

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY  
MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Charlotte County Administration Center, Room B-119

**Minutes  
May 13, 2010**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Captain Ron Blago, Chair  
Len Harris, Vice Chair  
Gerald Meckenberg, Secretary  
William Bergman  
Mike Conlon  
Bill Dixon  
Douglas Donovan  
John Fleming  
Tom Hamilton  
William Kumm  
Robert Leonard  
Fred Mesler  
Raymond Rose  
Scott Schermerhorn  
Mel Staudmyer  
Cody Vaughan-Birch

**MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Captain Jay Buckley  
Richard Johnson  
Captain Tim Lynch  
Captain Maurice Sabourin  
Anthony Tonz

**STAFF**

Commissioner Bob Starr  
Tara Musselman, Public Works  
Andy Stevens, Env. & Ext. Services  
Roger DeBruler, Natural Resources  
Sandra Williamson, Recording Secretary

**GUESTS**

NONE

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

*Chair Blago* called the May, 13, 2010, **Marine Advisory Committee** meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. noting there was a quorum present.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Chair Blago* offered opening remarks and led the members and audience in reciting The Pledge of Allegiance.

### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was presented by *Scott Schermerhorn*, seconded by *Len Harris*, to accept the April 8, 2010, Marine Advisory Committee minutes as written. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

### **IV. REGULAR BUSINESS**

***MSBU Update - Tara Musselman*** presented members with an update regarding the following projects: Alligator Creek, Buena Vista Area Waterways, Edgewater North, Gulf Cove Waterways, Harbour Heights, Hayward Canals, Lewis Creek, Manchester Waterway, Northwest Port Charlotte, Peace River Shores, Pirate Harbor, Southbridge Waterway, Trout Creek, Suncoast Waterway, and Stump Pass. A question and answer period followed.

### **V. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

*Commissioner Starr* announced that Manatee Committee Review needs volunteers. Also, there will be ribbon cutting event for the reopening of the El Jobean boat ramp will be held on May 27, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

***Budget Update - Andy Stevens*** provided a breakdown and answered questions regarding various funding and how it can be used.

***El Jobean Ramp Status - Andy Stevens*** stated the ramp will reopen on May 28, 2010.

***Parks and Recreation Areas of Mutual Concern and a Joint Meeting Status - Cody Vaughn-Birch*** addressed the Committee about the need to set a joint meeting with the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. During a discussion, It was suggested that the meeting take place when Parks and Recreation held their first meeting in September.

A motion was presented by *Robert Leonard* seconded by *Mel Staudmyer*, to have a joint meeting between Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee, Marine Advisory Committee; and Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee to be held on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee's first meeting date in September. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

***Manatee Committee Review - Andy Stevens*** informed the Board that the concept for the committee has been accepted by the County Commissioners and they will be voting on the approving the committee. A discussion took place regarding the committee. There are four (4) open positions left on the committee.

## VII. **OLD BUSINESS**

- ***WCIND and Boater Improvement Funds:***
  1. ***El Jobean - Andy Stevens*** stated the ribbon cutting will be May 27, 2010.
  2. ***Ainger Creek - Andy Stevens*** stated Swiftmud Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) for the parking expansion has been received and it will need to go through the Development Review Committee (DRC).
  3. ***Bay Heights - Andy Stevens*** gave an update on that project.
  4. ***Cattlepoint Dock - Andy Stevens*** stated Swiftmud, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Charlotte County have approved the master plan for the project.
- ***Non WCIND Funds:***
  1. ***Accounting of Parking Fees*** – A discussion took place regarding parking fee.
  2. ***Funding Kayaks and Canoes*** – The possibility of having a registration fee for kayaks and canoes.
  3. ***Purchase of Land*** – A joint meeting should be held between the Marine Advisory Committee, Beaches and Shores, and Parks and Recreation so the Committees could put together a list of properties the County could acquire. ***Commissioner Starr*** suggested that they might want to obtain the list that was done several years ago by Environmental Land Acquisition Committee (ELAC).

A discussion took place regarding what the priorities are of the Committee. ***Cody Vaughn-Birch*** suggested that this Committee should set their priorities by focusing on short term priorities, long term priorities, local priorities, and then state and federal priorities.

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

*None*

*Commissioner Starr* left at 10:39 a.m.

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

*None*

**X. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

From the projections of the US Coast Guard, they believe that there is less than a 10% chance that anything from the oil spill out in the gulf will affect southwest Florida. If anything, there could be tar balls or tar patties. Should the spill reach Charlotte County, there is an action plan in place.

**XI. NEXT MEETING**

The next pre-agenda meeting will be held on Thursday, June 3, 2010, at 9:30 a.m., Room B-207. The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, June 10, 2010, at 9:30 a.m., in Room 119.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting **ADJOURNED** at 10:55 a.m.