



MINUTES

CHARLOTTE COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 11, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Port Charlotte Cultural Center

2280 Aaron Street

Port Charlotte, FL 33952

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Ireland called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Upon the roll being called it was determined a quorum was present.

3. Chairman's Comments

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

B. REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS STATE THEIR NAME AND ORGANIZATION and TO USE THE MICROPHONE WHEN ADDRESSING THE COMMITTEE. It is helpful when preparing the Minutes

C. REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS, STAFF AND VISITORS TO PLEASE SILENCE THEIR CELL PHONES.

4. Changes to the Agenda

None offered.

5. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

None offered.

6. Regular Business

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Pre-Agenda Meeting from January 7, 2021
Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting from January 14, 2021.
Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

C. Financials – Jim Darden

Jim Darden discussed the grant list he supplied. He said they are in the 2021-2022 grant cycle for applications. Applications are on-line on the County website under Marine Advisory Committee.

Mr. Darden suggested the committee review in detail the grants before their next meeting in March.

They decided since many of the Sheriff's department police officers were present for the update on the 5 year plan (which is under New Business Item #7), they decided to talk about that so the officers could leave and would not have to be at the meeting long.

Dr. Strube asked about the grant for equipment. He asked if they replace the engines every 3 years.

Sargent Brent Hertenlerner said they are not replacing multi-boat engines at the same time.

Dr. Strube asked when the motor is retired/sold, what happens to the money received from the sale?

Lieutenant Christopher Williams said money is reimbursed back to the MAC fund.

Commissioner Deutsch said we can give more to the sheriff's budget. This is a premiere waterfront community and there is not enough staff to handle the waterways. He has suggested to have a specialized marine division. He said the money does come back to us, not the general fund.

Mr. Darden said it also depends on what source the money originally came from. Also depends on State regulations and how much percentage of the funding to the Sheriff's department.

Mike McIntosh asked about a lift, where would that go?

Lt. Williams said a slip was donated and they need to install a lift.

Someone said if you put a lift in, it become part of the marina. They wanted to know why a lift was needed.

Lt. Williams said usually within 5 years, they will sell or trade in the boat. The boats last longer when out of the water. They usually get a higher resale value because it is in better shape.

There was questions about the overtime and who pays for that. When the water fest is going on, they need more manpower and additional funds are needed. There are many volunteers, they wondered if this is double dipping between the MAC funds and the budget.

Mr. Falesch said the County needs to have more transparency.

Dr. Strube asked if they can show where the money went last year.

They talked about some of the derelict boats.

Sargent Hertenlerner said sometimes a vessel appears to be derelict and sinking, then the owner pumps the boat up, and 2 months later it sinks again. It takes time to find the owner. Sometimes the registration is from 5 owners ago. The process does take time.

Betty Campanella said there were boating classes at the Chamber of Commerce and there were cases of programs MAC paid for that were not used. It was a waste of money.

They discussed the Manchester Water Way and Public Works

Someone asked if there was an MSBU?

Jeff Anlauf, who is with the Manchester Waterway Civic Association, said the Manchester Waterway does have an MSBU, but the funds we need are not allowed from the MSBU because that is for other items. He asked the County Attorney a while back, and she said no, they cannot use those MSBU funds for the waterway.

Currently all funding is by individual donations.

Commissioner Deutsch said about 4 years ago when the Manchester waterway was reopened and the lock taken out, part of the agreement was to preserve the entrance but 3 routes out of the northern end of the waterway were filled in when the lock was put in. That was supposed to be restored. He said the water quality is better over there, gets flushed through the Manchester waterway.

Mr. Anlauf said the MSBU is not allowed to charge for the feasibility study for improvements, it could be \$50,000 to \$80,000. He said some of the charges when engineers and others do their work, they spend on car rentals, staying overnight, and food. There are expenses.

Susan Bareither said that is where the money is being wasted on car rentals and other charges.

Chuck Falesch said they should have an attorney look into this. Pirate Harbor had a 15 year battle to get the channel dredged.

Tom Blainey said we had a feasibility study done; the cost was \$35,000. They pay \$100 per year into the MSBU. There was \$900,000 in there they were not allowed to use.

Matt Logan said he worked with this group. He felt the government messed things up. Permitting process took 10 years before lock was removed. The County was trying to get the permit. The State put up resistance. They were working on annual update to State/NEB's provide what permit asked them to hand in.

Zach Patchell said they should contact Carleen McDonalds at Public Works – she is the MSBU set up person.

D. MSBU Update – Zach Patchell

Mr. Patchell discussed the items on his MSBU project update list.

