

BEL MARIN KEYS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
Special Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, August 11, 2014

Directors:

Darrick Chase, President
Vince Lattanzio, Vice-President
Ernie Ganas
Ruth Simpson
Mark Montobbio

- I. Call to Order (PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES): 7:31pm**
- II. Pledge to the Flag**
- III. Roll Call: Lattanzio, Chase, Simpson, Ganas, Montobbio**
- IV. Sunset Lagoon Ski Area**

Mr. Parent, CLE Engineering, addressed the board and noted that CLE was commissioned by the District to engage and consultant/expert to review the sunset lagoon ski area specifically with regard to the length and direction of travel to that specific area. He noted that Brian Grieser, Applied Safety and Ergonomics, was engaged and provided his opinion in a draft five page report. Mr. Parent summarized the events. He noted Mr. Greiser was on site August 6, 2014 and taken out on the water via the District work barge and as ski boat facilitated by a resident, and observe a ski boat both at ski and wake board speed. Buoys were moved and the direction of travel was monitored.

Vice-President Lattanzio asked for clarification as to what was the difference between ski and wake boarding speed. The Waterways Manager noted that approximately 28-30 miles per hour in a ski and 18-20 miles for wake boarding and that also includes tubing.

President Chase asked what the general perimeters for the report were and background on this area. Mr. Parent noted that CLE recommended years back that certain ski areas be pulled back which was specific to erosion control on the earthen levees, and it was a Board decision at that time to move forward and perform levee repairs, and instructed to armor them and move away from earthen levee structures specially when they were adjacent to a ski area not able to take the wave and erosion action and look for a more permanent solution for an earthen levees. Although it is a more costly repair from a longevity standpoint they hold a lot better and therefore the area was pulled back. For multiple of reasons the ski areas was not adapted to those changes as construction projects were completed for one of the items Mr. Grieser was asked to look at was the were wake and wake energy be dispersed for CLE main concern is levee erosion control.

Mr. Parent noted that Mr. Grieser is versed in ski courses and industry standards for safety and course of travel. He went out and watched what was done with the shortened area and elongated area. In the report he interprets his own opinion on wakes and wakes upon wakes and direction of travel also his idea of an optimal ski course and recommends taking the course

back to pre existing condition prior to the June Board meeting and historical location.

Director Montobbio asked for Mr. Grieser's credentials which were read out load by Mr. Parent.

Mr. Parent noted the industry standard is for a course to run counter clock-wise and noted that the biggest waves were observed at wakeboarding speeds. Vice-President Lattanzio noted that the longer the run the more time the waves had to dissipate and not pile on top of each other and the damage lessened. He also noted that the regulations on the back are not part of the discussion at this meeting.

Mr. Parent noted that the vessel used was the max length allowed per the waterways regulation.

President Chase asked for clarifications as to which ski course did the consultant in his opinion deem safer. Mr. Parent read an excerpt from the consultant report which reads, "Restoring the larger size of the water ski area will act to lower the density of boats and skiers in the lagoon. Reducing boat density generally reduces the risk of collisions on a lake, and collisions are the number one recreational boating accident type on U.S. waters, and the leading cause of boating injuries. Restoring the ski area would increase the length of the boat path from approximately 4500 feet to 6100 [that is the circumference of the whole area], resulting in a boat density decrease along the ski pattern in the lagoon by greater than 1/3 (36%)."

Vice-President Lattanzio pointed out on the report which addressed the shorten ski run which is just "1900 feet long and below the recommended 2000+ 3000 feet for water ski lakes/areas. The overall length of the former sunset ski area is 2,700 feet."

President Chase noted that the meeting would be opened to the public and taking comments, however, he noted that there are a number of items at play; one being discussed under the agenda as to what is the best/safe course, and the other is once out in the water whether the boaters are following the rules and the notion of the enforcement.

A question was raised by a resident whether damage was observed during the site visit. Mr. Parent noted that video was taken and no damage was observed.

Clarification was asked to what type of boat was used (a flat bottom boat or a deep) for the study. It was noted that a deep v boat/wakeboarding boat was used.

Resident asked the location of the buoys as to how far they are from the docks and speed of boats in relation to location of a boat.

Resident Clive Burton, noted he witnessed the trial and that the vessel used was a ski boat traveling at high speed and with no skier. He also noted that the moment you change an area that is current no wake and opening it up you have boaters throwing as much wake as they want. He further noted that there are no mention of offsets in the report and there is mentioned of the protected area of the docks and no mention of the unprotected areas such as peoples docks and no consideration for property owners.

Resident noted that the recommended ski course by the consultant is much safer.

President Lattanzio noted that the issue about the removal of the no wake sign does not mean it is a free for all, particularly for larger vessels simply because the sign is removed the no wake zone need to be adhered to.

Residents asked for clarification as to the no wake zone speed limit and being limited to 5 miles per hour for boats over 40 feet.

Resident addressed concerned for homeowners property and not opposing skiing, however, there are a number of resident who do not partake in skiing rather kayak or swim and cannot do that once the skier out in the water, as well as the need to address the docks damage done by wakes as it will impact more property owners with the elongated course.

The Board acknowledged resident concerns and noted that the Boards responsibility is to set a course which is safe given the area we have to work with and enforcement is possibly the next step for this is not the end of the discussion and as a unique community we need to be courteous to our neighbors.

****MOTION to accept the report from the consultant and for the proposed ski area as drawn and implement on sunset lagoon.**

M/S: Ganas, Chase

Votes: Ayes- Chase, Lattanzio, Simpson, Montobbio, Ganas

V. Open Forum-no comments

VI. Adjournment

****MOTION: To adjourn the Special Board meeting of August 11, 2014**

M/S: Chase, Lattanzio

Vote: Ayes- Ganas, Chase, Montobbio, Lattanzio, Simpson

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm