

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY
MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes
Thursday, February 10, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Len Harris called the February 10, 2011 Marine Advisory Committee meeting to order at 9:26 a.m. and led the members and audience in reciting The Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The roll was called by Pam Alexander, Recording Secretary. It was noted that a quorum was present.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Len Harris, Chairman – Burnt Store Isles Boat Club
Gerald Meckenberg, Secretary – Englewood U.S.C.G.A.
William Bergman – Punta Gorda Sports Fishing Club
Captain Ron Blago, Chairman – Member at Large
Captain Jay Buckley – City of Punta Gorda
Ken Dieffenbach - Charlotte Coastal Conservation Association of Florida
John Fleming – Member at Large
Charles Gertner, Pirate Harbor Yacht Club
Tom Hamilton – Isles Yacht Club
William Kumm – Punta Gorda Boat Club
Captain Tim Lynch – Palm Island Marina, Member-at-Large
Captain Maurice Sabourin – U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 99 Rotunda
Raymond Rose – Peace River Squadron, Inc.
Captain Scott Schermerhorn – Member at Large
Mel Staudmyer – Harbor Heights Yacht Club
Cody Vaughn-Birch – Member at Large

MEMBERS EXCUSED

William Dixon, Vice Chairman – Punta Gorda Sailing Club
Douglas Donovan – U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 98 Port Charlotte

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Conlon – Port Charlotte Yacht Club
Anthony Tonz – South Gulf Cove Yacht Club

GUESTS

Randy Brodersen, City of Punta Gorda
Dennis Murphy, City of Punta Gorda
Grace Amodeo, Manchester Advisory Committee

GUESTS (cont'd)

Garland Wilson, Charlotte Harbor CRA
Jo Mogle, FWCBAC

STAFF

Tara Musselman – Public Works
Andy Stevens – Natural Resources
Pam Alexander – Administrative Assistant II

REGULAR BUSINESS

On motion by Jay Buckley, seconded by Ken Dieffenbach and carried unanimously the Minutes of the January 13, 2011 meeting were approved as presented.

MSBU UPDATE – Tara Musselman, Public Works presented the following:

Ackerman Waterway: No active projects at this time.

Alligator Creek: Contractor is on site dredging. The new channel replacing the S-Curve is complete. New channel markers are installed and the day boards will be in place next week. The Northern 500' of the Creek as well as the Sea Edge canal entrance are also completed. The contractor is reporting that 3 of the 5 maintenance areas are complete in the Main Channel. It is anticipated that the project will be complete by the end of February.

Buena Vista Area Waterways:

Beach Complex/Sunrise Shoaling Study – No additional information at this time.

Edgewater North: No active projects at this time.

Gulf Cove Waterways: No Active projects at this time.

Harbour Heights: Marine Markers to be installed upon receipt of all permits.

Hayward Canals: Permit received to install new markers. Installation will take place within the next week.

Lewis Creek: Additional spot dredging has been requested. The County has piggybacked on the City of Punta Gorda's Annual Dredging Contract to accomplish this. County staff has submitted a request to extend the existing permits to facilitate this work.

Manchester Waterway: Additional spot dredging has been requested. The County has piggybacked on the City of Punta Gorda's Annual Dredging Contract to accomplish this.

Northwest Port Charlotte: Coastal Engineering has completed the survey and the design of the proposed channel extension in to the Myakka River and is now seeking DEP

permits to provided better access to the Myakka. The WCIND Regional Waterway Management study may assist in this action.

Peace River Shores: No active projects at this time

Pirate Harbor: No additional information at this time.

Southbridge Waterway: Coastal Engineering is in the process of obtaining permits from the required agencies.

South Gulf Cove:

Trout Creek – Contractor is on site repairing the breach. The project is approximately 50% completed.

Suncoast Waterway: Coastal Engineering is in the process of obtaining permits from the required agencies.

Stump Pass: Contractor has completed the Updrift Beach Fill on Manasota Key placing over 150,000 CY. Contractor has completed the Shorebird Fill Area placing over 12,000 cubic yards on the infill area along the southern shoreline of Stump Pass as part of the mitigation plan. Contractor is currently constructing the North Beach Fill along the Palm Island shoreline to address erosion area plus fill in old channel to divert flow into the newly dredged channel. Schedule is to complete the work first week of April, weather dependent. County Public Works will put the channel markers out to bid for local contractors to reinstall the lighted aid plus rest of dayboards, to be completed after the dredging is done.