Ackerman and Manchester Waterway – no projects – refer to Manchester waterway.

Alligator Creek – there is no active project at this time.

Buena Vista – no active project at this time. Engineering design project upcoming.

Edgewater North – An RLI has been submitted to the purchasing department to initiate a bathymetric survey of the system. An engineering firm has been selected.

Gulf Cove – Atkins North America Inc. was the selected Engineering firm for the Interior canal survey and design project. Atkins has completed a survey of the canal system and they are working towards 90% plans.

Harbour Heights – no active project. The pre-storm bathymetry survey results were discussed with the Waterway Committee and there was a motion to get a cost of designing a spot dredge.

Hayward canals – Charlotte County initiated a contract with Johnson Engineering for the design engineering, permitting and construction management for a maintenance dredge of the Hayward Canal. Permitting is underway and 80% plans have been reviewed.

Manchester Waterway – No active project at this time.

Northwest Port Charlotte – The County has a contract with Coastal Engineering Consultants for the surveying, design and construction management of and interior spot dredge. The MSBU advisory committee has vote to move forward with an interior dredge design depth of -3.5' MLW. The Engineering firm is pressing forward with this design work. The MSBU also requested Navigational Trimming work. That work is scheduled to start Feb. 8, 2021. Pre-storm bathymetry results were reviewed by the waterway committee.

Peace River shores: No active projects

Pirate Harbor: Project complete. This waterway is included in the upcoming pre-storm bathymetric survey. A purchase order has been issued and work is being initiated.

Southbridge Waterway: No active projects

South Gulf Cove: RLI went out for survey, design and construction oversight for a maintenance dredge project of the turn basin and access channel. Johnson Engineering has submitted draft plans and is working on securing permitting with State agencies.

South Gulf Cove Parallel Lock: DMK has submitted the permit application to the agencies for their review and are working toward the 90% plans. SWFWMD permit has been received and DMK is working toward FDEP clearance. The County has requested an estimate of cost to design a Tender House for the Locks, and some plan upgrades.

Suncoast Waterway: No active projects. This waterway is included in the upcoming Pre-storm bathymetric survey. A purchase order has been issued and work is being initiated.

E. Derelict Vessel Report – Roger DeBruler

Roger DeBruler gave credit and well-deserved Kudos to the FWC-DLE, Sheriff, and PG Police Marine Officers for their hard work on the Hurricane Eta vessels list. There are 5 on the list which have been removed. 5 other boats are ready or near ready for removal.

F. Community Services Update – Tina Powell

Tina Powell said she will give a brief update on projects.

Ainger Creek – The park redevelopment project is managed by the Facilities construction and maintenance department. The design now continues with the initial concept including underground vault storage; once completed, it will be presented to the committee. The 2019 design edits will come back to MAC for review.

Allapatchee – The fishing pier replacement design budgeted for this fiscal year is now with Purchasing.

Hathaway Park – Staff is preparing a scope to submit to purchasing for the repair design for the Hathaway Park floating dock and gangway.

Live Oak Point – installation for the new handrail project is in permitting.

Placida Park – 2014 sales tax project for the boat ramp expansion is being managed by Facilities. They are working with Public Works on circulation/access for the new section of the park from roadways.

Port Charlotte Beach Park – the 2014 sales tax project for the sailing center is managed by Facilities construction and maintenance department. The pavilion is being constructed this week, expected delivery of the windows for the workshop and installation of the roof for the workshop and boat storage will be next week.

Riverside Park – the boat ramp repair is in the design phase; initial site condition assessment was completed. The engineer said it is in worse condition than first thought.

South Gulf Cove Park – staff is preparing a scope to submit to purchasing for the repair design for the South Gulf Cove Park boarding pier.

William R. Gains Jr. Veterans Memorial Park – a grant for additional trails, boardwalk, fitness equipment and interpretive signs was awarded; design phase is in purchasing.

7. New Business (this was discussed earlier in the meeting)
 - MAC inquiring Manchester and Public Works – Mat Logan
 - Sheriff update 5 year plan

8. Old Business –
None

9. Other Business -
None offered.

10. Citizen Comments –
None offered.

11. Good of the Order -
None offered.

12. Next Meetings

- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in the **E. Jay Carlson Large Conference Room. (f/k/a Building Construction Services)**
- The next **Regular Meeting** will be held Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in **Room B-106 in Murdock Building B.** (one story building attached to 5 story building – where you used to have pre-agenda before Covid)

13. Adjournment

Mr. Strube made a motion to adjourn, second by **Mr. Hickey**, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Minutes Approved



Tom Ireland, Chair