

Village of Grand Beach
Parks and Beaches Committee Meeting

June 1, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Pete Doerr (Chair); 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 3:30 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 **May 25, 2022** meeting of the Committee were approved as drafted.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Pete Doerr reported that Council Chair Deb Lindley had asked him to draft a formal letter on behalf of the Village to Village residents with property adjacent to the Lake Street Beach access point (Jenson Court) to clarify and confirm the Village's property rights, subject to the results of a pending land survey;
2. Pete Doerr also reported on the status of the grant application process w/ the Land Information Access Association ('LIAA'); The purpose of the application is to secure outside expertise in developing a plan for preservation and development of the beaches within the Village.
3. Pete also reported on the status of two (2) letters which had been sent out on behalf of the Village to owners with homes adjacent to the Pine Street Beach access points, regarding potential encroachments upon Village-owned property; He noted that the Village is trying to preserve adequate parking for golf carts through the summer months;
4. Pete also expressed a desire to install appropriate signage on the pier extending out from the Whitewood Street Beach, to warn and prevent people from climbing on to or swimming off the pier; Thereafter, a general discussion followed w/ no resolution;

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Discussion on Soliciting input from Village residents re: the Master Plan to be developed:**
Pete Doerr opened up the subject by clarifying that the Committee is going to provide Parks & Beaches-subject-matter input only on a Village master plan. However, the Planning Commission has primary responsibility for development of the plan. Thereafter, a general discussion followed, including audience input, and It was generally agreed that the 2019 Master Plan developed by the Parks & Beaches Committee and approved by the Village Council in December of 2019, was an excellent jumping-off point for memorializing the input of Village residents on preferences and priorities pertaining to Parks & Beaches. The survey obtained in that 2019 process involved: public meetings; an on-line questionnaire

completed by approximately 325 Village residents, and a formal comment period, all of which public input was integrated into the 2019 Master Plan. For that reason, the Committee felt that the public input the Committee already had would be sufficient to move forward in their planning in support of the development of a Village master plan.

- b. Thereafter, the Committee focused on the *'Planning and Public Input'* segment of the 2019 Parks & Beaches master plan, with a detailed review of the specific survey results and the segment on *'Goals and Objectives'*, for the purpose of establishing: 1) priorities, and 2) funding estimates and sources which ultimately can be integrated into the development of the Village's master planning efforts.
- c. As part of the discussion, Harry Walder specifically advocated for: 1) new signage throughout the Village; 2) more garbage receptacles; 3) kayak storage racks at the Whitewood and Lake Street Beaches; 4) development of a plan to prevent persons from climbing onto the Whitewood Beach pier; and 5) development of the pond behind the golf driving range as a fishing pond.
- d. In addition, Harry advocated for development of a Village-wide survey to ascertain what land the Village owns and to allow the Village to make informed decisions about the protection, use and development of such parcels; In response, Pete Doerr promised to follow up with Mary Robertson to ascertain what, if any, land surveys of Village-owned properties, had already been done.
- e. Judith Blackburn advocated a reassessment of the Village Hall and golf center with a view towards renovating it to maximize it's potential as a revenue-generator for the Village;
- f. At the conclusion of the discussion on Village priority projects, Pete expressed his desire to secure additional public input on the list that the Committee was developing as soon as the Committee had completed its cost estimates for each improvement.

AUDIENCE RECOGNITION: The Chair recognized the in-person attendance of the following Village residents: Bob Barnes. At the invitation of the Chair, Mr. Barnes asked questions about the status of the access improvements to the Lake/Alpine Beach. In addition, Mr. Barnes offered suggestions on new Village signage (*"Our roads are our sidewalks"*) for the safety of pedestrians. He also provided the Committee with some cautionary notes about the development of pickleball courts in the Village, including the threat of litigation, noise complaints from neighbors, and parking limitations.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

NEXT MEETING: Not scheduled

ADJOURNMENT: On motion, made by Pete Doerr, seconded by Ed Brandes, and approved thereafter at 4:50 pm Central.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Brandes, Meeting Secretary