



**CITY OF LONG LAKE  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 12, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Chair Crump.

Present: Committee Members Crump, Kelley, Erickson, and Stephenson; Planning Consultant, Ann Perry, and City Councilmember Skjaret.

Absent: Committee Member Hughes.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

*Commissioner Kelley moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Ayes: all.*

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Minutes of the May 29, 2012 Planning Commission Meeting**

*Commissioner Stephenson moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Erickson seconded. Ayes: all.*

**OPEN CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Planning Case No. 2012-03 and Public Hearings Continuation to Consider Zoning Ordinance Amendments to Permit Rowing Club Facilities as an Interim Use; and an Interim Use Permit for Rowing Club Facilities for the Long Lake Rowing Club at 1310 West Wayzata Boulevard**

Chair Crump noted that this public hearing has been continued from the previous meeting and asked that Planning Consultant Perry provide a brief summary of information.

City Planning Consultant Perry confirmed that two actions are contained within the public hearing tonight, the first is to amend the PUD District to allow rowing club facilities as an interim use and to allow temporary structures within the district and the second would be to consider the application for an interim use permit for rowing club facilities for the Long Lake Rowing Club at 1310 West Wayzata Boulevard. She noted that information and communication from the applicant was included in the Commission packet for review. She stated that based on the comments made by the public at the previous meeting, two

conditions were added: that the lease agreement between the applicant and the property owner be submitted to the City prior to the issuance of a building permit, and the second that the existing building, stairway and deck not be used by the rowing club. She noted that an email request was also received after the Commission packet was prepared asking that the termination date of the interim use permit be changed to January 21, 2014.

Todd Wilson, Executive Director of Long Lake Rowing Club, thanked the Commission for this opportunity and noted articles in local papers, which feature the Rowing Club. He stated that the membership numbers continue to grow, and noted that current membership is near 50 members. He stated that in order to move forward, the move to the proposed location is important for the Club. He explained that the Club is working towards a more permanent home, and is currently reviewing various options. He stated that he has received nothing but positive comments in response to the local publications.

Marty Schneider, 1176 West Wayzata Boulevard, noted that his property is approximately 300 feet from the proposed site. He stated that he has already had coffee with Mr. Wilson to discuss this issue. He questioned if the existing building would be used at all, as he believed that the building had been condemned.

Mr. Wilson stated that the Club has no plans to use the building or the deck, only the temporary structure.

Mr. Schneider asked if members would be able to use the site for reasons other than the rowing activity and whether members would be bringing their own boats to the site for private use.

Mr. Wilson stated that power boats would not be used at the dock. He advised that the Minneapolis Rowing Club had not been able to use their own site because of the high water levels at that location and recently came to Long Lake to conduct their morning rowing activity, although they utilized a public access. He stated that should that occur in the future he would possibly extend an invitation for those rowers to use his access. He advised that activity is usually focused on the early morning hours and estimated no more than 10 to 15 boats at one time, with only rowing activities occurring on the property. He stated that rowers usually go to bed by 8:30 p.m. because of the early morning hours needed to utilize the water by rowers before other boats arrive on the lake. He explained that rowing is different than sailing, as rowers usually limit themselves to early morning hours and usually leave the site shortly after the activity is complete. He advised of the upcoming rowing event and estimated only one or two events per year, with possibly another informal event to occur. He confirmed that he intends to meet the building code and DNR regulations.

Mr. Schneider questioned the relationship between the Rowing Club and Gear West.

Mr. Wilson explained that Jan Guenther, owner of Gear West, is a Board member who is helping to support the Club and get the idea off the ground. He stated that the goal of the Club is to be the best neighbor possible to those living on Long Lake.

Mr. Schneider encouraged that the City add as much definition as possible to the permit in order to provide clarity to both the Rowing Club and the residents.

Chair Crump confirmed that a condition would be included in the permit specifying no use of the existing building or deck, and allowing the use of four boat slips and no slides.

Mr. Wilson confirmed that the boats would not be left on the shore, as they need to be stored for protection.

Chair Crump confirmed that the City language would specify that the dock size meet the DNR requirements, if a permit is not requested. He questioned if a definition of an "event" could be given by the Rowing Club in order to limit that activity to two or three per year.

Mr. Wilson stated that he would be comfortable with two events allowed per year. He explained that over 400 people would be brought into the community for the event this weekend. He explained that five local clubs could be invited over for a scrimmage without holding an event. He suggested that an event be defined as an activity, which requires the access of another boat launch, other than the launch provided at the Billy's Lighthouse location.

Planning Consultant Perry suggested the language, "no more than two events per year with events defined as including clubs invited from out of state".

A resident asked if local residents would need to stay off the lake during these activities.

Mr. Wilson explained how an event is held and asked simply that residents do not cross the pathway or that power boats limit racing or generating wake during that time.

Mr. Schneider asked what the law would state in regard to that activity.

Chair Crump explained that the interim use permit would give the City the opportunity to allow the Club to hold four events, over two summers, to gauge the use and how well the activity fits with the community. He commented that the traffic on the lake is strange, as different activities follow different pathways. He explained that the City would not be able to guaranty flat water for the rowers and believed that there may be conflicts on the lake. He believed that the Rowing Club would need to work with local police to work out the details for others using the public landing during events or activities.

Mr. Wilson explained that he has simply just spoken with the users on the lake to explain his activity and has not had many problems.

