

MOUND DOCKS AND COMMONS COMMISSION MINUTES
January 16, 2025

The Mound Docks and Commons Commission met on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Centennial Building at 5341 Maywood Road in Mound.

Present: Chair Derrick Hentz, Commissioners Heidi Peterson, James Vettel and Jesse Jensen and Representative Kevin Castellano

Absent: Dave Olson

Others Present: Administrative Services Coordinator/City Clerk Kevin Kelly,

Derrick Hentz called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION, by Peterson, seconded by Vettel, to approve the agenda. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

2. Oath of Office by City Clerk Kevin Kelly

A. Commissioner Heidi Peterson – Non-Abutter

Kelly administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Peterson.

3. Election of Officers - Chair and Vice Chair

Members discussed interest in the role and time commitment of being Chair and Vice Chair. Hentz sought out commissioners to take over the Chair position. Peterson said she would take the Chair position and Hentz said he was willing to take over as Vice Chair for 2025.

MOTION, by Vettel, seconded by Jensen, to nominate Heidi Peterson as Chair of the Docks and Commons Commission. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

MOTION, by Jensen, seconded by Vettel, to nominate Derrick Hentz as Vice Chair of the Docks and Commons Commission. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Peterson took the gavel and ran the meeting as Chair.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes – November 21, 2024

MOTION, by Hentz, seconded by Vettel, to approve the minutes from the November 21, 2024 DCC Meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

5. Comments and suggestions from citizens present

No one came forward.

6. 2025 Brighton Commons Rip Rap Update

Kelly said Dock Administration is looking into improving another portion of the Brighton Commons in 2025. Kelly said he has reached out to all of the abutters along Brighton Commons north of Manchester Road who have not had their shoreline improved. Kelly said he has heard back from four of these abutters and there are two abutting property owners who have expressed positive interest in doing a cost share with the City. Kelly added those properties are the first two north of Manchester Road.

Kelly said if there are only two Brighton Commons abutters who are in on doing a cost share the Dock Program should go ahead with those properties as they are contiguous. Kelly said he will also reach out directly to the other abutting properties along the Commons to engage their interest.

Kelly said the remaining shoreline has been rated as a “2” and is in need of stabilization. Kelly added that the Manchester Road right of way has a stormwater outlet with red rock rip rap which was put in by the Metropolitan Council.

7. Jennings Cove Multiple Slip Location

Kelly said the Jennings Cove location was affected by the three-year drought which made the slip hardly usable later in the boating season. Kelly said the portion of the slip that is proposed to be moved are the northernmost sections of the slip which includes slips E, F, G and H. Kelly said Beachside Access further east on Three Points would be the area for the slip to be placed.

Peterson asked if the four slips are rented out to license holders. Kelly said yes they have continuously been rented out. Kelly said he has heard back from one of the four license holders who have expressed interest in moving.

Castellano asked if slips A-D would stay. Kelly said yes.

Peterson said there are minimum wake signs out in the lake in the area of Beachside Access where the removed slips would be located.

Kelly said he spoke to the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) about setbacks at Beachwood and if four watercraft would be allowed. Kelly said the proposed site has two private properties on each side of Beachside Access. Kelly said he received positive feedback from the LMCD about the move. Kelly said the LMCD informed him that since the City isn't adding any watercraft to the dock program or adding more dock structures to the Dock Program it most likely would be allowed.

Kelly said the Beachside site at one time housed two dock locations. Kelly said there used to a shared dock there with a single use dock so there were three license holders using the location in the past. Kelly said there is a single straight dock with one watercraft currently at Beachside.

Hentz asked about the Lakeside site which holds a two-boat multiple slip. Kelly said Lakeside is on the opposite end of Beachside Lane on the eastern end of Three Points.

The DCC gave Kelly positive feedback to do more research on the cost to move the northern half of the Jennings Cove Multiple Slip to Beachside. Peterson said to go ahead with the investigation.

