 ft which requires including Dock 16. Whitaker questioned if the proposed reconfiguration is viable because of the wind, and muddy base of the lake. He stated Excelsior's similar shape reconfiguration works because they have permanent docks in a non-windy location, so it is a moot point. Wind causes his dock to shake at the end of it and he uses mud plates. Steinke summarized there challenges with wind and navigation as well as safety.

Whitaker asked if this exercise is to figure out if there is a great, easy solution or what the driver is. Breazeale stated the idea was to improve the views of the beach. Over time the swim beach was the easiest place to move docks to, it was the most desirable place to have docks, and boats and boathouses have gotten larger. Each of these "creeps" has created the view that is there now. Longer term residents have said the beach is not what it used to be, and it used be better for swimming. She stated is it difficult to know if the swim beach is not used much because it is not desirable or if people just live differently and their lives don't include going to the beach. She said the idea is to determine if there is any way at all to think creatively to get that feeling back. She asked if removing boathouses will make a difference or if they need more physical space and would they have to move slips to possibly less desirable locations but make them as advantageous as they could be. She stated that it is difficult because the city wants everyone to have a dock and that's what makes Minnetonka Beach special. They want everyone to make Lake Minnetonka easily accessible for lake life. She added that it would be a fail if they came up with an idea but it would now take new residents five years to get a slip in Minnetonka Beach. She said that's not what they want to happen. Steinke stated the closer they get to meeting the objective, the more likely Council will accept their recommendation and, if they don't, then Council will come up with their own solution. Council could always come up with their own solution regardless of the recommendation.

There was discussion about adding slips on County Road 15 but it is dangerous. They discussed adding slips at Arcola Docks but it is full of dock space. Could they go to the north. Burgess replied there are already docks taking the space.

Honey stated it appears the docks span the entire area but they would need to research. Burgess stated there is no parking near Arcola docks. Breazeale talked about the crosswalk stating that people stop for pedestrians and slip renters could park near there and use the crosswalk or maybe they could get another crosswalk. Burgess stated that people don't stop at the crosswalk by Lafayette Ridge. Foss stated there is no place to walk along 15 due to poor lighting so he does not think there would be another place to put a crosswalk in. Van Handel discussed concerns about Shoreline Drive. He says #3 is not ideal but the best option for what's presented. He stated you can put your stuff in your boat and put your boat cover on. Pottebaum asked why you would upset the lives of 25 slip renters instead of relocating two slips when someone moves. Whitaker referred to the Arcola docks where the dock could be attached where there are gaps now to get more slips to that location. He said when two people vacate their slip, they could move the two slips there.

Todd Snell – Snell was in the audience who has expressed interest on being appointed to the Dock Committee. Snell managed a 6-building condo development with 72 docks in Okoboji, Iowa. Initially they were hodge podge with different docks, and different size and height boat houses with a lot of mud and 30-40 mph winds. The solution there was a pier system, and he thought it was possible to figure out this dock reconfiguration without moving anyone. The pier system is expensive, and the slip renters would need to buy into it and have it managed somehow. The system needs to be stick built every year. It would be much more stable and not need to go out as far. There was a lot of discussion about cost and how it would be built. Whitaker talked about issues in Okoboji with keyholing. He suggested that resident Ben Bjorkland be consulted to help figure out the cost of it and viability. Snell went on to say it could be two piers with six boats on each side of each pier and use 30% of the land. Snell added that Minnetonka Beach is a crown jewel, and it would make the beach uniform and the views would be better. Steinke stated this may be a good option to explore with Richie Anderson. Everyone must buy in to new equipment and a group or board could control it. Foss said the problem is that there is turnover and change of ownership of dock equipment. He did not think this was feasible in the city. Steinke stated there are residents who are extremely cost sensitive and this would be costly. Snell stated that this would need to be driven by the city and Steinke stated the city is not interested in running a marina. Snell stated the city would need to own the dock to maintain control over it.

Van Handel stated some dock sections are currently community owned and repair costs are shared by the owners. There is some community ownership already being practiced. Foss stated that condo associations with annual fees is completely different than the city dock program. The city has done the best it can so far to make it a great place to be. There are many different types and sizes of boats.

