

CHARLOTTE COUNTY
MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Charlotte County Administration Center, Room 106B

Minutes
April 10, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ron Blago, Chair
Len Harris, Vice Chair
Gerald Meckenberg, Secretary
Mel Staudmyer
William Bergman
Richard Anderson
Maurice Sabourin
Robert Leonard
Raymond Rose
Richard Johnson
Anthony Tonz
Jay Buckley
Paul Marcuzzo
William Kumm
Tom Hamilton
Tim Lynch

MEMBERS EXCUSED

David Rubin
Bob DiMuzio
Skip Mansfield
Fred Mesler

STAFF

Tara Musselman, Public Works
Bill Byle, Growth Management
Elizabeth Staugler, Sea Grant Agent
Jane Starr, Recording Secretary

GUESTS

Lucy Blair
Elizabeth Gillan
Debra Highsmith
Richard Benson, City of Punta Gorda
Grace Amodeo, Manchester Advisory Committee

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chair Blago called the April 10, 2008, **Marine Advisory Committee** to order at 9:35a.m., noting there was a quorum present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Blago led the members and audience in reciting The Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by **Len Harris** and seconded by **Jay Buckley** to accept the amended March 13, 2008, Marine Advisory Committee minutes as written. Following a second, the vote approved unanimously.

IV. REGULAR BUSINESS

Tara Musselman provided updates regarding the following projects: Ackerman Waterway; Alligator Creek; Buena Vista Area Waterways; Edgewater North; Gulf Cove Waterways; Harbour Heights; Hayward Canals; Manchester Lock Removal; Northwest Port Charlotte; Peace River Shores; Pirate Harbor; Southbridge Waterway; South Gulf Cove; and Suncoast Waterway. In answer to a question by **Bill Bergman**, she stated Chuck Mopps is due back in the next several weeks and all new projects are on hold until his return. **Chair Blago** requested that Ms. Musselman provide a map indicating where the above projects are located.

V. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Chair Blago advised Commissioner D'Aprile is attending a special meeting of the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee concerning the geotextile tubes in Stump Pass. Members were provided with a draft memo in accordance with the motion passed last month and an update was provided.

***ACTION:** A motion was presented by Bob Leonard, seconded by Tom Hamilton to allow Chair Blago to sign, on behalf of members, all correspondence relating to the Committee's recommendation of the geotextile tubes. The vote passed unanimously.*

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

Budget Discussion

Chair Blago advised this year's budget cycle is over and a final report will be forthcoming. Further inquiries about grants will be directed to the appropriate member for assistance.

Pole and Troll Presentation – Lucy Blair, DEP

Lucy Blair, presented members with a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Department of Environmental Protection and issues pertaining to Pole and Troll Zones:

- Background and Past Partnering
- Published Studies and Terms
- Trafficsheds and Secondary Channel Segments
- Proposed Rule Concepts
- Goals and Issues
- Rule Requirements
- Spot Dredging
- Proposed Permits and Limits
- Requirements
- Target Depth
- Notice Requirements
- Conditions
- Resource Impacts
- Pole and Troll Zones and possible NICMZ Areas and Locations
- Submerged Lands
- Status

A question and answer period commenced. Members offered comments and their concerns were addressed. **Chair Blago** opened the floor for public input. **Debra Highsmith** advised she has responded in writing regarding the notice general permit both as an individual and on behalf of the Sierra Club and voiced concerns relating to Seagrass protection and related enforcement and monitoring issues. Further questions were directed to Ms. Blair and discussion continued. Elizabeth Gillan, the Environmental Manager who handles permitting aspects in Charlotte County was introduced and other staff members were mentioned. **Bob Leonard** led a discussion concerning innovative ideas used to re-grow Seagrass and prop scars. **Mel Staudmyer** offered MAC's assistance with this project, if needed, and requested that the Committee stay informed. **Chair Blago** inquired about the geotextile tubes in Stump Pass and was told it was Ms. Blair understanding they are having harmful effects. **Chair Blago** responded the pass has been very stable for the past four years and MAC is concerned about the resulting sand that will end up in the pass as a result of their removal. He thanked Ms. Blair for her attendance and assistance.

Save Florida Beaches DVD Presentation – Missy L. Christie

Chair Blago announced Ms. Christie was unable to attend today's meeting.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Mooring Issue

Chair Blago advised of a sunken boat in the same location where another vessel was previously removed. He made mention of a letter in members' packets from Tommy Brock regarding the mooring issue and hazardous navigation in Chadwick Cove. Members offered suggestions for resolving the mooring problem and a discussion ensued.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Waterfront Development Advisory Committee Update

Chair Blago commented that Jim Dossett is no longer with the county and he has been unable to determine who is responsible for this project. **Tara Musselman** advised she has attended the first stake holder's meeting and suggested contacting Tom Scott, a planner with the Growth Management Department. **Chair Blago** asked that Mel Staudmyer be notified of the next stake holder's meeting.

Tara Musselman displayed a map of all waterways in Charlotte County and pointed out the locations previously discussed in her Public Works report. Copies of same will be provided in next month's informational packet.

Mel Staudmyer reported on his recent presentation at the Waterfront Development Advisory Committee meeting. **Jay Buckley** added that the Committee's suggestions were well received and advised of the next meeting which is scheduled later today.

IX. LIASON REPORTS - None

X. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Len Harris commented on today's meeting and spoke on the lack of law enforcement in the community and other problems the county is experiencing due to lack of funds and increasing costs. **Chair Blago** agreed that more duties are now falling on local counties.

Richard Benson made an announcement on behalf of Betty Staugler, stating another Yacht club has received Clean Marina Status. Chair Blago acknowledged this is the fourth Marina in Charlotte County to receive this accomplishment in the past 18 months.

Bob Leonard provided an update on the sunken dock previously being tracked through the Code Compliance Department. The owners have been given a 6 month extension with conditions, and it will be the end of the year before this is resolved.

Gerry Meckenberg advised copies of the Third Party Review Report regarding the geotextile tubes is available for those who would like one.

XI. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, May 8, 2008 @ 9:30 A.M. in room 119

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting **ADJOURNED** at 11:19a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Starr

Jane Starr, Recording Secretary