

## Village of Grand Beach

### Parks and Beaches Committee Meeting

**February 23, 2023**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Pete Doerr (Chair); Ed Brandes; Norm Cherrett and Judith Blackburn; Absent: Doug Blauw

**Special Guest by Invitation:** None

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Pete Doerr at 5:30 pm Eastern. At that time the agenda for the meeting was approved on motion made by Ed Brandes and seconded by Judith Blackburn;

**APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:** Thereafter, on motion made by Ed Brandes, seconded by Judith Blackburn, the minutes of the **June 1, 2022** meeting of the Committee were approved as drafted.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Chairman Pete Doerr Review of 2022 Parks and Beaches (and related) activity:**
  - i. Safety signage at Whitewood and Pump House piers;
  - ii. Scrap iron removal on beach;
  - iii. Installation of stairs and revetment rock at the beach at the Pump House Beach;
  - iv. Assertion of the Village's Jensen Court property legal rights; commission of formal land survey; \$100 K offer to purchase pending;
  - v. Sand recoupment program approved by Village Council for residential construction projects;
  - vi. Implemented scheduled beach maintenance program;
  - vii. Council approved the new bike path on GB Road;
  - viii. Council approved a new requirement that hold harmless agreements be signed prior to granting contractor access rights to beach access points for shoreline revetment projects;
- b. **Review Beach Access Points status:**
  - i. Summer 2023: 3 beach access points; Whitewood; Lake Avenue; Pumphouse Beach; General agreement on the need to provide for safe access to all beaches prior to Memorial Day;
  - ii. General discussion about new lookout points at the Ely Street and possibly Pine lake overlooks; Harry Walder has previously done some preliminary research on structural models, materials and costs; Pete Doer, Jerry Dyson and Ed Brandes will continue to do site reviews and additional background research to ultimately prepare recommendations for the Committee; Question whether a single design will work for all viewing platform sites;

- iii. **General discussion and agreement that the Lake Avenue/Jensen Court beach access point needs to fit in w/ the ongoing Village master planning process; Before the Village is in a position to respond to the pending offer to sell that parcel, the strategic value of the parcel as part of the Village's master plan needs to be established;**
  
- c. **Master Plan input needed: Pete Doer reported that Council President Harry Walder is requesting that the Committee start developing a "wish list" of Committee-oriented short and long-term goals to be integrated into the master planning process; e.g. viewing platform pergolas; upgraded playground equipment, beach grooming equipment; Pete Doerr asked all Committee members to come to the next Committee meeting with specific ideas for possible inclusion into the Village master plan currently in development;**
  
- d. **Lake Ave/Jensen Court: Pete Doerr updated the Committee on the pending offer of \$100,000 from the Vanecko family to purchase the parcel owned by the Village;**
  
- e. **Beach Cleaning/Maintenance Schedule: General agreement to key off of the schedule/list developed by Ed Trainor last year, including the potential to hire a summer maintenance person to help maintain the beaches. General agreement that a volunteer beach clean-up day would be scheduled in the spring;**
  
- f. **General discussion of beach access usage and fees for contractors/owners requesting such access from the Village; Committee review draft of draft ordinance proposal from Harry Walder:**
  - i. **How did we come up with \$10K? How to justify?**
  - ii. **Agreed the Village must be consistent and it can't discriminate against non-residents who are contracting for revetment services;**
  - iii. **Agreed the Village needs in part to try to recapture road damage caused by heavy contractor vehicles and equipment carrying heavy loads;**
  - iv. **Pete Doer requesting any further specific committee input by 3/15; Generally favorable response to the draft proposal;**
  
- g. **Discuss Mike O'Halloran letters to the Council re Oriental Bittersweet invasive species; Ed Brandes will deliver copies to the other Committee members; Ed Brandes will also reach out to CISMA agency (Michigan Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas) to arrange for a professional assessment of the nature and extent of the problem within the Village;**
  
- h. **Judith Blackburn requested the Committee's future consideration of rentable storage units on the beaches for paddle boards and related floatable devices;**

**AUDIENCE RECOGNITION:** The Chair recognized the in-person attendance of the following Village resident: Deborah Lindley;

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**NEXT MEETING: March 23, 2023 @ 5:30 pm Eastern Time**

**ADJOURNMENT:** On motion, made by EPB, seconded by JB, and approved thereafter at 6:20 pm Eastern;

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Ed Brandes, Meeting Secretary**