

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY
MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Thursday, March 10, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Marine Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairman Len Harris at 9:25 a.m. He then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The secretary called the Roll and a quorum was confirmed.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Len Harris, Chairman – Burnt Store Isles Boat Club
Gerald Meckenberg, Secretary – Englewood U.S.C.G.A.
Captain Ron Blago, Chairman – Member at Large
Captain Jay Buckley – City of Punta Gorda
Ken Dieffenbach - Charlotte Coastal Conservation Association of Florida
Bill Dixon – Punta Gorda Sailing Club
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 Rotonda
Mike Quinn – Punta Gorda Sports Fishing Club
Raymond Rose – Peace River Squadron, Inc.
Mel Staudmyer – Harbor Heights Yacht Club
Cody Vaughn-Birch – Member at Large

MEMBERS EXCUSED

None

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Conlon – Port Charlotte Yacht Club
Captain Scott Schermerhorn – Member at Large

STAFF

Andy Stevens – Natural Resources
Diane Quilty – Budget & Administrative Services
Roger DeBruler, Community Services
Mike Koenig, Community Services
Debrah Forester, Economic Development Office
Pam Alexander – Administrative Assistant II

GUESTS

Randy Brodersen, City of Punta Gorda

GUESTS (continued)

Brian Gleason, Charlotte Harbor Regatta
Jim Thomson, Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center
Rich Dorken, Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center
Major Jim Kaletta, Civil Air Patrol
Chief Blosser, Boca Grande Fire Department
Betty Staugler, UF/IFAS Sea Grant
Ron Ludvig, Peace River SPS
Tom Ireland, South Gulf Cove Yacht Club
Captain Ron Chandler, Charlotte County Sheriff's Office

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Starr's comments were delayed until after the presentations. At that time, he stated that the projects were all worthwhile and the decisions would be difficult again this year. He asked that the funding be spent judiciously on projects that will provide immediate benefit.

REGULAR BUSINESS

On motion by Cody Vaughan-Birch, seconded by Bill Dixon, and carried unanimously, the Minutes of the February 10, 2011 meeting were approved as presented.

In the absence of Tara Musselman, Andy Stevens read her MSBU Update Report into the record. Copies were provided to the membership.

Andy Stevens introduced Diane Quilty, Financial Consultant from the County's Fiscal Division, who is assigned to assist MAC with fiscal issues. Ms. Quilty provided an interactive spreadsheet. She advised that the \$103,000 request from the City of Punta Gorda was formally approved by the Board of County Commissioners at their meeting on March 8, 2011 and that amount had already been deducted.

Mr. Stevens then introduced the 17 Budget Applications which had been submitted for approval. Voting took place once all the requests had been presented.

- ITEM #1.** Charlotte County Community Services
- Construction of the Cattedock Boat Ramp
 - \$400,000.

Mike Koenig presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: Committee requested additional information; and, action on this item was deferred to the April 14, 2011 meeting.

- ITEM #2.** Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency
- Beach launch for kayaks and small sailboats as part of Phase I of the Harborwalk Project in Charlotte Harbor
 - \$268,658.

Debrah Forester presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: Action on this item was deferred to the April 14, 2011 meeting.

- ITEM #3.** Charlotte County Community Services, Parks & Natural Resources Division.
- Coastal Programs Assistant
 - \$53,000.

Andy Stevens and Roger DeBruler presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: On motion made by Tom Hamilton, seconded by Captain Jay Buckley, and carried unanimously, this application was approved in the amount of \$53,000 for the Coastal Programs Assistant to provide support for the Abandoned Vessel Program and the Artificial Reef Program.

- ITEM #4.** Charlotte County Community Services, Parks & Natural Resources Division
- Construct and Monitor an Artificial Reef Sites
 - \$55,000.

Roger DeBruler presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: On motion made by Chuck Gertner, seconded by Bill Dixon, and carried unanimously, this application was approved in the amount of \$55,000 for the construction and monitoring of an artificial reef site.

- ITEM #5.** Charlotte County Sheriff's Office
- Boat engine replacement
 - \$54,000.

Captain Ronald Chandler presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: Action on this item was deferred to the April 14, 2011 meeting.

- ITEM #6.** Charlotte Harbor Regatta
- Stage the 2012 IFDS World Disabled Boating Championships
 - \$20,000

and

- ITEM #7.** Charlotte Harbor Regatta
- Rental of Hoists and Lifts in conjunction with the IFDS Championships (Item #6 above)
 - \$20,000

Brian Gleason presented both of these requests and discussion followed.

ACTION: Action on both of these items was deferred to the April 14, 2011 meeting.

- ITEM #8.** Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center
- boat based educational programs for school-aged children and adults
 - \$17,000.

Rich Dorken presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: On motion made by Tom Hamilton, seconded by Captain Jay Buckley, and carried unanimously, this application was approved in the amount of \$17,000 for the boat-based environmental education programs.

and

- ITEM #16.** Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center
- maintenance and repairs to the Fiesta Pontoon Boat
 - \$5931.