Chair Crump stated that the public landing is closed for the water ski show each year, so he believed that would be an option for the rowing events in the future, although he was unsure of the process that would need to be followed.

Mike Pan, 1272 Tealwood Place, spoke in representation of the Tealwood Homeowners Association. He stated that the previous year he was able to watch the rowing event and thought it was an amazing thing. He believed that the active use of the Billy's Lighthouse property would be beneficial to everyone. He stated that the residents in his association use the lake quite frequently and would not like to see restrictions on lake access or use. He commented that he has been on the lake with the rowers and believes it is fun to watch. He did not believe there would be conflict for the larger rowing events, as most people gauge

the level of activity and move to a different lake if there is too much activity. He questioned how the shells will get from the parking lot to the lake if the deck and stairs cannot be used.

Mr. Wilson stated that he has mapped out a direct route that would require minimal turning, on the west side of the existing building. He confirmed that he would remove a section of the walkway.

Mr. Pan stated that residents had also discussed the use of the site and normal concerns including noise, lights, trash, and bathrooms.

Mr. Wilson confirmed that portable bathrooms would be supplied on site, but would be hidden by the temporary structure. He hoped not to generate much garbage, but advised that there would be a rubbish bin on site. He hoped to install a motion activated light that would shine on the temporary structure, and also hoped to install gates on the access points to prevent theft. He confirmed that he would be mowing the site and intended to keep the location tidy.

Chair Crump questioned if the Rowing Club would be willing to address some concerns located at the site, such as removing the satellite dish.

Phil Ordway, the owner of the Billy's Lighthouse property, confirmed that he would have no problem removing the satellite dish. He stated that the structure is a solid shell, which could be reused. He stated that although he does not have intention to remove the building, he does intend to spruce up the appearance. He believed that this use would be a great opportunity to improve the site during the current economic time, until further development of the site could occur. He noted that he also lives on the lake and would like to see this property used. He confirmed that a lease would be used and noted that a number of the items discussed will be included in the lease. He explained that his lease would likely be more restrictive than some of the City conditions. He confirmed that the small garage located on site could possibly be used for the trash storage and bathrooms.

Mr. Wilson stated that although the idea of locating the bathrooms in the garage seems good, he was unsure that the location would be ideal for ventilation and service.

Commissioner Stephenson confirmed that the Rowing Club would possess insurance, in case of injury on the site by a member.

Mr. Wilson confirmed that the Club would possess that type of insurance and would also list the City and County as insured for the rowing events.

Chair Crump closed the public hearing at 7:23 p.m.

*Commissioner Stephenson moved to recommend that the City Council adopt Ordinance 2012-03 amending the Long Lake zoning Ordinance to permit rowing club facilities as an interim use in the PUD District. Commissioner Kelly seconded. Ayes: all.*

*Commissioner Kelley moved to recommend approval adopt resolution approving interim use permit for Long Lake Rowing Club to operate as a Rowing Club Facility, to be located at 1310 West Wayzata Boulevard, subject to the discussed conditions including that the site be limited to four slips and no slides, that the number of events with out of state participants be*

*limited to two per season, and that the applicant will work with City staff to clean-up the site. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Ayes: all.*

**B. Annual Review of Conditional Use Permits (CUP's) Approved by the City**

City Planning Consultant Perry advised that each June, the Planning Commission and City Council review the existing Conditional Use Permits (CUPs) in the City. She noted that the only CUP of concern is located at 82 Westwood Drive, explaining that it has been noticed that cars are parked on the outside lawn. She stated that she has called the resident and City Administrator Post has sent letters to the resident but neither action has generated a response. She noted that the next action would be to refer this item to the City Attorney to determine the next course of action.

Chair Crump questioned if neighborhood complaints had been received on this item.

Planning Consultant Perry confirmed that the first letter generated by City staff in regard to this issue was in response to a neighborhood generated complaint. She noted that this property is in a visible location.

Chair Crump recommended that guidance be given to City staff to generate a very direct letter to the business owner/resident explaining that the violation of parking vehicles in the lawn could result in the revocation of the CUP.

Planning Consultant Perry was unclear if the CUP was still being used, but noted that parking in the lawn is still not allowed.

Commissioner Erickson referenced the CUP for the Peppercorn Grill location and confirmed that since the location had been vacated, the CUP could also be vacated. He also referenced the Tonka Auto and Marine location and asked for additional information in regard to the height of the fence and whether barbed wire is allowed on that same fence.

Planning Consultant Perry reported that the CUP was not issued for the ISS business, but specifically for the fence when constructed in 1987, which limits the purview of what could be done on that item. She believed that the Tonka Auto and Marine issue would come back before the City in the fall, once the boats return to the site and the question of whether the outdoor storage limitations are met.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Council Liaison Report**

Councilmember Skjaret stated that a presentation was given to the Council at the previous meeting in regard to the Tour De Tonka, the bicycle event, and award was given to the City for the previous year's participation. He advised that the event will be held later this summer, August 4<sup>th</sup>. He also noted the temporary closing of Highway 12.

**Commission Member Business**

Commissioner Erickson noted that the Downtown Parking Subcommittee will be meeting this Friday at 10:00 a.m. for further discussion.

**Staff Business**

None.

**ADJOURN**

*Commissioner Stephenson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. Commissioner Kelley seconded. Ayes: all.*

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Post  
City Administrator