

Village of Grand Beach

Parks and Beaches Committee Meeting

May 3, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Pete Doerr (Chair); Ed Trainor; Ed Brandes; Harry Walder; and Judith Blackburn;

Special Guest by Invitation: None

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Pete Doerr at 5:30 pm Central. At that time the agenda for the meeting was approved on motion made by Pete Doerr and seconded by Harry Walder;

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES: Thereafter, on motion made by Pete Doerr, seconded by Harry Walder, the minutes of the **January 13, 2022** meeting of the Committee were approved as drafted.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Review of status of individual Committee member assignments out of the January 13 Committee Meeting:
 - a. Pete Doerr recounted his efforts to press the Village Council for funding of an outside firm to assist with the development of a Village master plan. He reported that he secured \$20,000 in funding for the 2022-23 operating budget for that purpose;
 - b. Pete urged fellow Committee members to start talking with friends, neighbors and residents of the Village to solicit their input on short-term and long-term spending priorities;
 - c. Pete also advised the Committee of the need for construction work at the Pump House/Walnut Street beach to level off the surface and secure the metal walkway to the beach itself. There was further discussion and questions on the topic, with a general consensus regarding the need to complete the work in time for the Memorial Day weekend.
 - d. Pete Doerr also updated the Committee on the results of his field research on the land use limitations embedded in the legal documents connected with the acquisition of the 42 Acres parcel. He said the governing documents allowed for unrestricted public access, including the future development of playgrounds and/or a dog park.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Pete Doerr walked the Committee through the details of a Capital Projects Fund Balance Sheet (as of April 30, 2022) in order to review and highlight the specific financial reserves in place (approx. \$120,000 in all) for future capital improvements connected

with Parks & Beaches, and in accordance with the priorities to be developed in the Village master plan; Pete also expressed his strong desire for the Committee to meet within 30 days to begin preparation and planning work in connection with the development of a Village master plan.

- Pete also reported that he recently received bids from qualified contractors for the removal of submerged scrap iron pieces on or near the Village beaches. All agreed that removal of the pieces would enhance the safety and overall appearance of the beaches. At that time, Pete fielded questions from the Committee, some of which he promised to follow up on with the contractors before the work was bid out.
- Pete also reported that the Village Council would ultimately decide on whether to move forward with the proposed remedial work on the Whitewood, Lake Street and PumpHouse Beaches, including funding, at their next scheduled meeting on May 18, 2022;
- There was further general discussion on the need for regular beach inspections and maintenance, as well as the ongoing problem of E-Coli contamination of the lake and beaches and where to start with remediation efforts. Ed Trainor volunteered to do further background research on potential solutions and outside partners, and report back.

AUDIENCE RECOGNITION: The Chair recognized the in-person attendance of the following Village residents: Angela Trainor; Bob Barnes; and Vickie McHugh;

- Bob Barnes is a resident who lives near the Lake Street/Alpine Subdivision beach; Bob recently wrote a letter for the Village Council and he had suggestions for the Committee on a cost-effective solution utilizing used railroad ties for securing the slope leading down to the beach and making it safer for Village residents trying to access the beach.
- Vicki McHugh built a home next to the Pump House Beach. She provided historical background and urged the Committee to blow sand from an off-shore source to replenish and raise the walking surface of the beach and take out the horizontal walkway running between the staircase and the beach surface. She also urged the Committee to remove the scrap iron jetty remnants that are unsightly, unsafe, and prevent the natural drift of sand from north to south.
- Resident Angela Trainor expressed concerns about overseeing the upcoming work of the Donkersloot firm near the Whitewood Beach. Angela expressed concerns about the severity of the grade of the Royal Street access point and the need to make it safer for pedestrians walking down to the beach. Angela also suggested recruiting the firm to use their heavy equipment to help level off the rocks on the Whitewood Beach as well as the Pumphouse Beach, instead of hiring a separate contractor under a separate contract.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

NEXT MEETING: May 25, 2022 @ 3:30 Central Time

ADJOURNMENT: On motion made by Harry Walder, seconded by Pete Doerr and approved at 7:20 pm (CST)

Respectfully Submitted: Edward P. Brandes; Meeting Secretary