

Epworth Forest Pier Administration Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Gaither, Ruth Buell, Ron Erb, Nick Yarde, and Brian Yahne
REMC REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Nicole Totzke, Brian Harding and Steffany Miller
Also in attendance: Epworth Forest Camp Manager - Danni Barnum

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 1:10pm

The Committee approved the minutes of the December 14, 2010 Pier Administration Committee Meeting as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Nicole read the financial report mentioning that due to the prepaid pier fees received to date (Community Piers: \$700, Shoreline: \$7,470), both the Community and Shoreline accounts have been able to cover administrative expenses.

OLD BUSINESS:

Revised Lakefront Plan: Prior to the meeting, the relocated assignees were notified of the upcoming 2011 changes. Responses were received from assignees of eliminated pier assignments 25A, 37C, 40C, 45A, 53A, and 40A outlining their discontent with the decisions, with several demanding to be assigned back to their original locations. REMC noted that although assignees of eliminated assignments 29B, 31A and 37B verbally voiced their objections to the newly assigned locations; they have yet to submit this in writing. Assignee from eliminated pier assignment 30A agreed to accept the relocated assignment. At this time no response has been received from assignees from eliminated pier assignments 31D, 44A and 59B. Discussion ensued under New Business.

Gaither commented that he had been in contact with an attorney to discuss legal fees that the committee has now and may continue to incur over the pier assignments. The attorney believed that both sides shall eventually meet in binding arbitration and that the conference should participate in the costs of the legal fees. As a PAC member, Greg would like to know the Conference's response on this. He mentioned that outstanding bills can not be paid until this is resolved and he is afraid of what the future attorney costs might be. Nick will address Greg's concerns with the Conference to find out their thoughts on the legal fees.

NEW BUSINESS:

REMC noted that pier assignment 50 (discussed in the last meeting as owning less than 24 feet of lake frontage) has been determined, by an update on the Kosciusko County website, to own approximately 50 ft of shoreline. As such, this assignment will retain the original 24ft of assigned usable space.

REMC provided a confirmation letter from assignee on pier assignment 1, noting his understanding of the assigned location and available footage in Epworth Forest (EF) and his agreement to share frontage with the neighboring unit (outside of the EF community). REMC will respond with confirmation of the available shoreline within EF only, noting that the neighborly agreement is the owner's responsibility to maintain.

The PAC directed REMC to update the Pier Administration Policy to reflect the following three items: Pier assignment eligibility determined by lot ownership as defined on the Kosciusko County GIS mapping website, pier assignment size for lakefront owners owning less than 24 feet of frontage, and reasonable distance between piers of a minimum of 2 feet.

Greg made a motion to deliver a written response, preapproved by the PAC, to eliminated pier assignees 40C, 45A, 53A, and 40A informing them that their requests had been received and heard, but the decision still stands. Their options for 2011 and going forward are to accept their new assignment, pick a different pier location identified along Eagle Point, be added to the Community Pier waiting list, or choose to no longer have a pier location, and documentation regarding how the original decision was made shall be available upon request. Notification shall be sent to the lakefront owners that will be affected by the new assignments once the final determination of changes has been made. Seconded by Brian. All in favor. Motion carried.

Nick moved that any correspondence received from legal counsel shall be forwarded to the Conference attorney for response. Seconded by Greg. All in favor. Motion carried. As such, the letter received on behalf of eliminated pier assignment 25A will be forwarded to the attorney.

As time would not allow further discussion on the remaining topics, the following items were tabled to the next meeting:

1. Elimination of 37C and partial lot ownership as it relates to pier assignments
2. Request from pier assignments 21 and 22 regarding lot size as it relates to pier assignments

ADJOURNMENT - Meeting was adjourned at 3:40pm. Next meeting was set for Tuesday, February 22nd at 1:00pm.