8. 2024 Annual Dock Report

Kelly presented the 2024 Annual Dock Report. Kelly said all of the 47 Lost Lake Slips were rented with 23 going to Villa owners and 24 to Mound residents. Kelly said the 10 slips on the floating boardwalk will go to Artesa residents in 2025. Kelly said he has received completed license applications and fees from Artesa staff. Kelly said it was a smooth process working with the Artesa staff. Kelly said the Mound residents who have been on the floating boardwalk have been informed of their place on the seniority list at Lost Lake and their chance to remain at Lost Lake. Kelly said Artesa will have the first right of refusal for those slips.

Kelly said the number of Boat Storage Units (BSUs) used in Dreamwood was down in 2024. Kelly said 49 of the 53 maximum allowed watercraft were used in Dreamwood. Kelly said every year there are at least two Dreamwood license holders who get their applications in on the morning of the first day applications are received.

Kelly said there was some discussion about limiting the use of watercraft a few years ago as the BSU numbers were in the 530 range. Kelly said the watercraft numbers have dropped a small amount to the 510-515 range out of 590 maximum BSU's. Kelly said there were 11 abutters who did not moor a watercraft and there were five abutters who did not put in a dock in 2024.

Kelly said 24 of the 32 Canoe/Kayak rack spaces have been rented in 2024. Kelly said the highest from the ground spots are the most difficult Canoe/Kayak Rack spot to rent out. Kelly said the rack at Twin Park had three users in 2024 which is the highest use since it was installed. Peterson asked if people know about the Canoe/Kayak Racks being available. Kelly said he will inquire about using City social media to fill the remaining spots.

Kelly shared the additional following statistics for the 2024 season:

- Six discontinued/grandfathered "secondary" shared dock sites remain
- Wait list decreased to 229 applicants in 2024 which is down 19 from 2023
- Ten wait list applicants moved off of the wait list and into the Dock Program
- There were two openings filled in Woodland Point and one in Dreamwood
- There were two wait list applicants in the Top 40 who became primary shares in the Dock Program

Kelly said Barry Blievernicht did another great job in 2024 particularly with communicating with licensees and is expected to return for 2025.

6. 2025 Brighton Commons Rip Rap Update

Kelly said Dock Administration is looking into improving another portion of the Brighton Commons in 2025. Kelly said he has reached out to all of the abutters along Brighton Commons north of Manchester Road who have not had their shoreline improved. Kelly said he has heard back from four of these abutters and there are two abutting property owners who have expressed positive interest in doing a cost share with the City. Kelly added those properties are the first two north of Manchester Road.

Kelly said if there are only two Brighton Commons abutters who are in on doing a cost share the Dock Program should go ahead with those properties as they are contiguous. Kelly said he will also reach out directly to the other abutting properties along the Commons to engage their interest.

Kelly said the remaining shoreline has been rated as a “2” and is in need of stabilization. Kelly added that the Manchester Road right of way has a stormwater outlet with red rock rip rap which was put in by the Metropolitan Council.

7. Jennings Cove Multiple Slip Location

Kelly said the Jennings Cove location was affected by the three-year drought which made the slip hardly usable later in the boating season. Kelly said the portion of the slip that is proposed to be moved are the northernmost sections of the slip which includes slips E, F, G and H. Kelly said Beachside Access further east on Three Points would be the area for the slip to be placed.

Peterson asked if the four slips are rented out to license holders. Kelly said yes they have continuously been rented out. Kelly said he has heard back from one of the four license holders who have expressed interest in moving.

Castellano asked if slips A-D would stay. Kelly said yes.

Peterson said there are minimum wake signs out in the lake in the area of Beachside Access where the removed slips would be located.

Kelly said he spoke to the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) about setbacks at Beachwood and if four watercraft would be allowed. Kelly said the proposed site has two private properties on each side of Beachside Access. Kelly said he received positive feedback from the LMCD about the move. Kelly said the LMCD informed him that since the City isn't adding any watercraft to the dock program or adding more dock structures to the Dock Program it most likely would be allowed.

Kelly said the Beachside site at one time housed two dock locations. Kelly said there used to a shared dock there with a single use dock so there were three license holders using the location in the past. Kelly said there is a single straight dock with one watercraft currently at Beachside.

Hentz asked about the Lakeside site which holds a two-boat multiple slip. Kelly said Lakeside is on the opposite end of Beachside Lane on the eastern end of Three Points.

