

MINUTES
CHARLOTTE COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, April 11, 2013, 9:30 a.m.
Charlotte County Administration Center,
18500 Murdock Circle, Room 119
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

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Chairman Len Harris called the meeting to order at 9:26 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
Tom Ireland, Vice Chairman – South Gulf Cove Yacht Club
Gerald Meckenberg, Secretary –U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 87 Englewood
Captain Ron Blago – Member at Large
George Bobko – Port Charlotte Yacht Club
Sarah Buck – Punta Gorda Sailing Club
Jay Buckley – Member at Large
Jake Dye – Isles Yacht Club
John Homer Fleming – Member at Large
Chuck Gertner – Pirate Harbor Yacht Club
Richard Hoagland - Harbour Heights Yacht Club
William Kumm – Punta Gorda Boat Club
Captain Tim Lynch – Member-at-Large
Herman Novak – City of Punta Gorda
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
Garland Wilson – Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Susan Bareither - U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 98 Charlotte Harbor
Ken Dieffenbach – Charlotte Coastal Conservation Association of Florida

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STAFF

Richard Kolar, Financial Consultant – Fiscal Services (left early)
Roger DeBruler, Jr. – Parks and Natural Resources
Andy Stevens – Community Services
Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch, BCC Liaison
Pamela Alexander, Clerical Liaison – Community Development

GUESTS

Randy Broderson, City of Punta Gorda
Lillian G GaNun, Secretary – South Gulf Cove CERT

Changes to the Agenda

Item E under Regular Business: Add Rick Kolar to present the 2nd Quarterly review of 2012-2013 FY budget

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Deutsch reported that they are moving ahead with Stump Pass and that there will be a meeting on 4/17/13 on Knight Island with residents and interested parties and a webinar in the BCC Conference Room on either 4/18 or 4/19/13, with several State agencies, the contractor and the County representatives.

Chairman Harris reported on the invitation he had received from the Beach and Shores Advisory Committee Chair. They are scheduled to have a presentation on the 10-Year Management Plan for Stump Pass at their regular meeting on Thursday, May 2, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. It was agreed to change the time of the MAC Pre-Agenda for this meeting only to 8:30 a.m.

Regular Business

**REMINDER TO ALL ADDRESSING THE COMMITTEE:
PLEASE SIGN IN. It is helpful when preparing the Minutes.
A clipboard and a pen are provided on the podium.**

A. On motion by Tom Ireland, seconded by George Bobko, and carried unanimously the Minutes of the Pre-Agenda Meeting held on April 4, 2013 were approved as submitted.

B. On motion by Chuck Gertner, seconded by Jake Dye, and carried unanimously the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 14, 2013 were approved as submitted

C. On motion by Mike Quinn, seconded by Tom Ireland, and carried unanimously the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 10, 2013 were approved as submitted.

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D. Prior to the meeting Charles Mopps provided a copy of his update via e-mail to the members. Mr. Mopps was unable to attend the meeting due to a military commitment.

E. Rick Kolar was scheduled to present a review of the 2012-13 budget for the second quarter. It was reported later in the meeting that, due to a family emergency, he would not be at the meeting this morning.

New Business

A. Review/Discussion/Recommendation on two additional Funding Applications 2013-2014 Fiscal Year –

PLEASE NOTE: If the organization you represent on the Committee has presented a funding request, you must announce such to the Committee, complete a Conflict of Interest Form for retention in the public record and abstain from voting on that item.

1. Request from South Gulf Cove Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in the amount of **\$4,000** to purchase equipment and materials for ongoing training of present and future members to benefit Charlotte County in emergency situations and to attend education session to become and/or maintain certifications. ***Lillian G GaNun, Secretary***

Ms. GaNun made the presentation by providing an historical overview of the CERT program, and specifically the South Gulf Cove CERT. She also shared information regarding their response following Hurricane Charley in 2004.

On motion by Chuck Gertner, seconded by Jake Dye, and carried unanimously, this request was TABLED until more information was made available.

2. Request from Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, Inc., CSO in the amount of **\$3,514.47** to purchase snorkeling equipment and safety gear to provide guided snorkeling adventures in Gasparilla Sound, no less than 4 times a year. These trips will promote increased awareness of Charlotte County's natural resources and the ecotourism opportunities for the public. ***Liz Donley, President***

Mary McMurray of DEP made this presentation. Discussion ensued, with many questions being raised by the Committee. Some concerns and objections were expressed, along with several suggestions, to include charging a minimal fee or recommend that participants utilize their own equipment.

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On motion by Herman Novak, seconded by Captain Ron Blago, and carried on a vote of 19 – 1, with Scott Schermerhorn dissenting, the request was approved in the amount of \$3,522.32 and will be forwarded to the BCC for final approval.

Sara Buck arrived at 10:00 a.m.

3. Request from Charlotte County Power Boat Racing

Andy Stevens had no additional information. Commission Deutsch shared some of the information from the presentation that was recently made to the BCC. This expected to be a several day event, including a parade, boat displays, etc. The actual race is expected to take place off of Englewood Beach. The Commissioner reported that the BCC had voted 4-1 to approve the event.

Discussion ensued with the consensus being that the ecology of Charlotte Harbor is the main concern. There will be noise and disruption to normal life in the Charlotte Harbor area, including the Peace River vicinity, for about 2 weeks. Herman Novak reported that many of the Punta Gorda representatives are supportive and they have blocked the proposed dates on their event calendar for April 2014. Chairman Harris suggested that this should be a joint event where the City and the County work together. Commissioner Deutsch concurred and reported that we have seen a good relationship evolving between the BCC and the City Council and the Airport Authority over the recent years.

Old Business

A. Andy Stevens reported on Bay Heights Park project which was previously funded in FY 2006-07. A conceptual plan will be forwarded to the Clerk for distribution to the members. The BCC did approve the ramp and kayak launch idea. Approximately \$200,000 has been budgeted. Chairman Harris asked that if there are any future funding requests that the request be itemized.

Chairman Harris had questions for Randy Broderson from the City of Punta Gorda about the pump out boat for the City, for which funding was recently recommended for approval. He asked for a delivery schedule, operating procedures and training schedules and that all be reviewed by the County and to assure they are in compliance with State and Federal statutes. Mr. Harris stated that the boat must be run by a certified captain. Mr. Broderson said that he would refer the questions to Mr. Hilston, Community Development Director for the City.

Mr. Broderson announced that he is scheduled to retire on June 7, 2013 and introduced Gary Disher as his replacement. In addition, he reported that the boat basin project was completed and the funding has been submitted.

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Other Business

Ray Rose complimented Mote Marine on the great job they are doing with their current lecture series.

Citizen Comments

NONE

Good of the Order

NONE

Next Meeting

- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, May 2, 2013 at 9.30 a.m. Room B-106.
- The next **Regular Meeting** will be held Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 119

Adjournment

On motion by George Bobko, seconded by Jake Dye, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Alexander
Administrative Assistant II

Minutes Approved on May 9, 2013

Len Harris, Chairman
Marine Advisory Committee

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