

VILLAGE OF FONTANA-ON-GENEVA LAKE

Winter Issue 2010

Village Planning Lakefront Proposal

In 2001 the Plan Commission, Village Board, and Community Development Authority (CDA) adopted conceptual site plans outlining projects approved by the Joint Review Board, a body comprised of representatives from each taxing district located in the Tax Increment District (TID). One group of projects in particular, the Lakefront Activity Center, Lake Street reconstruction and the lakefront parking lot, are now closer to becoming a reality.

In recent months, membership from Village committees, board, and the community have worked with HGA, an architectural firm from Milwaukee to create the aesthetic appearance and usable interior space of the proposed building that will replace the current Village owned marina building, which is leased to Lake Geneva Marine. The pending design was created to meet the needs of a commercial non-motorized watercraft rental operation, a coffee shop, and a lakefront activity room for both resident and non-resident rental.

It is also the group's directive that HGA's staff continue to investigate environmentally positive ways to promote sustainability. One example of

this would be to install a geo-thermal HVAC system.

The Village recently renewed a five-year lease with our current tenant, Lake Geneva Marine, that included a first right of refusal for Kevin Kirkland to operate the commercial facility. Details of the operation are still under negotiations with the CDA and Village Board; however, the current thought is the following:

1. Lease the entire facility to a commercial tenant for all management, maintenance, and oversight. This would include the non-motorized watercraft rental, the coffee shop, and the lakefront activity room rentals;

2. Determine an appropriate percentage of how many monthly rentals of the activity room are reserved for resident use and how much for non-resident use; and

3. Establish parameters that the lease rate increase go to the CDA versus the Village to help offset bond payments for the new facility for the life of the bond.

It is the Village's position that if the lease is structured in a way as outlined above the building is TIF eligible. The building is a commercially leased facility, which would assist in promoting economic development to our area, and has

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THE LAKEFRONT BUILDING proposal is still at the conceptual stage; however, the above "white model" architectural rendering of the building was presented at a

workshop meeting held December 7, 2009. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 18, 2010 at 5:00 pm.

Village Encourages Dog Walking on Beach

In an effort to help abate the pollution problem created by the large flocks of geese and seagulls that gather on the beach during the fall, the Village of Fontana is encouraging residents to walk their dogs on the municipal beach from October 15 through March 31.

The Village Board amended the Municipal Code several years ago to allow for people to walk dogs on the beach after the summer season has ended. During the summer season, dogs are only allowed at the Duck Pond Recreation Area dog track area.

The gates to the beach are open during the winter season, so people can walk their dogs in either direction.

Committee Supports Census Participation

The Village has formed a Complete Count 2010 Census Committee to help distribute U.S. Census Bureau promotional and informational materials. The U.S. Census Bureau is teaming with the counties and municipalities to encourage public participation in the important event. The U.S. Census Bureau also has created a website located at <http://2010.census.gov/2010census> that features all the information and documents for the 2010 Census.

As well as publicizing the U.S. Census Bureau and county initiatives, the local committee has established a Questionnaire Acceptance Center and Be Counted Program site at the Village Hall.

“The gates to the beach are open during the winter season, so people can walk their dogs in either direction.”



THE VILLAGE of Fontana Department of Public Works crew razed the gazebo in Reid Park Friday morning, October 9, 2009. After knocking down the structure, the rotted wood was transported to the DPW garage site for disposal. The concrete foundation is still in good condition. The Village Board directed the Building Inspector to make the final determination on the soundness of the structure, which was deemed unsafe and a liability to the Village. The gazebo

was constructed in 2001 and was dedicated by the Fontana Library and Civic Center Association, Fontana Women's Club and Fontana Garden Club on September 1, 1991 (according to the dedication plaque cemented into the concrete foundation). The Village Board approved a motion at its October 5, 2009 meeting to go on record to assure the public that planning is underway for the construction of a new gazebo on the foundation.

“The U.S. Census Bureau is teaming with the local counties and municipalities to encourage public participation in the important event.”

The Cop Shop . . .

Winter Parking Rules in Effect



By Chief Steve Olson

With winter here we want to remind everyone not to park on any public road or parking lot, seven days a week from 2:00 am to 6:00 am. This helps the Public Works crew in plowing the snow.

Looking at our calls for service this year, our officers have handled 2,189 calls as of December 17, 2009 compared with 2,317 during the same time period in 2008. We attribute some of this decline to the economic downturn that has affected our area as well as the nation. Decreases were seen in property crimes such as burglaries and thefts and approximately \$3,500 in property or restitution was returned to the victims of crimes this year.

If you know a college student from Fontana studying toward a degree in Criminal Justice or Police Science, they may qualify for several scholarships we have information on. Please call our office for more information.

In 2009 our officers collectively attended 252 hours of training covering such topics as legal updates, firearms qualifications and various other specialized or in-service subjects.

In 2010 new state laws will go into effect regarding mandatory vehicle insurance, smoking prohibition in many businesses and tougher OWI/DUI penalties.