The DCC gave Kelly positive feedback to do more research on the cost to move the northern half of the Jennings Cove Multiple Slip to Beachside. Peterson said to go ahead with the investigation.

8. 2024 Annual Dock Report

Kelly presented the 2024 Annual Dock Report. Kelly said all of the 47 Lost Lake Slips were rented with 23 going to Villa owners and 24 to Mound residents. Kelly said the 10 slips on the floating boardwalk will go to Artesa residents in 2025. Kelly said he has received completed license applications and fees from Artesa staff. Kelly said it was a smooth process working with the Artesa staff. Kelly said the Mound residents who have been on the floating boardwalk have been informed of their place on the seniority list at Lost Lake and their chance to remain at Lost Lake. Kelly said Artesa will have the first right of refusal for those slips.

Kelly said the number of Boat Storage Units (BSUs) used in Dreamwood was down in 2024. Kelly said 49 of the 53 maximum allowed watercraft were used in Dreamwood. Kelly said every year there are at least two Dreamwood license holders who get their applications in on the morning of the first day applications are received.

Kelly said there was some discussion about limiting the use of watercraft a few years ago as the BSU numbers were in the 530 range. Kelly said the watercraft numbers have dropped a small amount to the 510-515 range out of 590 maximum BSU's. Kelly said there were 11 abutters who did not moor a watercraft and there were five abutters who did not put in a dock in 2024.

Kelly said 24 of the 32 Canoe/Kayak rack spaces have been rented in 2024. Kelly said the highest from the ground spots are the most difficult Canoe/Kayak Rack spot to rent out. Kelly said the rack at Twin Park had three users in 2024 which is the highest use since it was installed. Peterson asked if people know about the Canoe/Kayak Racks being available. Kelly said he will inquire about using City social media to fill the remaining spots.

Kelly shared the additional following statistics for the 2024 season:

- Six discontinued/grandfathered "secondary" shared dock sites remain
- Wait list decreased to 229 applicants in 2024 which is down 19 from 2023
- Ten wait list applicants moved off of the wait list and into the Dock Program
- There were two openings filled in Woodland Point and one in Dreamwood
- There were two wait list applicants in the Top 40 who became primary shares in the Dock Program

Kelly said Barry Blievernicht did another great job in 2024 particularly with communicating with licensees and is expected to return for 2025.

Kelly added that there were no boats towed in 2024 and said he hasn't towed a boat in three years now.

Hentz asked if the Beachside Access site would be a good spot for a Canoe/Kayak Rack. Peterson said there might be parking issues if there is even more use at the location. Kelly said the Dock Program has put adding more Canoe/Kayak racks on hold. Kelly said there would have to be a demonstrated need to move forward with another Canoe/Kayak Rack. Kelly said the preference would be for residents to walk to the site if a Canoe/Kayak Rack was installed.

9. Reports

Castellano said the Council has scheduled the annual combined Planning Commission/City Council Meeting for February 18th as a discussion of important priorities for the year.

Castellano said the Council is creating a priority list for goals to be completed in 2025. Castellano said the Council appointed representatives to various committees and commissions.

Castellano said the Minnetonka Flats project on Commerce Blvd. is being built out.

Castellano said Michelle Herrick was sworn in as a new City Council member and Sheri Wallace was appointed to the Planning Commission.

Kelly said one item which will be on the March DCC meeting agenda will be a review of the DCC work rules. Kelly said the work rules haven't been amended in many years.

Kelly said the Cardinal Lane Right of Way Rip Rap was installed in December. Kelly said a number of trees were taken down in the area and the change on Cardinal Lane has been significant with all the work which has taken place. Kelly said he and Public Works Superintendent Dustin Koskela conducted a tree survey over areas of Dock Program property which were not covered by the original city tree inventory review. Kelly said they hadn't surveyed Devon Commons yet. Kelly said there may not be a catastrophic number of diseased trees as once feared, but the Dock Program will continue to be mindful of the budget for tree removal.

9. Adjourn

MOTION, by Castellano, seconded by Hentz, to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. All voted in favor. Motion carried.