



# Town and Village of Clayton

## PARKS AND RECREATION STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION NOTES

<b>Purpose:</b>	Stakeholder Meeting
<b>Date and Time:</b>	April 2, 2026, 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
<b>Location:</b>	Virtual (Zoom)
<b>Attendees:</b>	See Below

### Parks and Recreation

#### Summary

This discussion focused on the existing issues and opportunities in the Town of Colton from a parks and recreation standpoint. This meeting started with an overview of the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. Other topics and issues that came up in discussion include the following:

#### Diving Access Points

- Most dive sites are accessed by boat, and some popular diving locations include the Maggie L. Shipwreck in French Bay and Eagle Wing Island off Grindstone.
- The ladders along the Village slips lack the appropriate length for divers because of their heavy gear which makes it difficult to properly get in and out of the water.
- There is some conflict /competition for ladder use with the general public.
- Gentle swimming access like a beach is best for diving because of the likelihood of staircases to be damaged by harsh weather conditions.

#### Compatibility Challenges

- The Riverwalk has signs discouraging swimming, but in the case of an accidental fall into the river the only ladders are upstream. The addition of a ladder in the eastern section would be beneficial for both divers and the public in improving safety measures.
- There are challenges with diving along Centennial Park due to the increased boating traffic.
- The majority of divers stay within 100-150 ft from the shore which results in potential conflicts with boating traffic.
- There is occasional competition between divers and fishermen due to the proximity of prime locations for both parties (shipwrecks become attractive fish habitats).

#### Evolution of Diving in Clayton

- With the creation of the Riverwalk and retaining walls the marine ecosystem along the shores has become less coveted.

## Parks and Recreation

### Summary

- Clayton has the opportunity to attract more of the diving communities by including more diving infrastructure.

### Diving Education and Outreach

- There is an opportunity to provide signage to the number of marine historical landmarks and be an opportunity to educate boaters on diver awareness.
- The Village and local scuba diver associations have begun to put signage warning boaters of scuba diver activities, especially for visitors who are unfamiliar with the practice.

### Attendance

- Jen Ceponis (MJ Team)
- Kerry Gibson (MJ Team)
- Peter Zimmer (DOS)
- James Ganter (WAC)
- Matt McCullouch (1000 Island Dive Alliance, Clayton Dive Club)

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