



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Board of Harbor Commission

Thursday, May 20, 2021

3:00 PM

Fifth St. Yacht Club

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present: Tony Herrmann - Chair, Jim C. Rooney — Vice Chair, Sherman Foertsch, Jim Poplawski, Sean Fox, Tom Ryan, Lynn Monroe, Alder - Edwin Santiago Jr., Sgt. Dan Hogan — Racine County Sheriffs Dept. and Ara Molitor — Secretary.

Excused: James Rooney, Dan Strommen, Rick Hennig, Monte Osterman and Tom Molbeck — Director Racine Parks & Rec.

Approval of Minutes for the April 15, 2021 Meeting

The minutes for the April 15, 2021 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.

Racine County Sheriff's Department Water Patrol Report:

Sgt. Hogan gave a brief overview; the season is starting 5/28/21 they are currently getting their boats ready for the season. The buoys are pretty poor shape and need to be replaced and we will need to order 3 or 4 buoy lights for the season.

Parks, Recreational and Cultural Services Department Report:

No report given, Sec. Molitor update commission of the items that he had — Lake level and Boat Launch Sales Report. Concerns were brought up of the people whom launched their boats at the 5th Street launch and then docked in a slip for the season avoiding any launch fees. Is there any way of monitoring this?

North Pier Condition Report:

Chair Herrmann and Vice Chair Rooney gave a summarized overview of their meeting with the County Executive — Delagrave, which went very well. They were allowed to exceed their allotted time for the meeting — showing interest on their part. Key points were as follows:

Representative from the County will attend the next Harbor Commission meeting. They plan on walking the north pier.

The inner 1/3 of the pier was damaged and replaced approximately 40 years ago

We would like to see the outer 2/3 of the pier repaired or replaced in the very least

We will need to put together a package of what will need to be done to accomplish this. Eventually this will be a project administered by the county.

If the lake levels drop again this could cause more problems to the north pier.

As a reminder: the south pier project was completed in 4 phases and it took 8 years to complete the process.

The county will be completing an unrelated project in and around Reef Point Marina this summer. This may be a time that we can utilize those forces to complete additional investigative work on the north pier.

We should ask the County if they could produce a Resolution of Support for the replacement/repairs of the North Pier of the Racine Harbor to send to Federal Government Officials.

The same support should be given from the city via resolution.

The County was very receptive to the idea of a north pier project.

The North Pier and the Harbor are a large part of the protection of important infrastructure and the tourism industry in the area.

Racine fish Hatchery is the only functioning hatchery for the west side of lake Michigan of Tourism for the area is estimated over \$40M, and the harbor is a large part of that.

Reef Point Lighthouse Condition Report:

Chair Herrmann received a response letter from United States Coast Guard. The letter basically stated that the current condition of the lighted buoy placed where the light house used to reside is an acceptable solution to the issue. Simply put, they will not be considering any improvements or repairs to the lighthouse base.

Harbor Commission Appointment Concerns:

Secretary Molitor explained that there are more names than the 9 appointments allowed for the Board of Harbor Commissioners.

There are 4 non-voting members, staff per se, myself — secretary, Sgt. Dan Hogan — County Sherriff, Tom Molbeck — Parks Dept. and James Rooney — Chair Emeritus.

Of the nine voting members,

Officers: Tony Herrmann — Chair, Jim Rooney — Vice Chair, Ad. Santiago — City Representative

Leaving 6 of the remaining 8 names that I have: Sean Fox, Sherman Foertsch, Tom Ryan, Rick Hennig, Lynn Monroe, Dan Strommen, Jim Poplawski and Monte Osterman.

If any of these names are listed in error, please let me know. A few of these people were newly appointed and others have served for years. I do not want to discourage

anyone from attending meeting or involving themselves in the processes of the commission. My point is to clear up any clerical errors and "right the ship" — pun intended.

Next Meeting Date: June 17, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.-Racine Yacht Club

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.