

Brevard County Marine Advisory Council (BMAC)
March 18, 2010
Space Coast Room, Building C, Government Center, Viera, Florida

Members Present:

Jerry Butz
Mike Cunningham, Chairman
Gary Hanlin
Doug Jaren
Jim Mazza
Rick McCrary
John Mongioi
Joe Penovich
Bill Powell

Staff Present:

Matt Culver, Boating & Waterways Program Coordinator, Natural Resources Management Office (NRMO)
Holly Abeels, Marine Extension Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Office
Jeanette Scott, Administrative Assistant, NRMO

Public Present:

Lt. Travis Franklin, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)
Ron Morgan
Dawn Jaren

Handouts

(Go to <http://natres.brevardcounty.us/bmac-minutes.cfm> to view the handouts.)

- Draft Amendments "Fish Cleaning Stations" Chapter 18-21, Sovereignty Submerged Lands Management dated 11/24/2009

I. Call to Order

Chairman Mike Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:12 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Mongioi moved to approve the February 18, 2010 minutes. Mr. Mazza seconded the motion, and the 2/18/2010 minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Agenda Items

1. New Business

- BMAC Letter of Support for the Canaveral Port Authority's grant application to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for the their artificial reef project*

Mr. Culver prepared a draft Letter of Support for the Authority's grant application to place locally accessible artificial reef materials off of Brevard's coastline. The draft letter was distributed to the BMAC members for their approval. Mr. McCrary wanted to confirm that the proposed site would be open to public use. Mr. Culver verified that the site would be open to the public. Chairman Cunningham signed

the Letter of Support on behalf of the BMAC. Staff Action Item: Forward the signed Letter of Support to the Canaveral Port Authority attention Bob Musser.

b. Discussion of Fish Cleaning Stations, Regulatory Changes – Mr. Culver

Mr. Culver stated that currently there is no regulation addressing fish cleaning stations. The proposed draft amendments would provide the mechanism to address fish cleaning stations. Mr. Culver pointed out items 3a-d (Lines 21-40) outline the requirements relating to the stations. Mr. Culver stated that this is a good step forward. Mr. Jaren shared a concern that the language relating to *disposed of appropriately on the uplands* should be more specific. Mr. Culver stated that this legislation has already moved past revisions and is awaiting approval by the Governor.

c. Recognition of Mark Leslie for Assistance with SB 1118 – Mr. Mongioi

Mr. Mongioi updated the BMAC on his concerns regarding the draft of SB 1118. As offered during the last BMAC meeting, Mark Leslie, Dockmaster of the Titusville Municipal Marina, forwarded Mr. Mongioi's concerns to a marine lobbyist. After discussing the issue with Mr. Leslie and Ms. Timmons, a marine lobbyist, Mr. Mongioi stated that his proposed change, made during the 2/18/2010 BMAC meeting, about fill in Line 49 is no longer necessary. However, the language dealing with the one foot overhang remains a concern. Mr. Mongioi stated that he was impressed with Mr. Leslie's extensive marine legislative knowledge and would like to commend Mr. Leslie for his continued assistance to the BMAC. Chairman Cunningham suggested a Letter of Recognition be given to Mr. Leslie. Mr. Mongioi moved to present Mr. Leslie with a Letter of Recognition. Mr. Hanlin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Staff Action Item: Prepare a draft Letter of Recognition for Mr. Leslie.

2. Unfinished Business

a. Space Coast Boating and Waterfest

Mr. Penovich stated that he will confirm which fishing tournaments will be held during May 2010 and will provide updated information.

Mr. Hanlin emphasized the need for cohesion when planning the events that will be held during the Space Coast Boating and Waterfest. He added that a certificate of appreciation should be given to each group participating in this year's event. Mr. Culver offered the option of a Resolution. The Resolution would be presented during a Brevard County Board of County Commissioners meeting. The Resolution, similar to the one from 2009, would recognize the participants of the Space Coast Boating and Waterfest. Each group would receive a signed copy of the Resolution.

Mr. McCrary inquired about the organizational planning meeting. Mr. Culver announced that the meeting will be held on Monday, March 22, 2010 at 4 PM at the Coast Guard station in Port Canaveral.