Steinke then discussed Option #3 Removing boathouses. He suggested doing a test by not allowing boathouses for one season to see if it changes the views. Whitaker stated a boathouse is a benefit. He discussed seeing if it is possible to move two slips to the Arcola Dock location and leave the canopies as is.

Paniat stated the directive is not very clear. They have talked about water quality and geese, and then they talked about views. He does not this the message is clear on what they want to achieve: views or water quality. He added that they are looking at removing boathouses (vertical solution) or removing 2 docks (horizontal solution) and he asked if one or the other solution would make a big enough difference to Council to make them happy. Whitaker stated they thought there was water movement concerns but suggested it must be moving fine and asked if the city passed all water quality tests this season. Burgess stated they are speculating that proper testing is why the results are better but they don't know a definitive answer.

John Rosendahl- Rosendahl spoke from the audience stating they were looking at safety, e.coli and views. He asked why e.coli is in there. Steinke stated that is the most difficult to figure out. He added that for safety concerns, nobody wants to cross Shoreline Drive. The dock configuration has been there probably 15 years. Part of the value of the community is built around having access to the lake for non-riparians. He stated giving up one, and moving it anywhere would be a mistake. Moving it from a safe environment to a less safe environment is a mistake. He stated safety issues related to reconfiguration is not acceptable. He talked about his dock which is closest to Shoreline Dr is very wobbly just two sections out from shore. He does not agree that poles can be used to go out 200 ft in Richie Anderson's proposal. Whitaker agreed. Steinke asked which solution Rosendahl preferred. He asked what they are trying to achieve. He said you can see sunsets and canopies protect the assets from UV. Greenwood has canopies. Privately owned docks have boathouses. There were concerns if the boathouses are removed for a test, it will look

like a hodge podge because all of the boats are different sizes. Steinke commented that it appears the recommendation is to do nothing and asked how that will be received by Council.

Foss stated that what it is today has happen over a number of years and has satisfied people.

Breazeale stated they have gotten to where they are today by allowing changes and movements bit by bit while trying to accommodate resident wishes, and not done by an overall planned situation. She asked if they were to start from scratch how would they want that to look, and how would they get there. She added that it may take 2-5 years. They are trying to balance non riparian and the entire community use of the beach park. Foss said all of this is coming down to looking at alternates that they are finding to not be viable. He thinks you can see the lake from the beach. There was discussion that the property owners across from the beach have all turned over and they knew what the beach looked like when they bought the property. Foss said they don't need to start from ground zero. A lot of effort has already gone into this and it is not necessary to start from ground zero. Breazeale stated she understands and appreciates all the work that has taken place so far and just wondered if there was a clean slate, what would they do differently. Pottebaum said it is the right question to ask to see what we would want if it was a clean slate. They need to find a balance of minimizing the pain over time, have canopies all the same height, ask that they go from different colors to green canopies for harmony, maintain what we have and create harmony. How do they create this harmony. Steinke stated through attrition the docks stay but the boathouse goes away. Rosendahl stated that 60% of the homes have turned over in the past 15 years and this would be removing part of the value that is already existing there (protecting their asset). People still remain on the wait list and their expectation is that they can protect their asset in the same manner in which the existing assets are protected today. Snell stated he thinks they owe it to the slip renters to be able to protect their assets and would never want to take a boathouse away. Perhaps they have a vision over 10 years giving people time to buy into the vision. Whitaker said maybe the recommendation is to get all boat houses the same height, and canopies the same color over time. He said there was probably a lot of thought put into moving the slips to the swim beach and not along Shoreline Dr and he guessed it was safety. Breazeale stated she does not know if lot of thought was given but there was a long waiting list of people wanting to be at the swim beach, so they worked to move them to the beach, and safety. It is the most safe, there is parking. Burgess added and Breazeale agreed that there is room for bigger slips too. Knudsen stated that this goes back to when the City vacated property. The city owned the shoreline from Dock 9 to Dock 10 and when that happened the people on Dock 8-9 lost two slips because of the necessary setback on both sides, and the same thing happened at Dock 10 where City vacated the lakeshore strip of land on Lafayette Road to the property owners and they lost two slips due to setbacks. They also lost one slip at Dock 11 from the Goodman lawsuit. He stated that five slips were moved to the swim beach and that is when the big expansion happened at the beach because that was where there was room to move them. This started in 1978 when the city voted to vacate the land. This was summarized in Dennis Klohs' letter in the packet.

