



Lakes & Waterways Board Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

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

Present

Justin Vermuth, George (Trevor) Vietor, Pamela Saffran, Warren Bloom, David March (in the audience until item 4(d)), William Swartz; Board Coordinator Tatia Ghviniashvili.

Absent

Ed Webman

Staff Present

Director of Natural Resources & Sustainability Gloria Eby; Assistant Director of Public Works Don Marcotte; Public Works Engineer Shannon Monahan; Natural Resources & Sustainability Administrative Coordinator Victoria Tabor.

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m.

- a. Select Chair and Vice Chair

Motion made by Warren Bloom to select Justin Vermuth as Chair and Pamela Saffran as Vice Chair; seconded by Trevor Vietor. Motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

2) Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes of regular meeting May 9, 2023

Motion made by Justin Vermuth to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Pamela Saffran. Motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 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 (BLDC-2023-0012) 1000 Holt Ave

Ms. Eby presented background information of the application, highlighting that this permit is coming back for board review/approval for reconsideration of an extension of a particular area that required a variance. Since the last meeting, the applicant has received the variance and staff recommendation is to approve the permit. Parameters, photographs, and plans of the proposed extension were provided.

William Swartz arrived at 12:06 p.m.

Sheila Cichra, Streamline Permitting, noted that the extension has already been approved by the Board of Adjustments. The board asked a few clarifying questions about the boathouse and Ms. Cichra clarified.

Motion made by Pamela Saffran to approve the permit; seconded by Trevor Vietor.

A brief discussion was held about the potential of a community sailing program utilizing this boathouse/dock, and Dave Herbster, Director of Sailing at Rollins College, highlighted that this idea could potentially become a reality, however, as of right now the program is in the discussion phase.

Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

- b. Boathouse / Dock Application (BLDC-2023-0135) 2111 Via Tuscany

Ms. Eby shared photographs, parameters, plans and background information for this application. Staff is recommending approval; however, a variance will need to be attained by the applicant.

Sheila Cichra, Streamline Permitting, spoke further in detail about the permit, and explained that the dock is needing to be reconfigured to fit more boats and add additional deck space to stay within Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) permit.

Motion made by William Swartz to approve the permit.

Rob Carter, 735 McIntyre Ave., answered a question about removing the floating dock and putting in a fixed dock.

Seconded by Trevor Vietor. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

- c. Boathouse / Dock Application (BLDR-2023-0224) 2600 Venetian Way

Ms. Eby spoke in detail of the location of the proposed boathouse (photographs and plans were presented), highlighting that it is considered part of Howell Creek. The application meets the criteria allowable in terms of total area, height of deck

and enclosure, and vegetation. The applicant has attained a signed form from the adjacent property owner for the setback to be under 10 ft., or 5 ft. Staff's recommendation is denial due to the hazardous location, specifically in terms of proximity, location and designation of this waterway.

A discussion ensued about the risks of flooding associated with this location and whether or not the board should consider the staff suggestion to deny, or move to approve.

Dennis Moulder, Docks and Dwellings Construction Inc, addressed staff concerns associated with the structure, while highlighting that the property owner is at right to enjoy their property just the same as their neighbors. He also noted that the State has granted a permit and does not share the same concerns as Winter Park.

Jonathan Geiger, Docks and Dwellings Construction Inc, gave comment on the parameters of the proposed structure, and explained that there is no risk for navigational hazards or flow issues associated with this location.

Linnette Johnson, 2600 Venetian Way, spoke as the applicant/property owner and urged the board to take into consideration the State's approval of the permit and her rights to enjoy her property just as her neighbors do.

Motion made by William Swartz to approve the application.

The board asked various clarifying questions and a brief discussion was held about the proposed structure.

Seconded by Trevor Vietor. Motion carried unanimously with a 4-1 vote.

d. Boathouse / Dock Application (BLDR-2023-0471) 255 Stirling Ave

Photographs, plans, and parameters of the proposed structure were presented, with a staff recommendation to deny the application based on hazardous flow way.

A discussion ensued and staff iterated their reason for denial, highlighting that an excess of sedimentation will stand as a continuous issue in the location. A 3 ft. variance is needed for extra depth because of the sedimentation mentioned above.

Motion made by William Swartz to approve the application.

Bradley Fess, NuDesign Builders, spoke on behalf of the applicant and explained that the proposed structure was designed as small as possible to accommodate the lot and space, while meeting all requirements.

Motion failed for lack of second.

David March joined the board on the dais.

A discussion ensued about the vegetation within the space of the proposed structure and staff explained that there would be an overall loss of vegetation even if replanting occurred.

Motion made by Justin Vermuth to approve the application without the additional 3 ft. variance; seconded by Trevor Vietor. Motion carried unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

5) Action Items

There were none.

6) Non-Action Items

There were none.

7) Staff Updates

- a. Winter Park Police Department

William Swartz left at 1:00 p.m.

Ms. Eby provided an update on behalf of the Police Department, highlighting that due to the volume of people on the lakes, boating officers will be on duty every weekend until October. Nearly 100 safety inspections have been conducted to date, citations are being issued for major violations, and warnings are actively exercised. New signage will be made available at Dinky Dock by the end of June, and swinging arm gates will be placed by mid-July for when the lake needs to be closed off.

- b. Lakes Management

Staff continues to progress with various NRCS activities, and are about 2/3's complete with excavating sedimentation in the Winter Park Pines Golf Course. Staff has been meeting with the consultant for the Howell Creek Major Restoration Project to produce a design and scope of work.

Lake treatment updates for Lake Bell, Lake Sue and the Chain of Lakes were highlighted, and staff noted that all canals and Dinky Dock are open to the public. Eel grass continues to be harvested from the Chain of Lakes, under the FWC Work Plan, and the process of removal was explained in detail. The board asked a few questions about what happens to the eel grass after its removal, and Ms. Eby noted that it gets hauled to a holding facility where it decomposes naturally.

Telemetry station updates were provided, highlighting that staff will begin collaborating with the vendor to install them on the major lakes. Eventually, the public will be able to view the information collected by the telemetry stations on a

virtual dashboard. Ms. Eby spoke briefly on the fertilizer postcard, which helps to educate the public on proper fertilizer use.

The Hurricane Flood Management Guide was presented back with several amendments since the board approved it at a previous meeting. Staff is looking for approval before it's presented to the City Commission.

Motion made by Warren Bloom to approve the Hurricane Flood Management Guide with the amendments made; seconded by Pamela Saffran. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

c. Stormwater Management

Mr. Marcotte provided a CIP update, highlighting that both the Nicolet Pond project and the Seminole County Ditch Piping project are under permitting. Staff has actively been working on drainage improvements throughout the city. Per City Commission request, staff will be conducting large scale basin analysis based on flooding seen with Hurricane Ian, and contracts are in place to develop scopes of work. Results of the studies will not be available until next year.

The Venetian and Fern Canal Dredging has been completed, and next steps include resolving the various outfalls.

8) Board Comments

There were none.

a. Discussion of Public Comments Received

There were none; therefore, no discussion was held.

9) Upcoming Agenda Items

a. Discussion of Upcoming Agenda Items

Review the next CIP plan and five-year plan.

All staff updates will carry over every month.

10) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Minutes approved by the board on _____.
/s/ Tatia Ghviniashvili, Board Coordinator