Rich Dorken presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: Action on this item was deferred to the April 14, 2011 meeting.

There was a brief recess from 10:57 to 11:03 a.m.

- ITEM #9.** Charlotte County Community Services, Parks & Natural Resources Division
- Maintenance and repair of Parker boat and 1-ton truck
 - \$15,000.

Andy Stevens and Roger DeBrueler presented the request and discussion followed.

- ***ACTION: On motion made by Doug Donovan, seconded by Bill Dixon, and carried unanimously, this application was approved in the amount of \$15,000 for the Maintenance and repair of Parker boat and 1-ton truck.***

- ITEM #10.** Charlotte County Community Services, Parks & Natural Resources Division
- Evaluation of the structural integrity of the El Jobean, Placida and Boca Grand fishing piers
 - \$15,000.

Andy Stevens presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: Action on this item was deferred to the April 14, 2011 meeting.

- ITEM #11.** Charlotte County Community Services, Parks & Natural Resources Division
- Parking Expansion at Placida Boat Ramp
 - \$15,000.

Andy Stevens presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: Action on this item was deferred to the April 14, 2011 meeting.

- ITEM #12.** Civil Air Patrol, Charlotte County Composite Squadron
- Sundown Patrols
 - \$12,500.

Major Milton Kaletta presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: On motion made by Captain Maurice Sabourin, seconded by Chuck Gertner, and carried unanimously, this application was approved in the amount of \$12,500 for the Sundown Patrol.

- ITEM #13.** Boca Grande Fire Control District
- Boat operator training for Fire/EMS personnel
 - \$11,130.00

Chief C. W. Blossner presented the request and discussion followed. Several members of MAC advised that the classes being requested would not provide the training needed by Fire/EMS personnel. It was further

suggested that they enroll in the classes provided by the Coast Guard Auxiliary or other groups, as many of these classes are free of charge and would provide the type of training necessary.

ACTION: Action on this item was deferred to the April 14, 2011 meeting.

- ITEM #14.** Charlotte County UF/IFAS Extension/Florida Sea Grant
- Operational Expenditures & Supplies for water-based operations
 - \$10,000.

Elizabeth Staugler presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: On motion made by Gerald Meckenberg, seconded by Captain Jay Buckley, and carried unanimously to approve 10,000 for water-based operational expenditures and supplies.

- ITEM #15.** Charlotte County Community Services
- Coral Creek Blueway Trail markers permitting to mitigate navigational hazards
 - \$7500.

Andy Stevens presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: Action on this item was deferred to the April 14, 2011 meeting.

- ITEM #17** Peace River Sail & Power Squadron
- Cost of materials for students in safe boating classes
 - \$2500.

Ron Ludvig presented the request and discussion followed.

ACTION: On motion made by Bill Dixon, seconded by Captain Maurice Sabourin, and carried unanimously, this application was approved in the amount of \$2500 for the cost of materials for students in safe boating classes.

Requests in the amount of \$165,000.00 were approved. The remainder will be discussed at the April 14, 2011 meeting. Diane Quilty will provide a copy of the spreadsheet to the membership following the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Due to the recent resignation of long-time Committee member Tony Tonz, Tom Ireland was recommended by the South Gulf Cove Yacht Club as his replacement. The Committee interviewed Mr. Ireland. On motion by Captain Ron Blago, seconded by Captain Jay Buckley, and carried unanimously, Mr. Ireland was approved and his name will be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners for confirmation.

Captain Blago complimented the Chairman and Secretary for the way the transition for Tony Tonz was handled. Gerald Meckenberg, MAC Secretary, asked that the Staff Secretary, Pam Alexander, also be recognized for her finesse in handling this issue without causing additional upset to Mr. Tonz.

OLD BUSINESS

- Manatee Committee Update – NONE

- The Chairman thanked Cody Vaughan-Birch for drafting the Proclamation to declare May 2011 as Boating Safety Month in Charlotte County.
Action: On motion by Tom Hamilton, seconded by Captain Maurice Sabourin, and carried unanimously, the draft is to be submitted to the County Attorney to be prepared and placed on the agenda for the appropriate Board of County Commission meeting.
- There were no suggestions for items to be included on the Agenda for the Joint Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, the Beaches & Shores Advisory Committee and the MAC.

OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

CITIZEN COMMENTS

NONE

GOOD OF THE ORDER

NONE

The Chairman provided the following information regarding upcoming meetings:

- Wednesday, April 6, 2011 – **Joint Meeting** of MAC, Beaches & Shores and Parks & Recreation at 1:00 p.m. at Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center, 4500 Harbor Boulevard, Port Charlotte.
- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 9.30 a.m. in the Building Construction Services Conference Room, 18400 Murdock Circle
- The next **Regular Meeting** will be held Thursday, April 14, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 119

On motion by Cody Vaughan-Birch seconded by Bill Dixon, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Alexander
 Administrative Assistant II

Minutes Approved on April 14, 2011

Len Harris, Chairman
 Marine Advisory Committee