Panait asked if they could have some other configurations drafted by Richie Anderson. Whitaker mentioned views being obstructed if you go out 200 ft. There was discussion again about the pier system where people would have to buy in to the vision, find creative financing to make it happen, and have the same height and color boathouses.

There were a few different conversations taking place about different ideas. Whitaker offered to meet with Richie Anderson to discuss the concept and Snell offered to talk with Bob Bjorkland about the concept also. At a previous meeting, Zawislak said it is not feasible to go out any further than it currently is. Commissioners discussed that more information is needed to make a recommendation. They are taking this seriously and want to have the information to make a good recommendation.

(Van Handel motion, Panait second to study the feasibility of a T90 dock reconfiguration at the swim beach; all ayes.) Motion passed.

Burgess stated that however this turns out, she asked that they be sensitive to people who are currently renting slips to give them time to make decisions if they need to. She stated the dock permit process begins in February. Breazeale stated they may want to put a pause on moving people up the swim beach dock wait list.

6. Adjourn

(Foss motion, Van Handel second to adjourn; all ayes.) Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Minutes taken by City Administrator Heidi Honey.

Others present: Todd Snell, John Rosendahl

City of the Village of Minnetonka Beach
Dock Committee Meeting Minutes - UNAPPROVED
October 30, 2024 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Present: Chair Jeff Steinke, Vice Chair Jim Knudsen; Committee Members: Jack Foss, Lucian Panait, Todd Pottebaum, Dan Van Handel, Johnny Whitaker
Absent: Council Liaison Tracey Breazeale
Guests: None

Staff: City Administrator Heidi Honey, City Clerk Jane Burgess, Public Works Superintendent Jason Hilgers

1. Call to Order
   Chair Steinke called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approve Agenda

(Pottebaum motion, Foss second to approve the agenda of October 30, 2024. All ayes.). Motion passed.

3. Approve Minutes of September 26, 2024 Dock Committee meeting

(Van Handel motion, Whitaker second to approve the September 26, 2024 Dock Committee meeting minutes. All ayes.) Motion passed.

4. Old Business
   4.1. City Council Objective – Explore Improved Configurations at Beach Docks 12-16
   Steinke stated that at the last Docks meeting there were questions and clarification needed. The answers provided by City Council and others are in an email that is page 8 of the packet.
   - What does good or success look like? Council made a motion at their October 7,2024 meeting supporting the Park Commission's recommendation asking the Dock Committee to achieve Parks motion to open up the swim beach views by 150' prioritizing the southwest view.

     Additional discussion: Parks recommended detail to the original Dock Commission objective. A map in the packet shows 150 ft, and docks displaced to meet their 150' request. Steinke stated up until now, they were working on a generally stated objective to improve views, safety and water quality. They have focused on safety and views because the swim beach water passed all tests this summer. This input from Parks recommends 150 ft of view from the beach and that is new information for the Dock Committee. The motion from the Council meeting was on page 8. The park commission motion was also in the packet which supports Parks.

   - Requested Comprehensive Plan excerpts specific to the swim beach and docks: Page 12 of this meeting packet have the comp plan excerpts from the October 7, 2024 Council packet related to swim beach and views.

   - Timeline: City Council requested a plan be presented at their November 12 meeting, and if they cannot meet that deadline tell them why and also an appropriate date when one will be submitted.

   - What are quantifiable measures improved views? Answer: See answer to #1.

   Whitaker then reported on the pier concept discussed at the previous meeting. The cost for this system is approximately $235,000 for the 25 slips configured as previously presented in a "U" or rectangular shape on the south side. Boathouses are not allowed with this system. Installation would be $60,000 annually, $30,000 each for in and out. Van Handel thought this cost is similar to buying all new docks. The dock would still be wobbly depending on the amount of muck at the lake bottom.

Whitaker had a question for Parks and Council. He stated a neighbor wanted to donate a skateboard half pipe to the city, but Park Commission recommended declining the donation and one of the main reasons was that they did not want to draw non-residents to the park. He then stated if the view is opened a large amount, the city will draw non-residents to the city beach. He thinks Parks and Council should considerer this unintended consequence. He added that this configuration is very dangerous to maneuver.

