

Epworth Forest Pier Administration Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 22, 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 1:06pm

The Committee approved the minutes of the February 14, 2011 Pier Administration Committee Meeting as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Nicole mentioned that as of February 21, 2011, 36% of assignees prepaid pier fees resulting in 62 assignees paid and 108 assignees unpaid. For the Community Piers, 26% of assignees had paid resulting in 6 assignees paid and 17 assignees unpaid (the Community Pier numbers reflect 1 vacant short pier slot at this time).

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Response letter to eliminated assignees: The drafted letter was approved, and it was agreed that it should be sent out to 40C, 45A, 53A, and 40A.

b. Letter to onshore owners with new assignments: A simple letter is to be drafted and sent out to the on shore owners letting them know there will be a new off-shore assignee that will be sharing the lake front with them.

c. Legal Update – Turner, Senger: Nick will get with Brent and review both cases. Brian offered to help by forwarding any needed information or documents that the new attorney may need.

d. 37C Kato – Eliminated due to half lot ownership: Greg informed the Committee that Kato had been in contact with him, and said that he would pursue legal action if the decision is not consistent amongst lakefront and non-lakefront owners. The Committee, wanting to be fair and consistent, worked on a formula for determining eligibility for requesting a pier assignment. After much discussion, Ron made a motion that **Lot owners located in Epworth Forest with a residence located on them, or that own a lot that is buildable as a residence by current Kosciusko County building standards, are eligible to apply for a pier assignment.**” Seconded by Ruth. All in favor. Motion carried.

e. Brian Schlaugenhaut / Cary McLaughlin – Requesting more space. After discussing the request for more space given shorefront ownership larger than 50 feet the Committee again confirmed the following allowable width criteria as voted at the 12/14/10 PAC meeting: **Lakefront owners who own at least 24’ of shoreline frontage shall be allotted a pier assignment up to 24’.** **Lakefront owners owning less than 24’ of shoreline frontage shall be allotted a pier assignment up to the limited frontage owned (i.e. if 22’ is owned the lakefront assignment shall be up to 22’ wide.)** **If a lakefront owner owns less than 16’ of shoreline, that lakefront owner shall be allotted at least 16’ for their on shore pier assignment.** Therefore, the committee concluded that since 24 feet is the maximum allowable width for a shoreline space regardless of the size of the lot owned, the Schlaugenhauts and McLaughlins are already being allowing the maximum width per the policy and, therefore, their requests are denied.

f. Policy updates: The PAC requested the Pier Administration Policy be updated to include the following information:
Pier Assignment Eligibility: Lot owners located in Epworth Forest with a residence located on them, or that own a lot that is buildable as a residence by current Kosciusko County building standards, are eligible to apply for a pier assignment. Anyone owning an additional lot that is buildable as a residence by current Kosciusko County building standards is eligible to request an additional pier assignment. Lot ownership shall be based upon the information available in the Kosciusko County public records.

Additional Criteria for Allowable Width: Lakefront owners who own at least 24’ of shoreline frontage shall be allotted a pier assignment up to 24’. Lakefront owners owning less than 24’ of shoreline frontage shall be allotted a pier assignment up to the limited frontage owned (i.e. if 22’ is owned the lakefront assignment shall be up to 22’ wide.) If a lakefront owner owns less than 16’ of shoreline, that lakefront owner shall be allotted at least 16’ for their pier assignment.

Safe Distance Between Piers: A minimum of two (2) feet is required between pier assignments.

NEW BUSINESS: Nicole shared that she has resigned her position at REMC and her last day will be March 18, 2011. Brian assured the PAC that a suitable replacement will be secured and that he and Steffany Miller with REMC will continue to manage this account and work with the Conference, PAC and community.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm. The next meeting was set for Tuesday, March 22nd at 1:00pm.