



Lakes & Waterways Board Regular Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2024 at 12:00 PM

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue

Present

Ed Webman, William H. Swartz Sr., Justin J. Vermuth, Warren Bloom, David F. March

Absent

George T. Vietor, Pamela L. Saffran

Staff Present

Director of Natural Resources and Sustainability Gloria Eby, Assistant Director of Public Works Don Marcotte; Public Works Engineer Shannon Monahan, Lakes Manager Joseph Cordell; Sergeant Luke Hofer; Administrative Assistant Victoria Tabor

1. Call to Order

Justin Vermuth called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes of April 9, 2024

Motion made by Justin Vermuth to approve the minutes, seconded by David March. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

3. Public Comments (for items not on the agenda):

4. Public Hearings (Public participation and comment on these matters must be in person.)

- a. Seawall Application (SAP-2024-0006) 1218 Alabama Dr.

Mr. Cordell presented a permit application for a full renovation seawall, located on Venetian canal at 1218 Alabama Dr. The wall will be set 4 feet into the ground. Dredging of sand will take place in a 2 x 10-foot area. Applicant Sheila Cichra explained the dredging process.

Motion made by Mr. Webman to approve seawall application; seconded by Mr. Vermuth. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

- b. Boathouse/Dock Application (BLDR-2024-0304) 1218 Alabama Dr.

Mr. Cordell presented the application for a new boat dock at 1218 Alabama Drive.

Motion made by Mr. Swartz Sr. to approve the new boat dock application; seconded by Mr. Vermuth. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

5. Action Items

6. Non-Action Items

7. Staff Updates

- a. Winter Park Police Department

Officer Hofer covered the activities of March and April, 2024: 20 patrols on the Chain of Lakes; 155 safety inspections on vessels; 23 citations were issued primarily for safety equipment; helped with 160 boats and towed 2 boats to assist. A Tent will be set up at the Farmer's Market next weekend to educate on boating safety.

- b. Lakes Management

Joey Cordell presented electrofishing survey on the Chain of Lakes with FWC. Healthy largemouth bass and a good population of feeder fish were found in the lakes. Mr. Cordell explained that Electrofishing is when fish are shocked by electrodes, and then scooped up for analysis and placed back.

Nanobubble unit was installed at Lake Midget. It will increase the oxygen in the lake and digest organic matter. Ms. Eby stated that units are very expensive and a grant will be requested.

One large Hydrilla treatment completed at Lake Sue and monthly spot treatments continue.

Alligator weed is the plant of the month. It is harmful, invasive, can clog ditches and cause flooding issues.

Messaging was sent to the community for alligator awareness. Mr. Webman stated alligators are more frequent in construction areas. Construction workers may be

unintentionally feeding the gators by throwing out chicken bones. Mr. Webman suggested signage. Mr. Cordell advised that he spoke with the Building department and will follow up with them.

Mr. Cordell announced the volunteer shoreline event at Lake Sylvan. If not enough participation to access the lake, then event will be moved to Lake Chelton.

Mr. Cordell provided water quality report through December for the quarterly lakes.

c. Hurricane Season Preparedness

Hurricane Guide: [Hurricane Preparedness Guide Link](#)

Ms. Eby explained that staff came together after the last hurricane events and discussed outcomes:

The first lesson learned was the challenge of getting laboratory samples. Multiple labs are now on standby allowing samples to be returned and turned around quickly. Also, in-house staff can pull some bacterial sampling.

On the fifth Chain of Lakes, a high water elevation was established at 66.1 feet.

At Dinky Dock park, gates were installed to shut down access to the ramp.

Advanced alert notifications have been added mainly to the city flood hazard areas.

The vulnerability assessment study is still underway. This study identifies vulnerable critical infrastructure.

There are two guides supplied throughout the City, the Hurricane Preparedness guide and the Adaptive Flood Management guide.

Since the last hurricane season, Telemetry Lake Elevation was installed to track lake elevation. Grass cart barriers were upgraded and as part of preparedness and restoration, funding was received from the National Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) for major outfall work. Several weirs will be repaired as part of restoration.

The first project under NRCS was located at Winter Park 18 and was completed. Ms. Eby informed the board of the Howell Creek Stabilization project and explained the importance of participating with regional agencies in the coordination of basin management.

Mr Vermuth asked Ms. Eby if the City has a Solar Co-op. Ms. Eby stated a regional Co-op program with Orange County and Eatonville was set up. The information is on the Sustainability website.

d. Past and Upcoming Events

- Great American Clean-Up - 4/6
- Killarney Elementary Family Night - 4/17
- Earth Day Block Party - 4/27 @ Ward Park
- Lakes Event - 5/11 @ Lake Knowles & Wilbar
- Lakes Event - 5/18 9am @ Lake Sylvan
- Introduction to Composting Class - 5/16 6pm @ WP Library
- Board Appreciation - 6/20 6:30pm @ WP 18
- Introduction to Vermicomposting Class - 6/27 6pm @ WP Library

Ms. Eby emphasized Board Appreciation Day on June, 20 at 6:30pm at Winter Park 18.

e. Stormwater Management

Ms. Monahan reviewed the CIP and emphasized the outfall in association with Seminole County.

Seven Oaks Park project pictures were shown displaying the stormwater runoff system.

8. Board Comments

9. Upcoming Agenda Items

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Approved by the board on June 11, 2024
/s/ Bahiyyah Layton, Board Coordinator