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## **HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING**

**Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at 9:30 AM**

### **MINUTES**

Attendees: Randy K., Steve Dove, Steve Westman, Dennis, (another person with Dennis), Ted Johnson, Dan Fedie, Mike Michaud.

Briefly discussed Ch 31 re Harbor Commission & how it relates to a Harbor lease.

Discussed the status and contents of the lease and the how the various parts have or have not been enforced over the years.

Discussed the number of slips that were in place when Dennis took over the lease, how many have been added and how many are planned to be added. Discussed how addition of the dike hook at the SW part of Harbor entrance has improved the ability to add more slips.

Discussed the pros and cons of having gasoline available for boats at the Marina.

Discussed how the village has more than direct financial benefits from the marina including additional tourism.

Discussed how the existing lease financial payments to the Village were developed and how they compare to other marinas around the lake.

Concern was expressed about the elimination of existing transient slips, limiting water visitors and tourist dollars from that source. Water visitors don't bring cars. Recently a lot more pontoons coming in, usually with as many as eight persons on board.

Discussed traffic congestion on that whole lake side of the tracks and the issues with the two entrances, & parking. Specific concern about emergency response access because of congestion. Steve Dove is aware of five different injuries that have occurred in recent times.

Discussed issues with enforcement of traffic and the limited amount of Village resources to do that. There was a need expressed for more law enforcement efforts at the waterfront.

Dennis suggested closing the launch ramp in front of the office would free up more public parking if those trailer slots were eliminated.

Randy informed the group about a grant application that are in play to get funds to update the whole sportsmen's boat launch area. There is expectation to hear some result one way or the other next month.

Concern was expressed about the Village's lack of financial investment in the waterfront area in general. Lack of money is always the given reason. Discussed potential availability of some limited funds in the Quiet Zone Fund. It was pointed out that the Corp of Engineers should have responsibility for the dike maintenance.

A comment was made that there may be an opportunity to use funds available from the creation of new TID districts for waterfront improvements.

An observation was made that we have likely outgrown the previous plan for the waterfront area.

Discussed various strategies for increasing parking availability in the area.

Concern was expressed about the health of the cottonwood trees along the roadway between the beach area and the Marina Office. Suggestions included planting more trees soon and getting an arborist to examine the health status of those trees.

Discussed the condition of the Yacht Club building and the likely need for structural repairs sometime in the near future.

Discussed the amount of the lease payments and how they compare to other marinas on the river.

There was a general consensus that the lease document has become outdated and likely needs to be rewritten to reflect the current situation. There have been various changed circumstances and Village Board actions over recent years that have not been incorporated into the lease. Specific Board actions that were referenced actions that were taken on December 10, 2018, and on June 5, 2000, and on August 7, 2000.

The group agreed that they would meet again next month with an intent to focus on the lease and how to bring it up to date.

Drew Adams, clerk