Lakes & Waterways Board Meeting Minutes

August 08, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

City Hall, Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue | Winter Park, Florida

Present

Justin Vermuth, Pamela Saffran, Warren Bloom, George (Trevor) Vietor and David March.

Absent

Ed Webman and William Swartz

Staff Present

Assistant Director of Public Works Don Marcotte; Public Works Engineer Shannon Monahan; Interim Lakes Division Manager Jake Allman; Natural Resources & Sustainability Administrative Coordinator Victoria Tabor; Virtually: Board Coordinator Tatia Ghviniashvili.

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

2) Consent Agenda

a. Approve minutes of the regular meeting July 11, 2023

Motion made by Warren Bloom to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Pamela Saffran. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

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

There were none.

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

a. Boathouse / Dock Application (BLDR-2023-0466) 630 Palmer Ave

Staff provided background information and parameters on the application, noting that this is a boathouse replacement that will require a variance for the length. The applicant is also asking for a taller roof height – 12 ft. – as a variance due to the size of their boat. A letter of support from the adjacent neighbor is included for the side yard setback variance request. The application does not meet vegetation requirements, so planting will be required. Staff recommendation is denial based on the 12 ft. roof height.

The floor opened for discussion and the board asked questions to clarify details of the application- specific to the height of the boathouse.

A representative from the Integrative Development Group spoke on behalf of the applicant and addressed board questions/concerns. A discussion ensued about the boathouse height, and the board agreed that the desired height for the boathouse is not a necessity and the application should not be approved based on just the applicant's desire.

Motion made by Justin Vermuth to deny the request for a variance based on staff recommendation; seconded by George (Trevor) Vietor. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

b. Boathouse / Dock Application (BLDR-2023-0526) 1466 Alabama Drive

Staff provided background and parameters of the application, noting that this is an existing boathouse that is being replaced. The applicant is asking for a length of 38 ft., with a 5 ft. setback- a letter of no objection has been provided from the adjacent neighbor. Staff recommendation is to approve.

Matthew Langbehn, Summertime Deck and Dock, spoke on behalf of the applicant and answered questions. A discussion ensued.

Motion made by Pamela Saffran to approve the application; seconded by David March. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

5) Action Items

a. CIP 5 Year Plan

Staff presented the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Plan, consistent with what the City Commission has been approving for the last couple of fiscal years. The Stirling Bridge replacement project was highlighted, noting that this project is now part of the plan, along with a few other projects listed.

The board voiced support for the staff to continue moving the CIP 5 Year Plan forward.

6) Non-Action Items

There were none.

7) Staff Updates

a. Winter Park Police Department

Lieutenant Edwin Santos and Sergeant Luke Hofer provided updates on behalf of the police department. There have been 57 vessel stops, 58 safety inspections, 25 warnings issued and 5 citations issued in the last month. There has been an increase in monetary enforcement due to behavior on the lakes.

The floor opened for questions and a discussion ensued about proper signage on the lake regarding passes for registering motorized vehicle.

b. Lakes Management

Six acres of hydrilla were treated on Lake Baldwin, as well as spot treatments conducted on the chain of lakes. Eelgrass efforts continue on a weekly basis using the weedoo boat to collect the eelgrass- a chart was provided to highlight the gallons of eelgrass removed in the past few months.

Telemetry stations have been shipped from the vendor, and once received, will be installed on all major lakes.

Neighborhood Dock Party Engagement Event for Lakes Maitland and Osceola are scheduled to be held on August 26, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m., at Kraft Azalea Park.

c. Stormwater Management

Staff is actively working on several in-house projects, such as an outfall repair on Palmer at Old England, and increasing storm sewer inlet capacity in the low point in Lake Sue Ave. A brief update was provided about outfall dredging, with high priority outfalls on Lake Osceola being the first on the list. Staff also spoke about the Community Rating System (CRS) participation analysis, and the effect this program will have on national flood insurance rates for city residents.

The board asked questions and a brief discussion followed.

8) Board Comments

a. Discussion of Public Comments Received

No public comments were received; therefore, no discussion was held.

9) Upcoming Agenda Items

a. Discussion of Upcoming Agenda Items

Mr. Vietor asked if a descriptive paragraph- highlighting the goal and reasoning- be included with permit applications, so the board can have a complete understanding of why certain permits are being requested.

10) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Minutes approved by the board on September 12, 2023.
/s/ Tatia Ghviniashvili, Board Coordinator