

Waterfront Safety Committee Minutes

Meeting Date: April 1, 2021 4:00 p.m. via Zoom

Committee Attendees: Craig Brigham, Jim Coughlin, Gordon Fuller, Bill Haverty, Jeffrey Wilt
Community Participants: Dan Webster, Karen Trasatti, Casey Brown, Lisa Berry Brown, Jen Lannan, Nate Cohen

The committee convened to discuss 4 agenda items: Recommendation for upcoming summer season on waterfront (floats, etc.), Kayak Storage as seawall project continues, moorings, and permitting process for small watercraft.

Recommendation for upcoming summer season on waterfront (floats, etc.)

Jeffrey Wilt led the discussion by reminding the group that the WSC has traditionally focused its energy on issues related to the watercraft, watercraft access and storage of small watercraft on NVC waterfront assets.

Jeffrey made a motion, seconded by Craig Brigham, recommending the boat floats be installed on the regular spring schedule and that those floats be open for use following CDC guidelines. The motion passed unanimously (5 votes yes, 0 no).

The committee, with input from community members, then discussed the swim float, focusing on the following:

- Seeking clarification as to which committee has “guidance authority” over the swim float—remembering that committees do not have direct authority but make recommendations to the Overseers.
- The impact not installing the swim float has on the boat floats (e.g., impermissible use of boat floats as a swimming platform).
- There existed—at least in this meeting—a clear consensus that the swim float should be installed for the 2021 summer season.

Kayak/Paddle Board Storage

The committee discussed kayak storage for the upcoming summer season. The area generally used for storage will not be accessible to allow seeded grass to grow. There is a consensus that Bayview Park is the most appropriate option for storage—area at the top of the beach access ramp. Early communication to the public is important. We also must remind villagers that there is no parking permitted at the base of Bayview Park.

Moorings

The committee discussed recent concerns expressed by villagers over mooring block storage on the beach at Ruggles Park. Important information to share:

- Billy Paige & Scott Munroe worked together this fall and winter to remove 35 unused mooring blocks.
- There are now fewer than 30 blocks stored on the beach—including those belonging to the NYC Sailing School, NVC (to anchor boat and swim floats), private boaters, and Bayside Marine.
- Scott Munroe plans to continue to “clean-up” the storage placement, consolidating blocks close to the northside causeway wall.
- NVC is a working waterfront; there will always be some mooring blocks stored over the winter on the beach.
- Last year was unique as many moorings were not placed in the anchorage due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Bill Haverty made a motion, seconded by Jim Coughlin, recommending that mooring blocks not place by July 1 be moved as close as possible to the causeway. The motion passed unanimously (5 votes yes, 0 no).

Dan Webster suggested that language relating to mooring block storage be included in the new Waterfront Ordinance as a means to enforce rules in the future.

Permitting Process for Small Watercraft

The discussion of this topic was tabled because Bill Paige was not present.