

MINUTES
CHARLOTTE COUNTY
MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, October 11, 2012

Chairman Len Harris called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

Len Harris, Chairman – Burnt Store Isles Boat Club
Raymond Rose, Vice Chairman – Peace River Squadron, Inc.
Gerald Meckenberg, Secretary –U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 87 Englewood
Susan Bareither - U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 98 Charlotte Harbor
Captain Ron Blago – Member at Large
George Bobko – Port Charlotte Yacht Club
Sarah Buck – Punta Gorda Sailing Club
Ken Dieffenbach – Charlotte Coastal Conservation Association of Florida
Jake Dye – Isles Yacht Club
John Homer Fleming – Member at Large
Charles Gertner – Pirate Harbor Yacht Club
Richard Hoagland - Harbour Heights Yacht Club
Tom Ireland – South Gulf Cove Yacht Club
William Kumm – Punta Gorda Boat Club
Captain Tim Lynch – Member-at-Large
Mike Quinn – Punta Gorda Sports Fishing Club
Capt. Scott Schermerhorn – Member at Large
Garland Wilson – Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club

VACANCIES

Member at Large

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Herman Novak – City of Punta Gorda
Captain Maurice Sabourin – U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 99 Rotonda

MEMBERS ABSENT

NONE

STAFF

Tara Musselman, Community Development – Engineering
Charles Mopps, Community Development – Engineering
Richard Kolar, Fiscal Services
Andy Stevens, Community Services
Roger Warner, Facilities

GUESTS

Grace Amodeo, Manchester Advisory Committee
Randy Broderson, City of Punta Gorda

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

NONE

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Bob Starr apologized for missing the previous meeting of MAC due to a scheduling conflict. He stated that this would be his last meeting as BCC Liaison to the MAC. He said that it had been a pleasure working with this Committee. He commented that the responsibilities of this group are more than most as they deal with funding. He is appreciative of the due diligence and "homework" by the membership and their courage when making recommendations that were unpopular. He will miss this group the most. Those in attendance provided a round of applause. Chairman Harris said that it has been a pleasure working with him, thanked the Commissioner for his support and wished him well in his retirement.

REGULAR BUSINESS

On motion by Tom Ireland, seconded by George Bobko and carried unanimously, the Minutes of the Pre-Agenda Meeting on October 4, 2012 were approved as submitted.

On motion by Jake Dye, seconded by Tom Ireland and carried unanimously, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on September 13, 2012 were approved as submitted.

Tara Musselman read her MSBU Update report into the record and responded to questions from the membership. (See attached) She further advised that Chuck Mopps had returned from military deployment and would be assuming the responsibility for this report.

Andy Stevens thanked Commissioner Starr for his support. He also presented favorable comments regarding Mr. Mopps. He then provided updated information regarding the Boca Grande Trestle project. We have received regional money from WCIND. The next step is to seek regional funding for evaluations of the remaining parts of the structure. Trestle has been posted "no trespassing"; DEP is working to mark the environmentally sensitive sea grass areas.

Joint Meeting (Beaches & Shores Advisory Committee, Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee and MAC) scheduled for October 3, 2012 was cancelled. The next Joint meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2013 at the Mid County Library. Chairman Harris would like all suggestions for items to be added to the agenda for this meeting to be forwarded to Pam Alexander immediately following the January 10, 2013 MAC meeting. Commissioner Starr encouraged all to participate in the Joint Meetings. If the item is important to the MAC, ask for it to be added to the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Minutes – October 11, 2012
Marine Advisory Committee

Chairman Len Harris briefly discussed the Goals and Objectives he has prepared for the upcoming year. There being no comments or changes, this document will be forwarded to the BCC.

OLD BUSINESS

Debrah Forester was unable to join the meeting. Andy Stevens will coordinate with her to attend the November meeting to provide an update on the Harborwalk Project.

Roger Warner, Project Manager for the Bay Heights Park boat ramp and parking area, addressed the meeting. He also provided a copy of the plan as it was provided to the BCC. Option C was the concept selected by the BCC. Much discussion ensued regarding the potential traffic safety issues, environmental issues (sea grass), need for a canoe/kayak launch, etc. All MAC members were given an opportunity to provide input. Andy Stevens reported that this project was a Sales Tax project approved by the citizens of Charlotte County. Commissioner Starr provided some of the history of the project and stated that he felt that, although costly, Option C is the highest and best use of the property at this time. The MAC will continue to monitor the status of the project.

The Cattle Dock project has been placed on hold. At an earlier meeting the MAC membership sought to recover the funding already allocated to date. Andy Stevens advised that he will be meeting with WCIND on Friday, October 12, 2012 and will bring up this issue. He will update the MAC at the November meeting.

Andy Stevens advised that the Engineer's final report and proposed action for the Placida, Boca Grande and El Jobean Fishing Piers has been received and reviewed. Staff concurs with the report and a copy will be provided to the MAC at the November meeting.

Rich Kolar of Fiscal Services will provide a quarterly funding update and review of the final 2011-2012- report at November's meeting.

Andy Stevens congratulated the Charlotte County Marine Advisory Committee, reporting that many other counties are touting this MAC as a model, based upon the efficiency in evaluating projects.

In addition, Andy Stevens confirmed the requirements of WCIND regarding the percentages that may be allocated for law enforcement. Up to 20% may be allocated for education. The statutes are vague in the area of definitions of "law enforcement" and "education". Commissioner Starr recommended that the MAC does not allocate by percentages but rather evaluate each request.

The signage program for the Blueway Trails is moving forward, in conjunction with Parks & Rec and Tourism, along with MAC. \$15,000 has been allocated for this project.

Pam Alexander reported that all reappointment correspondence has been received. Len Harris reminded all that voting on the reappointments and to fill the Member-at-Large vacancy will be at the November meeting and ratification by the BCC will be at their December meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Election of Officers for 2013 calendar year for the MAC will be held at the December meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Randy Broderson, City of Punta Gorda addressed the Board: dredging began on Monday, October 8, 2012; work continues and will take about 2 months. Project should be completed around the first of February, 2013.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

NONE

NEXT MEETING

The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, November 1, 2012 at 9.30 a.m. the Building Construction Services Conference Room.

The next **Regular Meeting** will be held Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 119.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by George Bobko, seconded by Tom Ireland and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Alexander
Administrative Assistant II

Minutes Approved on November 8, 2012

Len Harris, Chairman
Marine Advisory Committee