

**MINUTES**  
**CHARLOTTE COUNTY**  
**MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, October 13, 2011**

Chairman Len Harris called the meeting to order at 9:26:01 AM and then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

The Secretary called the Roll and determined that a quorum was present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Len Harris, Chairman – Burnt Store Isles Boat Club  
Captain Ron Blago, Chairman – Member at Large  
George Bobko – Port Charlotte Yacht Club  
Captain Jay Buckley – City of Punta Gorda  
Ken Dieffenbach - Charlotte Coastal Conservation Association of Florida  
William Dixon – Punta Gorda Sailing Club  
Douglas Donovan - U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 98 Charlotte Harbor  
John Homer Fleming – Member at Large  
Charles Gertner, Pirate Harbor Yacht Club  
Tom Hamilton – Isles Yacht Club  
Tom Ireland, South Gulf Cove Yacht Club  
William Kumm – Punta Gorda Boat Club  
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  
Cody Vaughn-Birch – Member at Large  
Garland Wilson – Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club

**MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Captain Tim Lynch – Palm Island Marina, Member-at-Large  
Capt. Scott Schermerhorn – Member at Large

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mel Staudmyer – Harbour Heights Yacht Club

**STAFF**

Roger DeBruler, Jr. – Community Services, Parks & Natural Resources  
Dianne Quilty – Fiscal Services  
Hector Flores – Administration  
Tara Musselman – Public Works  
Pam Alexander – Administrative Assistant II

## **GUESTS**

Jim Thomson, CHEC  
Jo Mogel, FFWC Boating Advisory Council  
Officer John Kennedy – Punta Gorda Police Department  
Randy Broderson – City of Punta Gorda  
Grace Amodeo – Manchester Advisory Committee

### **Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Starr complimented the MAC about being on the right track in prioritizing the items for funding recommendations. Comments. He also advised that there will be significantly less money available next year.

### **Regular Business**

- Minutes of Last Regular Meeting – Additions, Corrections or Deletions  
On motion by Tom Hamilton, seconded by Jay Buckley and carried unanimously, the minutes were approved as presented
- Minutes of Pre-Agenda Meetings were not forwarded to committee members, therefore, this item will be placed on next month's agenda.
- Tara Musselman read her MSBU Update report into the record. Discussion ensued about items in her reports as well as additional items. (copy attached)

### **New Business**

- Andy Stevens presented four (4) New Applications for Funding
  - Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC): Additional funding for supplies for children's programs. Jim Thomson presented his request. Discussion ensued.

On motion by **Mike Quinn**, seconded by **Tom Ireland** and carried unanimously the funding request in the amount of \$11,950 was APPROVED from BIF Local.

- Sea Grant: Side-SONAR unit for crab trap detection and removal (navigational impairment). Betty Staugler made a presentation and reminded the Committee of the presentation made by Capt. Allen at the meeting last month. Discussion ensued.

On motion by **Cody Vaughan-Birch**, seconded by **Jay Buckley** and carried unanimously the funding request in the amount of \$2800 was APPROVED from BIF Local.

- City of Punta Gorda Police Department: Uniforms for Volunteers. Officer John Kennedy apologized that he was unable to address any questions on this request and suggested that it be continued until the MAC meeting next month.

Len Harris stated that Andy Stevens had told him that this is not an approved item for funding. Mike Quinn stated that he felt that uniforms should be considered as a consumable for an ongoing operation. Bill Dixon stated that he felt the issue should be continued until next month.

On motion by **Mike Quinn**, seconded by **Tom Ireland** and carried on a vote of 13 to 4, the funding request in the amount of \$3125 was DENIED.