Regarding the shoaling study for the Beach Complex, Tara Musselman advised that the information is being reviewed by staff and should be forwarded to the MAC membership on Monday. Sand from the dredging will be placed back on the beach.

ANNUAL WRITTEN BCC BUDGET SUMMARY – Andy Stevens, Natural Resources, presented the following:

The exact amount available, as of today, is \$150,000 in BIF retained; \$56,319 in BIF local; and, \$47,525.00 in WCIND. The budget for 2012 is anticipated to be approximately the same as last year: \$600,000 to \$800,000. Mr. Stevens advised that a new Budge Analyst has been assigned to the MAC. He will be meeting with this individual and will provide a breakdown to MAC similar to last year. A WCIND meeting is scheduled next week. Funding is available for Bay Heights and the County is in the permitting phase for the boat ramp. There are some issues regarding sea grass that must be addressed. There is no danger of this funding being lost.

11 timely applications for funding have been received. Much discussion is anticipated at the March meeting of MAC. Copies of the applications are expected to be delivered ten (10) days prior to the March meeting. There are several applications from previous years

and some new ones as well. All applicants have been invited to attend March MAC meeting to address questions from the membership.

Additional discussion regarding City of Punta Gorda's request for funding in the amount of \$103,000 for the Harborwalk West project.

Jay Buckley made a motion to approve BIF funding for the City of Punta Gorda project in the amount of \$103,000, to be paid in incremental payments and to forward this recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners. Tom Hamilton seconded this motion. Discussion ensued. Motion carried on a vote of 14 to 1.

9:56 a.m. Scott Schermerhorn left the meeting

10:05 a.m. Mr. Schermerhorn returned to the meeting.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: This part of the agenda was delayed until Commissioner Starr arrived at 10:12 a.m.

Commissioner Starr commended the Committee for their good work. The 2012 budget process is moving forward. He had notified the Parks & Recreation Department to submit applications for funding of future projects. He asked for recommendations for items to be placed on the agenda for the next joint meeting of Parks & Rec, Beaches & Shores and MAC. Commissioner Starr agreed to chair the joint meeting if requested to do so. Status of parking meters at the boat ramps and beaches will be discussed by the Board of County Commissioners very soon.

NEW BUSINESS

Replacement of Tony Tonz - It was reported that Mr. Tonz has missed several meetings. The Chair has contacted the Commodore of the South Gulf Cove Yacht Club and requested a letter of resignation for Mr. Tonz and the name of a replacement. It is hoped to have both prior to the next meeting. Capt. Ron Blago praised Mr. Tonz for his service to MAC.

Capt. Blago made a motion to appoint Tony Tonz as an honorary member, following the receipt of his resignation. Motion was seconded by Mel Staudmyer and carried unanimously.

Bill Bergman announced his resignation and he introduced and recommended Mike Quinn as his replacement. The Chair read Mr. Quinn's resume into the record and Mr. Quinn answered questions posed by the Committee.

Motion made by Raymond Rose, seconded by Jay Buckley and carried unanimously to submit Mike Quinn for approval to the Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Starr agreed to have the item placed on the agenda for the earliest meeting possible.

Budget Applications – see above. Andy Stevens discussed this during his presentation under Regular Business.

Boating Safety Month - BCC Proclamation – A motion made by Tom Hamilton, seconded by Chuck Gertner and carried unanimously to have May 2011 designation Boating Safety Month by the Board of County Commission. Cody Vaughan-Birch was asked to draft the proclamation for submittal to the membership for review and approval at the March meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Goals & Objectives: The Chair submitted his list of Goals and Objectives to the membership. He indicated that parts will change around March of each year as applications are received, reviewed and approved. A review of the goals and objectives will be conducted around September of each year to update the status of the various projects. Discussion ensued. (See Attachment I, Pages 1 and 2)

Manatee Committee Update – Andy Stevens reported that the recommendations of the Committee to move forward with the study have been sent to the Board of County Commissioners. This item is scheduled to be discussed at the February 22, 2011 BOCC meeting.

Andy Stevens also reminded the committee of the marina siting study, previously funded by the MAC, which would be an important element of manatee protection.

