



MINUTES

CHARLOTTE COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 9, 2026

9:30 a.m.

Charlotte County Administration Center
18500 Murdock Circle Room B-106
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – **Chair Darden** called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.
2. Roll Call - Upon roll call, it was determined that a quorum was present. Sign-in sheets are attached.
3. Chairman's Comments
Reminders to all members, staff, and visitors: Please sign in on the sheets provided. State your name and organization when addressing the committee to assist with the preparation of the minutes. Silence cell phones and keep the conversations to a whisper, as the recording system captures all sounds.
4. Changes to the Agenda – None.
5. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items – **Dennis Peck** of Charlotte Harbor Sailing spoke about funding and difficulties working with Charlotte County. **Commissioner Deutsh** spoke regarding delays in rebuilding due to previous hurricanes. **Chair Darden** requested those issues be addressed with Agenda item I.
6. Regular Business
 - a. Approval of the Minutes of the Agenda Meeting from February 12, 2026
 - b. Approval of the Minutes of the Pre-Agenda Meeting from March 5, 2026

Chair Darden stated that the committee would accept all the pre-agenda and agenda minutes without objection. No objections were noted.

- c. Charlotte County Sheriff's Department and City of Punta Gorda Police Department- Marine Updates. **Sgt. Kris McRae** of CCSO spoke regarding Operation Night Light and the anchoring permit initiative. **Corporal Russell** of PGPD spoke regarding his department's activities. **Liz Eastes** gave the derelict vessel report. **Richard Russell** asked about a potential derelict vessel in the harbor. A discussion ensued.
- d. FY26/27 Fiscal Reports/Grants – **Jacob Jenkins** was unable to give a report, **Debbie Thibideau** was absent. **Chair Darden** went over the report and wanted to know how many grants are still outstanding from years past. Fiscal to answer at next meeting.
- e. Charlotte Harbor Youth Sailing – **Hank Killion** stated that the money hasn't been spent because the program hasn't started yet. He will report to the committee once it has.

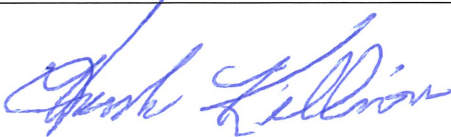
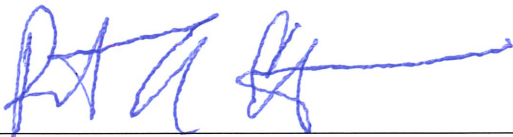
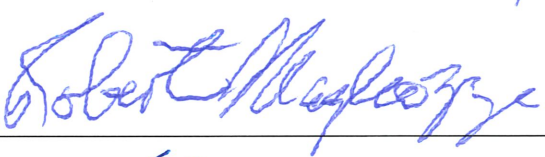
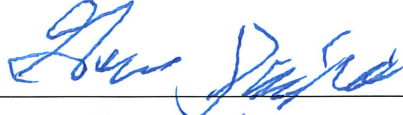
- f. Auxiliary 87 – **Robert Eckert** stated that he is unsure who will be purchasing items. **Chair Darden** advised to act sooner, rather than wait until September.
 - g. Peace River Sail and Power Squadron – **Betty Campanella** stated that the organization is aware that they need to spend money or risk losing it.
 - h. **Noel Hyde** asked about the Manasota Beach renourishment project and the MAC board funding for it. A discussion ensued.
 - i. MSBU Update. Neither **Michael Benjamin** nor **Matt Logan** present, however, a report was submitted which **Chair Darden** discussed.
 - j. **Tina Powell** gave an update on community services.
 - k. Sunshine Law video and pamphlet discussion. The video will be shown after today's meeting for members who have not seen it.
7. Old Business – None.
 8. Citizens Comments – **Joseph Tiseo**, Chairman, Charlotte County Board of Commissioners, commented on the growth of Charlotte County and explained the background process of future developments. **Stephen Deutsh**, Charlotte County Board of Commissioners, spoke regarding restrictions the State of Florida places on counties. **Dennis Peck** stated the need for a marina in Charlotte County and noted that citizens are power loading their boats.
 9. Member Discussion – **Mr. Killion** would like to form one sailing center in Charlotte harbor, rather than the three that are currently in existence. A discussion ensued regarding this. **Mr. Pawlowski** asked if there was a plan for future marine facilities
 10. Next Meetings
 - The next pre-agenda meeting will be held Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in the Large Conference Room of the E. Jay Carlson Community Development Building (18400 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte).
 - The next regular meeting will be held Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in Room B-106 in Building B of 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte.
 11. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Submitted by Jane Babler, recording secretary
Community Development