Property owners who have alarm systems of any type need to ensure that their alarm company contacts the Walworth County Dispatch Center at (262) 741-4401 when the alarm is activated.

As always, we want to remind our citizens to promptly report any suspicious activity they see or suspect.

Want to learn more about your police department? You will find helpful links and keep up on law enforcement related topics for Fontana on our website at: www.fontanawipolice.com.

Proposal

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already been approved by the Joint Review Board in a project plan amendment dated November 24, 2004. About three years ago the Village also constructed the beach house under the TIF laws as a facility that would promote tourism and economic development, and to date that project has been very successful in both promoting tourism and providing a revenue stream

to the CDA to assist in paying off the bonds.

The building is only one component to the lakefront project plan. The other two elements include reconstruction of Lake Street, including both utility and street work, and redesigning the parking lot to allow for a bio-retention area in order to handle all storm water drainage on site. The Village encourages everyone to attend the next workshop planned for 5:00 pm Monday, January 18, 2010 at the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Dr. Tentative agenda for this meeting will include design presentation for the parking lot, review of the lakefront building, and introduction to the Lake Street reconstruction. The Village intends to take all three projects out to referendum in mid June.

Village Implements Parking Pay Stations

The Village of Fontana installed a centralized parking pay station unit on the southeast corner of Third Avenue and Reid Street for the parking stalls in lieu of erecting individual parking meters this past season.

Stall numbers have been painted on the surface for each parking space on Third Avenue and Reid Street. During the season from March 15 to October 15, motorists who do not have the Village of Fontana resident F sticker have to pay for parking at the centralized pay station using the individual parking stall numbers. A ticket is printed for display in the parked vehicles.

Parking is still free for motorists with Village of Fontana resident F stickers displayed on the driver's side of the vehicle's front windshield.

Village Unveils Electronic Newsletter

The Village of Fontana quarterly newsletter will no longer be printed and mailed to property owners and residents. The newsletter will be posted the first week of January, April, July and October on the Village Website at: www.villageoffontana.com. Property owners and residents may submit requests to have a PDF file of the newsletter emailed to them, or they may pick up printed hard copies at the Village Hall and Public Library.

To request an emailed copy of the newsletter, property owners and residents should send their email address to: villageclerk@villageoffontana.com.

"Property owners who have alarm systems of any type need to ensure that their alarm company contacts the Walworth County Dispatch Center at (262) 741-4401."

"The Village intends to take all three projects out to referendum in mid June."

VOF Calendar

The 2010 Spring
Primary Election
will be held
Tuesday, February
16, 2010 (if neces-
sary).

Jan. 1 & 2, 2010 - Village Hall and Public Library Closed for New Year Holiday
Jan. 4, 2010 - Village Board meets at 6:00 pm
Jan. 5, 2010 - Last Day to File Nomination Papers for Spring Election
Jan. 6, 2010 - CDA Board meets at 6:00 pm
Jan. 13, 2010 - Plan Commission Staff meets at 1:00 pm
Jan. 14, 2010 - Fontana Municipal Court Date at 5:00 pm
Jan. 18, 2010 - Protection Committee meets at 4:00 pm
Jan. 18, 2010 - CDA Ad Hoc Lakefront Building Committee meets at 5:00 pm
Jan. 20, 2010 - Library Board meets at 10:00 am
Jan. 20, 2010 - Lakefront and Harbor Committee meets at 4:30 pm
Jan. 20, 2010 - Park Commission meets at 6:00 pm
Jan. 21, 2010 - Finance Committee meets at 5:00 pm
Jan. 25, 2010 - Plan Commission meets at 5:30 pm
Jan. 28, 2010 - Fontana Municipal Court Date at 5:00 pm

Feb. 1, 2010 - Village Board meets at 6:00 pm
Feb. 3, 2010 - CDA Board meets at 6:00 pm
Feb. 10, 2010 - Plan Commission Staff meets at 1:00 pm
Feb. 16, 2010 - Spring 2010 Primary Election (If Necessary), 7:00 am to 8:00 pm
Feb. 17, 2010 - Library Board meets at 10:00 am
Feb. 17, 2010 - Park Commission meets at 6:00 pm
Feb. 22, 2010 - Plan Commission meets at 5:30 pm
Feb. 23, 2010 - Walworth County Intergovernmental Cooperation Committee meets at 6:00 pm
Feb. 24, 2010 - Lakefront and Harbor Committee meets at 4:30 pm
March 1, 2010 - Village Board meets at 6:00 pm
March 3, 2010 - CDA meets at 6:00 pm
March 17, 2010 - Library Board meets at 10:00 am
March 17, 2010 - Plan Commission Staff meets at 1:00 pm
March 17, 2010 - Park Commission meets at 6:00 pm
March 24, 2010 - Lakefront and Harbor Committee meets at 4:30 pm
March 29, 2010 - Plan Commission meets at 5:30 pm

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