

Windermere Historic Preservation Board
Special Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2021

IN ATTENDANCE

Hannah Ammar

Amanda Black

~~Joan Foglia~~

Mary Fran Howard

George Poelker

Jackie Rapport

Andy Williams

Call to Order – 3:10pm

Open Forum / Public Comments – None

New Business –

A quorum is present.

Town Council would like HPB to recommend how to proceed with the historic boathouses.

The HPB is most concerned with the preservation, maintenance and appearance of the boathouses. They add a certain charm and cache to the town and are a scenic overlook for photographs of Lake Butler. The fear is that if the site is opened up to public access it will become crowded, unmanageable and a real nuisance, especially on weekends.

Discussion centers around how a long-term solution to this issue will give the owners the confidence to maintain and preserve the structures.

Andy suggests that the Town grant a 99 year lease. The lessee must pay property taxes and a small maintenance fee. Conditions of lease should include:

1. Boathouses can only be owned by Town residents.
2. The boathouse can only be sold via public sale to Town residents.
3. The boathouse may be bequeathed to a family member who lives in Town.
4. Town should acknowledge individual ownership of the boathouses.
5. Boathouse owners are responsible for maintenance and repair, according to the historic standards.

George recommends the lease be for riparian rights.

Hannah and Joan would like the boathouses to stay as a visual feature and HPB should have the right to inspect and develop building and maintenance standards, as the structures are listed on the Local Historic Register.

Hannah makes a motion that the Town offers current boathouse owners a 99 year lease with the stipulation that they are always maintained to HPB standards. Ownership must stay local and if sold, must go through a public sale to Town Residents. Boathouses can be inherited by family members who reside within Town limits.

Amanda seconds the motion. George recuses from voting due to conflict of interest. Approved unanimously by attending members.

Adjourn – 3:30pm