 _____
Jim Darden, Chair Date 5/14/26

MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Members – Agenda - Sign-In Sheet
April 9, 2026

PLEASE SIGN NEXT TO NAME ON SHEET

Jim Darden, Chair Member-at-Large	
Hank Killion, Vice-Chair Member-at-Large	
Betty Campanella, Secretary America's Boating Club - Peace River	
Robert Eckert U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 87 Englewood	
Jenna Ginsberg South Gulf Cove Yacht Club	
Robert Magliozzi Member-at-Large	
Richard Russell Member-at-Large	
Gene Pawlowski Punta Gorda Boaters Alliance	
Dave Vigne Pirate Harbor Yacht Club	
Richard Sluzewski Punta Gorda Boat Club	
Bob Mayes Punta Gorda Isles Fishing Club	

PLEASE SIGN NEXT TO NAME ON SHEET

Mike McIntosh
Punta Gorda Sailing Club



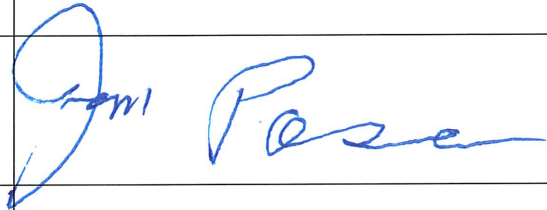
Michael Walsh
Harbor Heights Yacht Club



Laura Gassett-Shoemaker
U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 99 Cape Haze



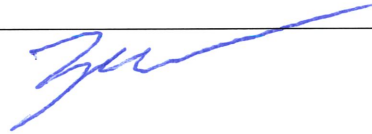
Jim Pase
Isles Yacht Club



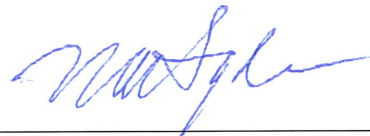
Vacant
Burnt Store Isles Boat Club

Angus McKinnon
U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 98 Charlotte Harbor

Zach Gloer
Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club



Noel Hyde
City of Punta Gorda



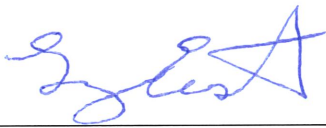
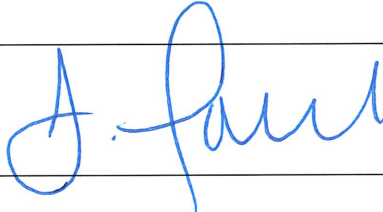
Ralph Lombardo
Member-at-Large



Vacant
Port Charlotte Yacht Club

MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Staff – Agenda – Sign-In Sheet
April 9, 2026

PLEASE SIGN NEXT TO NAME ON SHEET

Michael Benjamin , Dredging Project Manager	
Debbie Thibideau , Grants Analyst Budget & Administrative Services	
Jacob Jenkins , Finance Boater Revolving Fund	
Liz Eastes , Marine Environmental Specialist	
Matthew Logan , Projects Manager Engineering	
Tina Powell , Parks & Natural Resources Manager Liaison	
Robert Campbell (Eric) , Signing and Marking Coordinator, Public Works	
Sgt. Kris McRae , Marine Patrol Supervisor / CCSO	
Michael Marsh , Lieutenant / CCSO	
William Prummell , Marine Unit / CCSO	
Jon Bautista , Aviation / CCSO	
Richard Nelson , DV Detective/CCSO	
Jonathan C. Smith , Marine Unit / CCSO	

PLEASE SIGN NEXT TO NAME ON SHEET

Corporal A.J. Russell, Marine Patrol
Punta Gorda Police Dept.

CP Russell

Officer Eric Lee, Marine Patrol
Punta Gorda Police Dept.

Matthew McElroy, Interim Chief
Charlotte County Fire and EMS

Chris Mott, Battalion Chief
Charlotte County Fire and EMS

Jeremy Tuttle, Battalion Chief
Charlotte County Fire and EMS

Michael Kerns, Marine OPS Lieutenant
Charlotte County Fire

Thomas M. David, County Attorney
Office of the County Attorney

Please PRINT Your Name and Affiliation

[illegible]