Steinke stated the cons for the pier concept are #1 safety, and #2 cost. Prevailing wind is south and west. It would be very difficult to navigate when it is windy. Van Handel agreed that with his wake boat, it would be very unsafe to navigate. Pottebaum would be very hesitant to put this in front of Council because of stability and safety concerns. It could create liabilities for Council. The same reasons apply to the proposed reconfiguration with existing docks.

Knudsen asked if they rotated the layout 90 degrees. They would need to go out 200 ft or have two piers going out not as far. The proposed configuration to the south does not improve views. The views will always be compromised with any docks there. The further out you go, the less safe it is and it may impact views more. To go out 200 ft, they need to give up 50% of the shoreline.

Whitaker understands Parks' wish but with safety issues and feasibility, he thinks there are unintended consequences with the reconfiguration. Commissioners agreed that the current configuration is the safest with all boats pulling straight in. Steinke recommended removing boathouses and leaving lift canopies on for one year to see if it would make a difference. He stated it accomplishes what they were originally tasked with. They have now risen the bar and asked for 150 ft but he thinks they can still accomplish the original objective of improving views by removing boathouses. This was Dennis Klohs' recommendation also. There was discussion about polling all slip holders in the city about removing boat houses. Van Handel expressed concerns about removing boathouses and that it may look worse with all the boats at various heights and all of their stuff being exposed.

Whitaker distributed his/Pottebaum's proposal titled "Phased Dock Reconfiguration and Boathouse Standardization Plan". The plan would require current renters to transition to green boat houses and new renters must have green ones. Two slips closest to the swim beach will be relocated as slips are vacated. Specifics of plan:

Phased Dock Reconfiguration and Boathouse Standardization Plan
This plan is designed to meet the city Council's goals of improving lake views, enhancing safety, and protecting water quality, all while preserving essential access for non-riparian users. It balances the immediate needs of current renters with a long-term vision for a more inviting and accessible lakefront community that honors safety, accessibility, and natural beauty.
By phasing in these changes over time, we ensure that progress aligns with Council objectives without causing significant disruption. Key benefits include respecting current renters' rights, enhancing visual cohesion, and gradually improving lake views while preserving accessibility and safety. This solution supports Council goals while creating a lakefront space that current renters and future generations alike can enjoy.

Proposal Outline

1. Grandfathering and Retaining Current Rights

- **Existing Boat Houses:** Current renters are grandfathered in and may retain their existing boathouses but need to transition to green canopies by 2035.
- **New Renters and Canopy Standards:** Upon vacancy, new renters must convert to all canopies to green.

2. Incremental Relocation and Reconfiguration

- **Gradual Relocation:** As slips are vacated, two slips closest to the swim beach will be incrementally relocated to improve lake views, prioritizing those obstructing key sightlines closest to the swim beach.
- **Safety Preservation:** The current configuration minimizes risks and enhances safe navigation and docking, especially during strong west and southwest winds, which are common in this area. Preserving this layout supports safe and effective boating.
- **Minimal Disruption:** This phased approach minimizes disruptions to current renters.

3. Standardized Boathouse Guidelines by 2035

- **Uniform Appearance:** By 2035, all boathouses will adhere to a standardized design and color scheme, creating a visually cohesive dock area that enhances the lakefront's appearance.
- **Phase-in Approach:** Renters with non-green canopies have until 2035 to meet the new standards, allowing for a smooth transition without immediate impacts.

Key Benefits

- **Minimal Disruption:** The plan respects current renters' rights by phasing in changes gradually, allowing time for adaptation.
- **Aesthetic Improvement:** Standardized canopy colors enhance the lakefront's visual appeal.
- **Safety and Long-term View Enhancement:** The current configuration prioritizes safe docking conditions in common high-wind areas. Incremental relocation of innermost slips improves lake views while maintaining non-riparian access, fostering an inviting and balanced lakefront community.

Knutsen distributed an excerpt from the Comprehensive Plan p. 48 which is the lake access plan and talks about preserving the number of allocated slips. Steinke added that the city also should not decrease the quality of the slips by moving to an inferior location. This was also referenced in Dennis Klohs' email documenting dock history. Whiteker stated to get a view, they will have to make a concession.

Steinke recommended removing boathouses for one year as he sees that as least disruptive. Pottebaum thought that was most disruptive because 24-25 people who are accustomed to having lifts have to store them at people's homes and that disrupts the harmony of the neighborhood. This takes something away from people who have been used to having it. This proposal is by attrition and will not impact anyone. He added this is a compromise and least disruptive.

