

City of Sheboygan  
2016-09-21

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LAKEFRONT WATER SAFETY TASK GROUP - 4: 00 PM (Wednesday, September 21, 2016)Generated by Janet Duellman on Friday, September 23, 2016

1. OPENING OF MEETINGPresent: Board of Marine, Parks, and Forestry Chairperson Mike Froh, Superintendent of Parks and Forestry Joe Kerlin, Officer Jeff Mares of the Sheboygan Police Department, City Attorney Charles Adams, Planning & Development Director Chad Pelishek, Larry Williams, Scott Hanson, Alderperson Scott Lewandoske, Jason Dwyer of the US Coast Guard, Sheboygan County Emergency Management Director Steven Steinhardt, Randall Eigenberger of the Army Corps of Engineers and Karen Davis of Community Recreation DepartmentOfficials/Staff: Mayor Michael Vandersteen and Janet M DuellmanExcused: Robert Stanick of the Army Corps of Engineers and Matt Bauer of Harbor Centre MarinaAbsent: Alderperson John Belanger, Deputy Chief Chuck Butler, Matt Wirzbach of SEASSpecial Guests: Tom O Bryan of the Grand Haven MI USACE Office, Dan Clark of the Grand Haven MI USACE Office, and Ben Mauthe of the Army Corps of Engineers

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

2. ITEMS FOR ACTION

2.1 Approval of minutes from August 31, 2016 meeting.Mike Froh moved to approve the minutes, Chad Pelishek seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1 Discussion on how other communities address pier safety by Tom O'Bryan, Area Engineer from the Grand Haven MI USACE OfficeTom O Bryan presented his presentation which is attached to the agenda.

Highlights from the presentation are: Some communities have no swim zones next to the structure (150 - 300 ) and others have local ordinances regarding no jumping from the piers. Signs have been moving away from the "Enter at Own Risk" and going towards pictures signs. Another community has a memorial that states In memory of lives lost off these piers. In honor of those who tried to save them. Some ways to get the safety message out is: Booths at festivals Handing out brochures, frisbees, and other informational/promotional items Send out dvd s to schools/libraries Problem with this was they weren t getting into the teachers hands and teachers would call and ask if the Corp has anything on Water Safety.

Play safety videos in movie theater as a trailer before the movie  
Broadcast beach conditions as part of the weather forecast

Work with TV stations in area to broadcast daily Jason Dwyer stated that the news has been calling to do interviews the last two times the piers have been closed. Life jacket loaner board Corp can help supply life jackets but maintenance and upkeep will need to be completed by the community. Life Ring that when pulled notifies 911 Sign by life rings stating Please notify us if equipment is missing.

Call xxx-xxx-xxxx."

Under committee discussion Joe Kerlin asked Tom O Bryan what seems to work in other communities? Tom O Bryan stated that: flags on beaches (seasonal) adjacent to Corp structures along with something similar on TV.

rewards to kids wearing life jackets life rings that call 911 when removed life saving gear in trunks of police cruisers. Tom O Bryan further stated that education is very important.

Use of dramatic signs, real life stories, and trailers in movie theater/hotels are things other communities are using.

Mayor Vandersteen inquired where should the safety rings be placed?

Tom O Bryan stated that they need to be placed where people drown like at the end of the pier.

Mike Froh explained the concern about having the rings on the pier because someone else would be putting their lives in danger by trying to rescue the other person. Tom O Bryan stated that they would more than likely already be out there.

They should be placed every 200 along the shoreline and at the beginning, midpoint and end on a pier.

Larry Williams stated that he would like to have 4 rings in a cluster instead of one as suggested.

Tom also stated that it is a good idea not to put City of Sheboygan on the life rings because they will become souvenirs and disappears.

Larry Williams asked if the safety rings that are out of the piers are kept out on the piers all year round.

Tom O Bryan stated that it s about 50 - 50.

The ones on the structures (piers) are removed in the winter.

Tom O Bryan spoke about the call boxes and having cameras on them.

They can assist with the theft of rings, prank calls, and help as another set of eyes if an incident occurs.

Tom O Bryan mentioned that the Corp has no problem with the piers being closed.

The committee asked if an agreement was needed to close the piers.

Tom replied no agreement was needed to close the piers.

Currently, the coast guard calls the police department and the police department gets barricades from DPW to close the pier.

3.2 Education UpdateNot discussed at this meeting due to lack of time

3.3 Radio Boardcast UpdateMayor has spoken with WHBL about broadcasting beach hazards, small craft advisors, etc.

Also Jason Dwyer did a 7 mins water safety segment on September 2, 2016.

3.4 USACE Pier Signs UpdateNot discussed at this meeting due to lack of time

3.5 Viewing of Great Lakes Beach & Pier Safety Task Force video "Respect the Power"Janet Duellman stated that the testimonials are very powerful and she recommended that the committee watch the dvd s and that there was one for each of them on the table and they should take one to view.

3.6 Discussion on next stepsNot discussed at this meeting due to lack of time

#### 4. FUTURE MEETINGS

4.1 Next Meetings: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 and Wednesday, November 16, 2016

#### 5. ADJOURN

5.1 Motion to AdjournScott Hanson moved to adjourn, Charles Adams seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. Being no further business meeting was adjourned at 5: 36 pm.