



Potential Finger Pier

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1994

Imagery Date: 5/11/2016 40°38'25.12" N 73°11'52.01" W elev 2 ft eye alt 1861 ft

Planning Commission Report on Bay Front

1. Proposal for a Finger Dock Along the Groin of the Bay Front Beach Area

After significant due diligence with bay front watersport users (Jeff Meluso and Patrick McElhone for sailing, Ralph Perlberger for Windsurfing and Rich Wilde for camp/life guard needs among others), we determined that a finger dock groin would not satisfy the needs many current users of the marina and beachfront.

Sailors-Both Patrick and Jeff were adamant that a finger dock would not accommodate the growing number of Saltaire sailors. Both felt that it was imperative that sailors have a beach front to both launch from and land on.

Windsurfers- Ralph felt the ability for novice windsurfers to have the protection of the marina was paramount, he cited the lack of current, ability for a teacher to rescue a student with ease and the physiological security of learning within the parameters of the boat basin.

Recommendation:

Taking all of the comments into account we recommend:

- 1- Instead of a finger dock, engineers should determine the optimal design for a boat launch ramp at the bay front cut out at the end of Neptune walk. This would accommodate kayakers, more experienced windsurfers and paddleboards. This would relieve a significant amount of traffic from the marina.
- 2- Reinstate the position of "Dock Master" a role that existed in the 70s and early 80s. this person would be responsible to
 - a. Monitor all waterfront activity, making sure sportsmen using the marina were aware of motor boat and ferry traffic and adhere to all safety regulations.
 - b. Ensure unauthorized boats do not assume an empty slip is an available slip (a problem that came up several times)
 - c. Ensure all equipment is properly stored (storage being dealt with separately)
 - d. Monitor wagon parking on the dock and make sure rules are adhered to and Parking courtesy maintained

2. Bay Beach:

Bay Beach expansion- there was no request for an expansion of the bay beach front, although we believe there would be no objection to it either.

Bay Front Area

The bay front area is currently large enough to meet the needs of the camp and recreation, although if expanded, it would not require additional lifeguards. The bay front requires storage for the lifeguards' surfboards and kayaks as well as a place to store the equipment that is required to be on the beach front every day.

Recommendation:

- 1) **Storage for required equipment:** Required by the Dept of Health to be on the beach each day, checked about twice a summer by the DOH. Currently storage consists of 2 plywood boxes that are painted white and sit on the bay front and at the end of Neptune walk.

We recommend construction of a garbage size shed that is incorporated into the bike rack lifeguard chair area. In addition to the health related equipment, this should contain storage dimensioned for the kickboards and noodles that are used by the camp and by beach patrons, as well as the umbrellas used for shade by the lifeguards.

- 2) **Board Rack:** Storage for the lifeguards' surfboards and kayaks required by the DOH. Currently, there is a "Board rack" at the end of Neptune walk.

We recommend construction of board racks, similar to the existing racks to be placed around Neptune on the east side of the bay front that are easily accessible by the lifeguards and camp.

3. Wagon Storage

In discussing an alternative to what the Village has today and what can be done to improve our wagon storage, it is the opinion of the committee that we require all wagons to be stored on their side in optimizing critical storage. While the Gallows type fixture was discussed we feel that this would be visually unappealing given the parameters we are working with on our dock. Gallows are used in Ocean Beach and Fair Harbor without blocking water views, but our dock configuration is very much different than either village, and while we have a utilitarian need we cannot underestimate the aesthetics either. In regards to any oversized wagons (larger than the standard plastic milkcrate 46x30x20 most have today) we propose those wagons be stored at the base of the dock adjacent to Bay Prom, again on their sides.

Recommendation:

With this said, we are recommending that all wagons, like bicycles, be registered with Saltaire Security. Unregistered wagons would be removed by security, or owners of dilapidated and abandoned wagons could be contacted making that much more needed space available. And assuming the current system could be extended several feet with a more stable and attractive design all the better!

Also on the dock we recommend an additional awning be added to the south side of the dock house to provide a larger area of shelter from both sun and rain. If not a permanent structure like the west side then a retractable awning that closes automatically with heightened winds.

4. Seating

It would be desirable to make better use of the Bayfront for the town in addition to the annual bay picnic. Adding seating would allow people to sit and watch the sunset. We think chairs are more desirable than benches for this purpose since they would allow flexible configurations.

Recommendation:

We recommend that 2-3 clusters of Adirondack chairs and perhaps a table be established along the bay front to the east and west of the bay front (near [Atlantic] and [Navy] Walks)

5. Bike Parking

We recommend increasing bike parking along Broadway on the Village property south of the store's deck. An area approximately 40 feet long with an 8 foot inset will significantly handle seasonal needs. An 8 foot inset (westward) will also alleviate bike congestion on Broadway and allow better traffic flow for emergency vehicles.

This extra parking storage for bikes could also be used for those who choose to leave their bikes locked up when they leave Saltaire.

Additional bike parking could be added near Atlantic Walk and also in front of Neptune Walk (an extension of the bay beach bike racks) to accommodate those using the boat launching ramp should that come to pass along the bay accommodate the newly improved Bay front seating and possible basin water activities.

Finally, we recommend that all overnight bikes along the bay and Broadway be registered with the Village so that security can determine ownership if a bike is left for an extended time. Bikes without such registration could not be stored overnight.