

MINUTES OF MEETING
Waterways Advisory Board –March 23, 2015
Room 1B - Kootenai County Administration Building
Coeur d’Alene, Idaho

MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Allman, Jim Aucutt, Norm Blakney, Ray Bradley, Craig Brosenne, John Condon, Brad Pendleton.

STAFF PRESENT: Nick Snyder, Director, Parks & Waterways; Sergeant Ryan Higgins, Sheriff’s Office Recreation Safety Division; Jake Strange, Supervisor, Parks & Waterways; Commissioner Marc Eberlein; Ranell Schwartz, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Carol Till, Angie Bordwell, Cheryl Dickinson, Roger Dickinson, Ross Walkinshaw

Chairman John Condon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. No conflicts of interest were declared by Advisory Board members.

MOTION: Jim Aucutt moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

SAFETY ISSUES ON THE SPOKANE RIVER

Carol Till and others present wanted to make the board aware of safety issues on the Spokane River from Q’melin Boat Launch to Templin’s Resort. In their opinion, boaters lack compliance with the no wake rules in that area. There was discussion about ways to improve the situation with placement of larger, more readable signs that indicate how far the no wake zone extends. Sergeant Ryan Higgins explained law enforcement challenges of recruitment and lake and river coverage. He said that deputies can follow up on any information provided to the Sheriff’s Office regarding offenders including photos of the boats, drivers and boat registration numbers. Nick Snyder said that his staff would assess the signs and buoys currently on the river and he would also talk with the Parks Director at Post Falls regarding better education at the boat launch at Q’melin. The board may re-visit a request made to the BOCC several years about limited hours of water sports activities on the weekend.

WIF CAP DISCUSSION

Jim Aucutt explained the structure of the Waterways Improvement Fund Grants. Currently there is a 30% cap on the funds and that Kootenai County is affected and limited by this cap.

MOTION: Jim Aucutt moved to recommend to the Board of County Commissioner to write to the Idaho Parks and Recreation Board requesting that the cap be eliminated. After some discussion the motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

OVERNIGHT MOORAGE FEES

The BOCC passed the ordinance approving a special use permit and overnight moorage fees. The Parks and Waterways staff concluded that there is currently no fair mechanism to implement the overnight fees. They will wait until the proper signage and infrastructure is in place to begin charging for overnight moorage, however they will continue to charge fees for moorage reservations.

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

SPOKANE RIVER SAFETY – WEEKEND HOURS

ADVISORY BOARD TERM LIMITS

BOOTHES PARK

STAFF REPORTS

Nick Snyder, Parks & Waterways-

Nick presented personalized life rings to the Waterways Advisory Board members to thank them for years of service to Kootenai County.

A new restroom will be installed at Spokane Point next week. This is the last restroom that needs replacing. Mowry Park Shelter footings and forms have been poured. Staff is waiting until July when the weather will permit road access to finish the project. Docks for Harlow have been built in house by staff and installed 3-weeks ago. Mr. Snyder is in the planning process to replace the Breakwater at Harrison in a few years. Other projects include a WIF grant request for Carlin Bay docks, building a shelter at Carlin Bay and revisiting the recreational island project. Mr. Snyder introduced Jake Strange who is the new Field Operations Supervisor for Parks & Waterways. Maria Petris is now over special projects and logistics.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ranell Schwartz

Recording Secretary