Pottebaum stated the boathouses camouflage a lot. Van Handel recommended all boathouses at the same height.

Whitaker stated these are the best slips in Minnetonka Beach. They are the most convenient, there is a park there for kids to run around while parents load or unload the boat, and they are the safest. He has lived next to two city dock locations in the past and others are tricky for different reasons. He would like to remove the least number possible because these are the prime slips.

Pottebaum stated there is no perfect solution but this proposal for moving two docks is a reasonable compromise. If Council likes the proposal, they can see how it goes with moving two slips. One slip has vacated, and everyone would move over one spot.

Jim Dudley asked to speak. Steinke allowed it. Dudley stated they need to be careful yielding to a few people. There are many people living in the beach who are slip renters and have been here decades. When talking about removing canopies, that is serving one person's need or desire. Slip renters with boathouses are using them to protect their valuable assets. He went on to say that Council's suggestion is idealistic and the only residents using the beach consistently are Jack Foss, and Dennis and Kathy Klohs who sit at the same bench regardless of if the docks are installed or not. The beach is overwhelmingly used by people who do not live in the city. It is used by workers at lunchtime and people coming into the city to look at the sunset or sit there. He stated Whitaker had a valid point, and when the City started to see nonresidents using the beach, it installed the "Parking by Permit Only" signs to prevent the beach from being overwhelmed by nonresidents so residents could enjoy it. Dudley then suggested if they wanted to proceed with Whitaker's proposal, they would tell Council, while we respect what you suggested, these are the reasons we cannot do that: we can't realign the docks because of safety concerns, we looked at the feasibility of putting docks out further and it is very difficult, if views are greatly widened it will be like Wayzata swim beach where people come in from everywhere which is an unintended consequence that nobody had thought about, slip renters who have had these slips for many years do not want these changes, and residents across the street don't complain about the views. Council should think about all of these things and provide an in depth response. He did not think the Dock Committee has to yield to what Council is saying, and Council can choose to do whatever they want. He suggested the Dock Committee do what is best for the slip holders.

There was discussion about polling residents, and complexity of questions.

Whitaker discussed who lives there and who rents there and the impact on them. Rosendahl commented that moving two slips does not seem like it impacts anyone, but it does impact those on the waiting list. City docks are built into the value stream of properties and people bought homes here knowing that. Steinke suggested Rosendahl express these comments to Council at the November 12 meeting. Honey stated that residents may only comment during open forum for items not on the agenda and they may only comment on agenda items if called upon by the Mayor.

Steinke discussed locations to relocate the two slips. There are two jet ski slips at Arcola that could be reconfigured into one but that would not be a relocation.

Van Handel motion to reiterate why they do not want to make any changes and Dudley outlined.

(There were many conversations happening all at once)

Van Handel motion to not make changes to the current configuration given concerns for safety, and also to help preserve the number and location of desired boat slips (City Comprehensive Plan p. 48).

Whitaker feels they have conflicting ideas with Parks wanting to open views to 150 ft and that Parks doesn't want to encourage nonresident beach use and then Council mandating views. He agrees with Van Handel but he wants to come up with a solution that would be a compromise for Parks, Council and Docks to make it better. He doesn't want to send a motion that would remove the Dock Committee from the conversation.

There was a discussion that giving Council a proposal like Whitaker's instead of Van Handel's motion would likely be better received by Council. The committee is working hard to work through this and has put in a lot of effort. There was discussion about getting community input. Pottebaum asked how Parks communicated to Council and now Council is communicating with Docks. He wondered if it was a timing issue with getting the input between Docks and Parks. Honey explained that there is a Council liaison for each committee and commission. Breazeale is the liaison for both Docks and Parks. Breazeale was unable to attend the October 1 Parks meeting and Mayor Pagano attended in her place. Whatever is discussed at the meeting is then reported back to the Council at their next meeting. It was part of an agenda item at the meeting. Panait stated he serves as a volunteer on both Parks and Docks. He was at the Parks meeting and confirmed Breazeale usually attends, and he was surprised to see Mayor Pagano there. He thought it seemed like Pagano had already had some discussion with a Park Commission member who suggested the 150 ft opening. There were some numbers discussed and rounding. He stated he was surprised by it because it was not based on any evidence.

