

MINUTES OF MEETING
Waterways Advisory Board –September 19, 2016
Room 1B - Kootenai County Administration Building
Coeur d’Alene, Idaho

MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Allman, Jim Aucutt, Norm Blakney, John Condon, Brad Pendleton.

STAFF PRESENT: Nick Snyder, Director, Parks & Waterways; Jake Strange, Supervisor, Parks & Waterways; Sergeant Will Klinkefus, Sheriff’s Office Recreation Safety Division; Ranell Schwartz, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Amy Shulund, Fred Ambrose.

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

REGULATORY MARKER PERMITTING DISCUSSION

Chairman John Condon initiated a discussion concerning whether or not the Waterways Advisory Board should continue hearing cases from the public for Regulatory Marker Applications. The Idaho Department of Lands is the governing agency over permitting and enforcing non-compliance. This board has been considering applications and making a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners for about twenty years. If the BOCC approves the application, the Kootenai County Parks and Waterways Department makes application to the Department of Lands for the regulatory markers. Director Nick Snyder said he can only remember one application by a Homeowner’s Association that was approved and swim buoys deployed. He also said that the Idaho Department of Lands, with input from the Kootenai County Sheriff’s Office and Parks and Waterways, is drafting a press release informing the private waterfront property owners that non-permitted buoys are illegal and should be removed. With input from the Sheriff’s Office and the Waterways Advisory Board, Parks & Waterways will continue to deploy regulatory markers for general navigation in public areas.

MOTION: Jim Aucutt moved to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that the County not deal with no-wake buoys for private citizens. The motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

REGULATORY MARKER APPLICATION-SHULUND

Amy Shulund presented an application for two no wake buoys on Lake Coeur d’Alene. She stated that she had contacted the Idaho Department of Lands and they told her to apply through this Board. She also stated that wake boats are the real issue. The wake they create has caused damage to her docks and shoreline. Chairman Condon advised her that the new land use code allows for waterfront property owners to protect their shoreline. Permits can be obtained from the County Community Development Department for work above the ordinary high water mark and the Idaho Department of Lands for any work below the ordinary high water mark.

In light of the previous decision, no action was taken.

PROPOSED BOATER SURVEY DISCUSSION

Nick Snyder presented a draft for a survey to be sent to boaters who purchased Annual Boat Launch Passes from the County. The survey is intended to indicate whether or not boaters support:

- Increasing the existing 200 ft. NO WAKE ZONE from any shoreline or structure to 500 ft. while wake boarding or wake surfing (This would eliminate wake boarding or wake surfing on the Spokane River).
- Statewide mandatory boater education.

MOTION: John Condon moved to send the proposed boater survey. The motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

JOINT MEETING WITH BONNER COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD DISCUSSION

Chairman Condon stated that the Bonner County Waterways Advisory Board would like to meet with this board in Bayview to discuss boating issues. They have been having the same discussions regarding wake boats.

MOTION: John Condon moved to direct the Parks and Waterways staff to set up a meeting. The motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

PARKS & WATERWAYS PROJECT UPDATE PRESENTATION

Nick Snyder presented a power point showing completed and future projects.

OLD BUSINESS

WAKE RESTRICTIONS:

Chairman Condon asked Sergeant Will Klinkefus if they can restrict the size of a wake. Sergeant Klinkefus stated that if it was in ordinance then they would train deputies to recognize the size of the wake so it could be enforced. Chairman Condon will invite the US Coast Guard to offer input regarding what has worked in other states to address the wake boat issues.

REGULATORY MARKER PLACEMENT:

In addition to the previous discussion, Sergeant Klinkefus stated that the Marine Division can focus on problem areas with education and enforcement on the water much like traffic patrols set up speed reader boards.

MANDATORY BOATER EDUCATION:

Nick Snyder provided information on the Washington State Boater Education program.

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

STAFF REPORTS

Jake Strange, Parks & Waterways: Staff has been focused on clean up of facilities. They also plan to place a 40 foot dock at the Greensferry Launch and make some other improvement to that site. This will provide more access to the Spokane River. Once the improvements are complete they will begin charging a launch fee at that facility.

Sergeant Will Klinkefus, Sheriff's Office Recreation Safety Division :

His crew is done for the season. Safety inspections were down a little from previous years. There was one major fatality case on Lake Coeur d'Alene. He discussed recruitment for next season.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ranell Schwartz

Recording Secretary