Chairman Cunningham stated that he is still working with the rowing community to possibly participate in this year's event. Chairman Cunningham also added that he would like to incorporate a lifeguard competition.

Mr. Mongioi stated that a representative from the Banana River Sail and Power Squadron would attend the organizational meeting on March, 22, 2010.

Mr. Butz confirmed that the 44th Annual Brevard Challenge will be held on May 15 and 16, 2010. Participants are competing for the “highly coveted” Rockledge Centennial Trophy. The River Rally will be held on May 15. This venue is also a fundraiser for Candlelighters of Brevard, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to helping children with cancer and their families. Mr. Butz also confirmed that the Cocoa Match Race will be held on May 29-30, 2010. He stated that the venue will be held at Lee Wenner Park in Cocoa with eight sail boats competing. Mr. Butz anticipates many visitors from outside the county for this event. Lastly, Mr. Butz informed the BMAC that there are logistical concerns with the BoatBrevard.com WaterFest, tentatively scheduled for late May. The main challenge is with the proposed location of Ski Island. This location is owned by the Canaveral Port Authority. The Canaveral Port Authority is requesting that BoatBrevard.com acquire a \$2 million liability insurance policy and provide waterway enforcement patrols during the event. Mr. Butz shared that the organizers of the BoatBrevard.com event are confident in their ability to acquire the necessary insurance; however, they have concerns with funding the required waterway patrols. Chairman Cunningham asked if there was an alternate site for the BoatBrevard.com WaterFest event. Mr. Butz stated that one of the three islands near Marker 21 is a possible option. Mr. Penovich asked who regulates usage of the area at Marker 21. Mr. Culver stated the spoil islands near Marker 21 are designated for recreational use. Mr. Penovich commented that Ski Island is an ideal location for the BoatBrevard.com. Mr. Butz added that Ski Island is nicely kept and well maintained, a testimony to the stewardship of the island. Mr. Butz suggested the BMAC devise a letter to the Authority which would emphasize the intent of the Ski Island event – a family friendly celebration of Brevard’s shared waterways and natural resources. Mr. Penovich stated the letter should be a positive one and volunteered to write the letter on behalf of the BMAC. Mr. Butz moved to submit a letter of support for the BoatBrevard.com Ski Island event as part of the Space Coast Boating and Waterfest to the Canaveral Port Authority. Mr. Hanlin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Butz inquired about promotional materials for the Space Coast Boating and Waterfest. Mr. Culver stated that staff is preparing a flyer for the event. Mr. Culver also asked the BMAC members for any video footage relating to last year’s event. Mr. Penovich asked if a poster, highlighting all the venues, would also be prepared in addition to the flyer. Staff Action Item: Prepare promotional materials for the Space Coast Boating and Waterfest.

Mr. Powell shared contact information for A Day Away Kayak Tours, an outfitter located in north Brevard County.

IV. Reports

1. Staff Report – Matt Culver, Natural Resources Management Office

- Brevard County Artificial Reef Update

Mr. Culver stated that he needs to submit an application for reauthorization of the proposed Brevard County artificial reef site. He informed the BMAC that the Canaveral Port Authority paid approximately \$20,000 for their site scan. Mr. Culver shared with the BMAC that he has been attempting to conduct scans of the proposed Brevard County site, but the weather has not be conducive for the past five months. On a positive note, Mr. Culver reported that he was able to borrow underwater scooters needed for the site scans.

Final

2. Attendance Review – Chairman Cunningham conducted the attendance review after Public Input.

V. Public Input

- Ron Morgan
Mr. Morgan shared that he had recently spoken with Mr. Tim McKercher, SeaDoo Public Relations, regarding a personal watercraft competition in the C54 canal that could be held during the Space Coast Boating and Waterfest event. Due to concerns from the St. John's River Water Management District, Mr. McKercher decided to relocate this competition to Lakeland.
- Lt. Travis Franklin, FWC
Lt. Franklin reported that the FWC 65-foot patrol vessel has returned to the Port.

VI. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Butz. Mr. Hanlin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.