Whitaker asked if they can suggest that their first answer is no change, it is too much of a loss of a city asset and the most safe. If change is required, let's start with moving one dock and see how it goes this summer. They can do this next season. Rosendahl asked who measures success. There was discussion that it is subjective. Whitaker thinks they were out maneuvered by the Park Commission making a recommendation to Council even though Docks has been working on this all year. Now they must respond to Parks requesting 150 ft. One dock would increase the opening to 69.5 ft.

Foss asked if people swim there. There are people who swim there. Foss stated the benches are set around the half circle which directs the views and the kids are centralized right there. He does not understand why the additional space is needed because as the benches and sand is set up, you are directed to see between the two sides of the docks. The benches do not need to be separated 150 ft apart. The houses are high enough so there is no issue. Foss stated they have lost slips through lawsuits, the beach is very favorable and they were moved there. He does not think there will be increased beach usage if the view is widened.

(There were multiple conversations happening at one time.)

Pottebaum stated if ideas one and two don't work, and Council wants a full analysis for a full reconfiguration this committee is not qualified to do a feasibility study. Volunteers are well intended and cannot provide the actual data they are looking for. This committee is a willing partner in the solution and not saying they are not willing to find one.

Knudsen stated this approach is not proposing anything. Van Handel stated if their opinion that relocating or reconfiguring slips is not safe is not good, and Council really values the slips and wants to preserve them, they need expert help.

Panait supports Whitaker's proposal. It will significantly improve views if canopies are the same color and height.

Whitaker summarized no change to configuration and require all green canopies by 2027. Steinke thinks this is not enough to satisfy Council. He encouraged them to provide as much detail on a plan for Council.

Whitaker asked if his proposal would be enough of a plan for Council. Steinke stated it is a start. He added that he does not think 150 ft is achievable, but he thinks they can achieve the original objective to improve views which is achievable but not measurable. Van Handel said it is achieving a balance and that is why he is focusing on color and height of boathouses. Steinke state he thinks Council will not think Docks increased the view by visually unifying the boathouses. There was discussion about if Council understands the value of the beach slips where people pay a lot to live in the neighborhood and they can take golf carts to the boat and kids can play while parents get the boat ready. Moving slips from that safe and ideal location to Shoreline is not logical and very undesirable. That's why other slips have been moved to the beach. Everyone would love better views, but the slips are very valuable to the community. Whitaker explained that it is like there are different conversations happening in a vacuum and there's a bit of a breakdown so he thinks it would be nice if they could present to Council so they understand all that went into this, and not just providing a plan. The minimal change proposal has been very well thought out. Steinke agreed and stated how it will be received by Council is the unknown.

Panait suggested a meeting with Parks, Docks and Council. Steinke is not sure that Parks understands all of the different ideas they have explored and the difficulty of this task. He suggested Parks may think there are more locations to move slips to than are available. Moving slips to 15 is extremely dangerous and not accessible. Knutsen stated that the reality is that they do not have places to move 6 slips. Steinke stated receiving a request for 150 ft tells him that Parks does not have an appreciation for how challenging this is. There was discussion that Parks does not understand the Comp Plan Lake Access Plan. Steinke stated Parks may think Docks has more move options than they do to work with. Pottebaum stated this is not consistent with the comprehensive plan. Van Handel read from Comp Plan Lake Access Plan Parks and Open Space Goal 4 (p.48): "Require that the public lake access be open to all residents" and stated if you put additional slips on 15, and you have multiple kids under the age of 12, that is not accessible, it's dangerous. Steinke suggested part of the motion be making note and making others aware that what Parks is asking us to do is really not achievable because there is no place to relocate these docks and City can't just lose them. Knudsen stated they need to be educated on the dock program adding that at the Council meeting, one of the members thought slip renters had deeded lake rights as non-riparian landowners which is incorrect. It is loosely in the City Charter and reinforced by the Comprehensive Plan, so they need to be educated. Steinke stated the "why" behind the motion is important. Van Handel stated the Comp Plan requires public lake access be open to all residents and preserve the number of the City's allocated boat slips. He added other concerns of property values, and safety is #1. Whitaker stated Council should make the decision of moving a slip to 15 because it is unsafe. It's safety versus a view. Docks does not want that liability. Steinke supported that as a strong "why".

