



City of Racine

Meeting Minutes

Board of Harbor Commission

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Thursday, April 27, 2006

5:30 PM

Room 103, City Hall

1. Call To Order

PRESENT: James Rooney, Lynn Monroe, John Dziekan, Michael Fox, Timothy Hyland, Sherman Foertsch, Jeff McMahon and Richard Hynek

2. Approval of Minutes for the February 16, 2006, Meeting

A motion was made by Hyland, seconded by Monroe, that this file be to Approve the Minutes .

3. Jim Blazek's recognition of 18 years of service to Racine Harbor Commission.

Jim Rooney presented Jim Blazek with a plaque recognizing his years of service to the Racine Harbor Commission and thanked him for his service.

4. Racine County Sheriff's Department Water Patrol report. Navigation light needs; 2006 Operational Schedule.

Sgt. Halliday appeared before the Commission. He noted all floating piers have been moved into place and all navigational lights are in. He noted there were adjusted hours for Water Patrol service. He noted there would only be weekend service in the months of May and September - Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, from 5 A.M. to 11 P.M. He noted the hours during June, July, and August, would include the weekend hours as described above and also Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 11 A.M. to 7 P.M. He indicated calls outside of those hours would be on-call and he indicated a response time of 15 minutes would be expected for them.

Jim Rooney reminded the Racine Harbor Commissioners of the pressure that was applied to the County Board to keep the Water Patrol in service and noted that this type of pressure may need to be continued as the county budget is assembled later this year for 2007.

5. Park, Recreation and Cultural Services Department report. Donnie Snow Invited.

This item was deferred as Donnie Snow could not attend the meeting.

6. [05-1214](#) Subject: (Direct Referral) Installation of Visitor piers at Main St. Bridge.

Recommendation: Pursue funding on this project.

Rooney explained the drawings submitted by Port-A-Pier for the visitor's piers at the Main Street Bridge. He explained the cost of the two alternatives. The one being approximately \$110,000 and the other being \$125,000.

The Harbor Commission elected to go with the \$125,000 option which provided a greater landing space at the bottom of the visitor pier.

Rooney indicated the appropriate action would be to apply for a grant from the Waterway's Commission for this work. He noted upon receiving the grant materials from Jim Rooney, he would then put a communication into the Common Council to request approval to apply.

A motion was made by Hynek, seconded by Hyland, that this file be Recommended For Adoption .

7. [05-1207](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Main Entrance fog horn problem discussion.

Recommendation: Seek funding from the Waterways Commission for improvement of the fog horn system.

Rooney noted the main entrance fog horn was in disrepair. He noted the radio facility corrected the problem and it is still under a manual on/off switch.

Jim Rooney noted the age of the fog horn and indicated it has seen its useful service life.

The Board inquired about receiving funding from the Waterways Commission to replace this system.

Rooney noted the appropriate action would be to apply for Waterway's funding for the fog horn system upon receiving the application materials from the Waterways Commission.

A motion was made by Hyland, seconded by Hynek, that this file be Recommended For Adoption .

8. [06-1795](#)

Subject: Communication from River Bend Nature Center requesting that the sidewalk and one lane of the northbound traffic on the east side of the Main Street Bridge be blocked for the first annual River Bend Derby Duck Race on June 24, 2006.

Recommendation of the Public Works and Services Committee

(4-25-06): The River Bend Nature Center be granted permission to close the sidewalk and one lane of the north bound traffic along the east side of the Main Street Bridge for the 1st Annual River Bend Derby Duck Race which will be held on Saturday, June 24, 2006, with the following stipulations:

- A. A hold harmless agreement be executed;
- B. A certificate of liability be filed with the City Attorney's office;
- C. Department of Public Works staff review and approve the means and methods for placing the rubber ducks in the river so as to not damage the Main Street Bridge.
- D. Sponsor shall be responsible for placement of all traffic control devices.

Fiscal Note: Not applicable.

Recommendation of the Board of Harbor Commissioners (4-27-06):
Receive and file.

Rooney informed the Commission on June 24, 2006, a Duck Derby would be taking place in which 5,000 rubber ducks would be dispensed into the Root River near the Main Street Bridge as part of a fund raising effort.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

9. Request from Robert Kraczek to tie the vessel Wanderer in the river near the State Street Bridge.

Rooney indicated Mr. Kraczek has rescinded his request to dock a vessel in the river near the State Street Bridge and the appropriate action would be to receive and file the item.

10. Initiate discussion of aquatic weed control within jurisdiction control of the Racine Harbor Commission. (Bring map done by Baird). Glen Lampark invited.

Jim Rooney asked that this item be deferred. He noted he invited Glen Lampark from Racine County to the meeting to discuss the county funding the plan so the Harbor Commission could apply for money from the DNR on behalf of the Racine Yacht Club, Reefpoint Marina, and Lake Shore Towers for aquatic weed control.

11. Review of Dinghy Rack Applications for 2006.

Rooney indicated the dinghy rack and mooring applications were sent out in March. He noted he did send out applications to all the Commission members to review and comment. Receiving no such comments, the applications for the dinghy rack and moorings were sent out.

He further noted some repairs were being made to the dinghy racks so they are more secure for the people who do have spaces in those racks and that action was going to be taken to have Racine Harbor Tenders clear out some of the railroad wheels and buoys in the dinghy rack area.

There was no action required on this item.

12. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Lake Level Bulletin for February & March, 2006.

Rooney distributed the lake level bulletins for the months of February and March, 2006. There was no action required on this item.

13. Next Meeting Date - May 18, 2006.

Rooney indicated the next meeting date would be, Thursday, May 18, 2006. Information only, no action required.

14. Miscellaneous

1. Rooney gave the Harbor Commission members notice of the State Street Bridge becoming operational for the season. He noted that operations would start on April 30, 2006.

2. Rooney indicated the north leaf of the Main Street Bridge is inoperable. He wasn't sure if it was a structural or mechanical issue. He indicated the bridge designer, HNTB, was going to be on notice by the Public Works Department to see what the problem was. He had no other information and would report back to the Harbor Commission at the next meeting if any action was going to be taken. He did note that the north leaf was to have

a red flag hung from each side indicating to boaters that that leaf is inoperable.

The Commission adjourned at 6:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*John C. Rooney, Secretary
Harbor Commission*

Approved by,

*James F. Rooney, Chairman
Harbor Commission*

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