- City of Punta Gorda Police Department: metal detector. Officer Kennedy of PGPD made a brief presentation but was unable to answer all questions. Discussion and voting on this item is continued until next month's meeting.
- Overview of non-motorized boats – Len Harris and Jo Mogel provided information regarding issues concerning non-motorized vessels. Additional discussion ensued. This item will be placed on the Agenda for the Joint Meeting on November 2, 2011.
- Update on Joint Meeting – Now scheduled for November 2, 2011

### **Old Business**

- Hector Flores, Operational Research Analyst – Administration addressed the Committee regarding the future use of the portable docks that were constructed for the International Handicapped Sailing Regatta and partially funded through a request to the Marine Advisory Committee. Discussion ensued, including a request to consider direction wind studies as a factor when making the final determination for their locations. Mr. Flores agreed and will provide a copy of the final list to the MAC.

Commissioner Starr left the meeting at 10:45:32 AM

- Andy Stevens provided information on the status of the Boca Grande trestle. He advised that WCIND is utilizing regional funding to evaluate the condition of this structure. The report is due in about 20 days. He will provide an additional update at the November 10<sup>th</sup> MAC meeting.
- Andy Stevens advised that he would like to bring the Blueway Trail Markers project back for discussion regarding the number and placement of the markers for which funding was previously approved by MAC. They are strictly for Coral Creek Kayak Trail Markers. The Tourism Division is most anxious to market this area.
- Manatee Committee Update - Informational e-mail from Jo Mogle has been provided to the members. This is an information item only and there was no discussion

- Debrah Forester provided an update on the Harborwalk Project. She updated the information which she had provided in her correspondence for the September MAC meeting. The permitting and approval processes are going smoothly. She will be asking for the funding from the BOCC in advance. She further advised that photos are available on the Charlotte County website under Charlotte Harbor CRA.
- Update on the Construction of the Cattedock Boat Ramp project – Due to a scheduling conflict Roger Warner is unable to attend. The item will be continued until the November 10, 2011 meeting. Chairman Harris read an information e-mail received from Mr. Warner into the record.
- Randy Broderson, City of Punta Gorda provided an update on Bayfront Center non-motorized boat launch. The seawall and ramp are completed. The sidewalk is anticipated to be installed in about two weeks. He also advised that a meeting with DEP is scheduled for Friday regarding possible dredging at the basin behind the boat club.
- Roger DeBruler, Community Services – Parks & Natural Resources, provided updates:
  - Abandoned Vessel Program: there have been 24 boats and four owners have claimed responsibility. They have spent approximately \$61,000 for this project, which is under budget.
  - 600 tons of concrete have been accumulated for the artificial reef.
  - Final numbers will be available at the end of the month.

### **Other Business**

- The **Joint Meeting** of the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee, the Marine Advisory Committee and the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee was postponed from October 5, 2011. It has been rescheduled for **NOVEMBER 2, 2011** at the Mid-County Library at the corner of Forrest Nelson and U.S. 41 in Port Charlotte at 1:00 p.m. \*see above\*
- Chairman Harris advised that he has created the Annual Report based upon the Goals & Objectives. He has signed the letter and the report and they will be forwarded to Commissioner Starr and the other Commissioners. The Goals and Objectives will be added to the website.
- Members with Expiring Terms – Responses from both the member and his related organization must be submitted to the clerk no later than **Friday, October 21, 2011** for inclusion on the November 10<sup>th</sup> Agenda.
  - Several applications have been received for the At-Large position. Interviewing and voting will be at the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Election of Officers (Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary) will be held at the November meeting.

### **Citizen Comments**

Tara Musselman, a member of the audience, addressed the Committee. She stated that all requests for funding are basically the same, meaning that funding is available from other sources for most items submitted to the MAC. She asked that this fact be taken into consideration when deliberating and voting on future funding applications.

### **Good of the Order**

Cody Vaughan-Birch stated that FWC had voted to rid prohibition on lights for snook fishing in Charlotte County.

### **Next Meeting**

- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, November 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, November 10, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 119

### **Adjournment**

On motion by Bill Dixon, seconded by Mike Quinn and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16:49 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Alexander  
Administrative Assistant II

Minutes Approved on November 10, 2011

Len Harris, Chairman  
Marine Advisory Committee