

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY  
MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Thursday, May 12, 2011**

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Len Harris at 9:30 a.m. He then led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The secretary called the Roll and confirmed that a quorum was present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Len Harris, Chairman – Burnt Store Isles Boat Club  
Captain Ron Blago, Chairman – Member at Large  
Captain Jay Buckley – City of Punta Gorda  
William Dixon – Punta Gorda Sailing Club  
Douglas Donovan - U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 98 Charlotte Harbor  
John Fleming – Member at Large  
Charles Gertner, Pirate Harbor Yacht Club  
Tom Hamilton – Isles Yacht Club  
Captain Tim Lynch – Palm Island Marina, Member-at-Large  
Gerald Meckenberg, Secretary – Englewood U.S.C.G.A.  
Mike Quinn – Punta Gorda Sports Fishing Club  
Raymond Rose – Peace River Squadron, Inc.  
Captain Maurice Sabourin – U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 99 Rotonda  
Capt. Scott Schermerhorn – Member at Large  
Mel Staudmyer – Harbour Heights Yacht Club  
Garland Wilson – Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club

**MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Ken Dieffenbach - Charlotte Coastal Conservation Association of Florida  
Tom Ireland, South Gulf Cove Yacht Club  
William Kumm – Punta Gorda Boat Club  
Cody Vaughn-Birch – Member at Large

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Port Charlotte Yacht Club member has resigned; this position is vacant.

**STAFF**

Andy Stevens – Natural Resources  
Diane Quilty – Budget & Administrative Services  
Roger DeBruler, Jr. – Parks & Natural Resources  
Charles Mopps – Public Works  
Pam Alexander – Administrative Assistant II

## **GUESTS**

Grace Amodeo – Manchester Waterway Advisory Committee  
James Kipp, Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
David Stefanini, Charlotte County Sheriff's Office Marine Unit  
Randy Broderson, City of Punta Gorda  
Betty Staugler, SeaGrant

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Starr arrived late. He advised that the parking meters at the Beaches will be discussed and voted upon at the May 24, 2011 meeting of the Board of Commissioners. He also stated that the next Joint meeting has been scheduled for October 5, 2011.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

- On motion by Jay Buckley, seconded by Mike Quinn and carried unanimously, the Minutes of the April 14, 2011 meeting were approved as presented.
- MSBU Update - In the absence of Tara Musselman, Charles Mopps provided the update (The formal document was provided by Ms. Musselman following the meeting and is attached). A question was raised regarding the missing markers in Charlotte Harbor. It was determined that markers were not missing; they are just numbered out of order.

\* ***OLD BUSINESS ITEM TAKE OUT OF ORDER:*** James Kipp and Marc Miller of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection were in attendance. Mr. Kipp provided an update. The FDEP filed civil suit in Charlotte County against the Riviera Marina and its owner, Barry Batch in July 2010. Due to Mr. Batch's health issues, a continuance was issued and the FDEP General Consul is investigating pursuing against Mr. Batch's personal representative as well. A Notice of Unauthorized Structure was filed in the Charlotte County Public Records. This will act as a notice to future potential buyers of the violations that exist. Late last year, Mr. Batch had contracted to have two semi-sunken barges dismantled and removed. Progress is being made, although slowly.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Gerald Meckenberg discussed representation from the Port Charlotte Yacht Club. Mike Conlon, their representative, was no longer affiliated with PCYC. Correspondence was exchanged between PCYC and Pam Alexander, Administrative Assistant on behalf of MAC. George Bobko was the individual recommended. Although he attended the meeting, he has not yet provided a resume'. He will do so and attend the June meeting for his interview.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Chairman Len Harris reported on the BOCC meeting held on April 26, 2011 when the Proclamation for Boater Safety Month was issued. He advised that he had accepted it and shared the official document with the membership.

- Riviera Marina *This item was taken out of order. See above.\**
- Andy Steven, Parks and Natural Resources, provided the following update from the Manatee Committee. The task outlines with Florida Wildlife Commission were finalized. A meeting with County Planners is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. May 23, 2011 at the Mid-County Library to coordinate with the Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Andy Stevens, Parks and Natural Resources, advised that the funding recommendations for all items presented to the MAC for funding approval will be presented to the Commissioners for a vote at their regular meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2011. This includes those not approved by the MAC. He also advised that the non-profit group who requested funding for the floating docks for the IFDS Championships has made a request that the BIF local funds come out of this years (2011) funds. The City of Punta Gorda has send a letter to the BOCC expressing support for this event and also stating that they would like to own some of the docks.

There was much discussion regarding the original submittal and the subsequent changes when it was re-submitted for consideration at the April MAC meeting; the future ownership of the docks and their availability for future events; engineering of the docks; and permitting issues.

On motion by Tom Hamilton, seconded by Bill Dixon and carried unanimously, MAC recommends to the BOCC that approval of the funding be contingent upon the City taking ownership of the docks. Mike Quinn formally requested that the County “clean up” the calculations and other information that he felt was confusing and inaccurate in the submittal as provided at the April MAC meeting.

Andy Stevens will make the appropriate notifications to Brian Gleason, Chairman of the IFDS event.

Captain Blago left the meeting at approximately 10:10 a.m.

- Stump Pass Markers – Some discussion took place about the documentation sent from Jason Ouimet, Signing and Marking. (copy attached). In addition. Charles Mopps provided additional information.
- Charles Mopps, Public Works, provided an update on the Stump Pass Project, including information prepared by Michael Poff of Coastal Engineering Consultants. (copy attached). The dune planting is the only item remaining and all expenditures, will be reimbursed at 87% by FEMA, as long as it is completed by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Approximately \$2000 will not be reimbursed, as this is for the portion of this contract regarding the guarantee that the plants maintain 80% growth for 6 months.
- The long-term management plan is being reviewed by staff. It may become a federal project under the Army Corps of Engineers. The State is now working in concert with the County for any future permitting. A feasibility study must be

performed and modeling must be done for every option. Mr. Mopps was invited to return and provide updates as the process continues.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- Roger DeBruler, Parks and Natural Resources, provided updates on the both the artificial reef and abandoned vessel programs. He has talking presentations for both. He is investigating the possibility of putting them on the County website.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- There was some discussion at the recent joint meeting of MAC, Beaches & Shores and Park & Rec Advisory Committees regarding a test program to place spoil from canal dredging. Citizen, Frank Kudrna, asked for it to be an item on the MAC agenda. Chairman Len Harris does not feel that this is a MAC item. At this time, County does not issue dredging permits. There is some discussion by Building Construction Services about changing the ordinance for dock/seawall/dredging permits. The consensus of the MAC was that it is not a topic for discussion by this Committee.
- Betty Staugler, Sea Grant, advised that University of Florida, IFAS is updating their 5-year Strategic Plan that covers all areas of Extension. They are encouraging participation in an on-line survey. She distributed postcards with the necessary information.
- Randy Broderson, City of Punta Gorda, advised that the easterly mooring field is underway. It may be completed by the next meeting of MAC.

Chairman Harris provided the following information regarding future meetings of this Committee:

- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, June 2, 2011 at 9.30 a.m. in the Building Construction Services Conference Room, 18400 Murdock Circle
- The next **Regular Meeting** will be held Thursday, June 9, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 119

On motion by Mel Staudmyer, seconded by Bill Dixon and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Alexander  
Administrative Assistant II

Minutes Approved on June 9, 2011

Len Harris, Chairman  
Marine Advisory Committee