OTHER BUSINESS

FDEP Riviera Marina Update - No one from FDEP was present. This item was continued to the April meeting. Tara Musselman will contact the FDEP representative and reschedule.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Jo Mogle, Boating Advisory Council – FWC, updated the Board on several topics: Boater safety training; a national award presented to Dennis Peck; non-motorized boat group is in hiatus for one year; BAC mooring/anchoring project information had previously been sent to MAC. All with an interest in these issues are invited to a meeting to be scheduled in Fort Myers in the near future. She will keep the members informed. Ms. Mogle agreed to forward statistics regarding required boater safety training to the Recording Secretary for distribution.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Thank you to Bill Bergman for his years of service. Several members shared anecdotes.

- Tom Hamilton discussed his recent visit to the floating docks. He found them to be hurricane safe.
- The Chair asked that suggestions for items to be included on the joint meeting agenda be submitted to the Recording Secretary as soon as possible.

NEXT MEETING

- The next Pre-Agenda meeting will be held Thursday, March 3, 2011 at 9.30 a.m. in the Building Construction Services Conference Room, 18400 Murdock Circle
- The next regular meeting will be held Thursday, March 10, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 119

On motion by Mel Staudmyer, seconded by Chuck Gertner and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Alexander
Recording Secretary

Minutes Approved March 10, 2011

Len Harris, Chairman
Marine Advisory Committee

Goals & Objectives Submitted by Len Harris Chairman

February 3, 2011

Charlotte County Marine Advisory Committee, 2011 Goals & Objectives

Mission Statement;

The CCMAC will deliver responsive oversight services and financial recommendations on marine related activities on the behalf of the citizens of Charlotte County.

Goal: The CCMAC is a volunteer organization whose responsibility is to act in an advisory capacity to the BCC on marine-related matters

Objectives: Provide oversight to enhance public navigation channels and inlets, boating access facilities, waterfront parks and piers. Provide recommendations' in waterway resource-based stewardship by encouraging boater safety and marine environmental education and practices cost effectively, to enhance the regional economic base while preserving the marine environment and the quality of life in Charlotte County.

Projects Underway

- **Alligator Creek Channel and upper Creek dredging. Final inspection for compliance with design drawings and specifications. Entrance marker flashing green light. Remove all pvc pipe survey stakes**
- **South Bridge Waterway maintenance dredge**
- **Stump pass maintenance dredge**
- **Suncoast Waterway, maintenance.**
- **Beach Complex/ Sunrise Shoaling Study**
- **Manchester Waterway, Lewis Creek spot dredging**
- **South Gulf Cove, Trout Creek breach**
- **Manatee Committee final report**
- **Harbor Heights, install marine marker**
- **Installation of Hayward Canal markers**
- **Lewis Creek and Manchester Waterway spot dredging**
- **South Gulf Cove, trout Creek Breach**

Objectives:

- **Monthly MSBU project updates**
- **Review the CPW Department's related CIP schedule marine projects on a quarterly basis.**
- **Provide comment and input to BCC Manatee Committee report**

2011-2012 Budget

- **Applications for funding review and approve or disapprove the request. Submit CCMAC approved requests to the BCC for their approval.**

Objectives:

- **Conduct the funding request review in the March, 2011 meeting.**
- **County staff to review Funding Request applications for completeness of information submitted prior to March 2011 CCMAC approval**

Potential Projects

- **Placida Boat ramp and parking expansion**
- **Cattle Point Dock boat ramp and parking lot development**
- **Boat ramp and parking facilities required east side south of Alligator Creek.**
- **Charlotte Harbor Gateway Harbor Walk**
- **Bay Heights boat ramp**
- **Northwest Port Charlotte, better access to into the Myakka River, study by WCIND**

Objectives:

- **Monitor these long-range projects and request updated presentations from county staff.**
- **Provide input to Parks and Rec, Beach and Shores committees as warranted, during the development of the projects of interest to CCMAC**

Issues of Concern

- **Clean up of Rivera Marina and the opportunity for the County to acquire the property, pending owner restoration of the property in compliance with FDEP and County regulations'.**
- **Encourage the development of a county annual registration program for kayak, canoe and other non-motorized vessels.**
- **Placements of slow speed signs in the intercostal waterway at the Palm Island ferry crossing.**

Objectives:

- **Have FDEP update the CCMAC on a semi annual basis on the progress of their compliance work with the owners of Rivera Marina**
- **Monitor the prime reason for registrations is for paddlers' safety, and search and rescue. Registration funds used for the development and maintenance of kayak trails within the county.**
- **Require the county to reinitiate their application with the state and federal authorities for boater safety.**