Commissioners discussed the "why" for their motion. Safety concerns for navigation of boats with a different configuration. There are kids in the water, kids on boats, and the bigger concern is hitting people not hitting other boats. Slips on 15 are not safe and accessible. Collapsing and giving up slips is contrary to the City's Comprehensive Plan. However, if more is needed a professional is needed to do a feasibility study because the volunteers of the committee have exhausted their ideas amongst themselves. Whitaker feels like they have given them what they thought (minimal change) and then they got back from Parks for 150 ft and that made it even harder. He thinks the dialog needs to be opened to get a better idea or a joint solution. Steinke talked about a meeting with Parks so both parties understand the conversations that are taking place, and they could come together on a solution. It is a step in the right direction. They would all love 150 ft views, but they need to talk through solutions. There are complexities and many challenges that they would like Parks to understand. Panait agreed that should be the next step. Panait stated the Parks meeting ended with Parks saying they would like 150 ft views, and it is up to Docks to figure that out and Docks is currently unable to do that without a budget and experts or a feasibility study. They need to come together to figure it out. The U shape solution is not feasible, Docks thinks it is highly unsafe and it is the only reconfiguration to explore with the PUD. It has been exhausted. There was discussion about using a surveyor but typically they will take an idea to him for him to lay it out to see if it works.

There was a request to invite the mayor to the meeting also since Breazeale is the liaison to both committees and it seems they should have another liaison there. With two people from the Parks sitting on Docks, this should be worked out but they just got notice of the 15 ft request a week before the meeting.

Pottebaum motion, Van Handel second retain the current swim beach docks configuration to maintain safety and the City's Comprehensive Plan. Additionally, by 2027, all slips would be required to have forest green canopies, and boat houses. Ayes – Foss, Knudsen, Panait, Pottebaum, Van Handel, Whitaker;

During the vote Steinke asked if he could abstain. There was discussion about the chair voting or abstaining from a vote. Honey stated the chair cannot make a motion, but he can second a motion and can vote. She added that he can do what he chooses. Honey also stated that anyone can abstain, but they are appointed to make difficult decisions and abstention is usually when someone could personally profit from the decision. The mayor only votes in a tie. Steinke stated he does not think this motion improves the views. There was discussion about moving Chip's slip and additional discussion that they did not feel there was anywhere for it to go.

During the vote another discussion started about the open slip. Knudsen reported that at the Council meeting, Council wanted a hold on the wait list for swim beach docks. He asked if the slip vacated by Chip Zawislak will be filled or not. Honey redirected back to the vote.

Pottebaum motion, Van Handel second retain the current swim beach docks configuration to maintain safety and the City's Comprehensive Plan. Additionally, by 2027, all slips would be required to have forest green canopies, and boat houses. Ayes – Foss, Knudsen, Panait, Pottebaum, Van Handel, Whitaker; Nay – Steinke (for the reason that it does not meet the objective and does not improve views). Motion passed.

Pottebaum motion, Van Handel second to establish a joint Parks and Docks meeting to explore the Parks motion, review challenges, and explore new options to create a joint solution. All ayes; Motion passed.

Foss stated that Steinke needs to explain there have been 100s of hrs. put in this, with outside consultants, and input from many people including neighbors to the swim beach. There is probably no other information to gather. They are unsure the docks can be relocated anywhere, and they cannot lose slips.

Knudsen asked if the Dock Commission update is scheduled for the next Council meeting. Honey stated it is. He said maybe Council will accept the first motion and direct them to work with Parks, or maybe they will come back with something else. It is unknown but if they ask for 6 slips to be relocated, they will end up 4 losing slips and that was not the intention and not a solution.

There was support for Steinke to delve deeper into "why" they made the motions that they did when he reports to Council. Docks does not want Council to think they are not trying hard. They have spent a lot of time and want a good solution. Richie Anderson spent a lot of time on configurations, and tried to make it safe as possible, and they did not find a solution that would work. His best option is unsafe. Docks is now responding to Parks request.

5. Adjourn

(Pottebaum motion, Foss second to adjourn; all ayes.) Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Others present: Jim Dudley, Wayne Ramaker, and John Rosendahl

Minutes taken by City Administrator Heidi Honey