

Brevard Marine Advisory Council (BMAC)

April 21, 2011

Florida Room, Bldg C, Government Center, Viera, Florida

Members Present:

- Jerry Butz
- Mike Cunningham
- Dan Daniels
- Gary Hanlin
- Kelly Haugh
- Joe Penovich
- Jim Rosasco

Members Absent:

Jim Mazza
John Mongioi
Ron Rincones

Staff Present:

- Ernest Brown, Director, Natural Resources Management Office
- Matt Culver, Boating and Waterways Coordinator
- Holly Abeels, Marine Extension Agent
- Jeanette Scott, Council Secretary

Public Present:

- Officer Corley, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)
- Sgt Keck, BCSO
- Janet Luce, Atkins
- Ron Morgan

Handouts:

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

- BMAC Mission Statement, Scope of Work, and By-laws/Rules and Regulations
- Resolution 99-258, Resolution 01-216, and Resolution 06-115
- McGuire, Maia. "Fuzzy Dock Posts." UF/IFAS Sea Grant Extension Agent, Flagler Co
- Johnson, Bruce R. "Effect of Salt Water Evaporation on Tracheid Separation from Wood Surfaces." *Forest Products Journal*. 42 (1992): 57-59.
- UF/IFAS Extension Correspondence
- Plant Pathology Specimen Report
- Marine Fungi Question Emails
- Slides on Soft Rot, Brown Rot and White Rot from Dr. Jinx Campbell, Asst. Professor, Marine Mycology, University of Southern Mississippi
- The Finish Line, A Forest Products Laboratory Finishing Factsheet
- L.J. Cookson. "Do We Need the A in the CCA?" 27th Forest Products Research Conference

- Wood Decay and Wood-Rotting Fungi online research
- Space Coast Boating and Waterfest Article by Ms. Abeels

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Haugh moved to approve the March 17, 2011 minutes. Mr. Penovich seconded the motion, and the March 17, 2011 minutes were approved unanimously.

Chairman Cunningham displayed the framed Resolution sanctioning the May 2011 calendar of events for the Third Annual Space Coast Boating and Waterfest which he accepted on behalf of the BMAC on April 19, 2011 during the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners meeting.

Chairman Cunningham stated Mr. Brown was recently recognized by the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners for his 2010 Coast Guard Reserve Outstanding Junior Officer Award. On behalf of the BMAC for Mr. Brown's help and assistance, Chairman Cunningham presented Mr. Brown with Rescue Warriors, a book on survival swimmers. Mr. Brown expressed his appreciation with a heartfelt thank you.

III. Agenda Items

1. New Business

a. Introduction of BMAC Members, Mr. Brown

Mr. Brown welcomed Mr. Dan Daniels, appointed by Commissioner Fisher District 1, to the BMAC. Mr. Daniels shared he is a 23 year Brevard resident, graduate from the University of Central Florida and University of Florida and is employed as a physician's assistant for a local medical practice. Mr. Daniels stated he also is an active member of the United Waterfowlers. Mr. Brown informed the BMAC of another new, but absent, BMAC member, Mr. Rincones, appointed by Commissioner Infantini District 3. Mr. Rincones is anticipated to be present at the next BMAC meeting.

b. Review of BMAC Mission, Scope, and Bylaws

Mr. Brown suggested delaying the review of the BMAC Mission, Scope, and Bylaws until all the new and recently appointed members (Ms. Haugh, Mr. Rosasco, Mr. Daniels, and Mr. Rincones) are present. Chairman Cunningham agreed with Mr. Brown's recommendation.

c. Wood Piling Decay "Soft Rot"

Mr. Hanlin had previously requested information on this topic. Ms. Abeels referred to the articles "Fuzzy Dock Posts" and "Effect of Salt Water Evaporation on Tracheid Separation from Wood Surfaces" and the printed slides on soft rot, brown rot, and

white rots from Dr. Jinx Campbell, Asst. Professor, Marine Mycology, University of Southern Mississippi. According to research findings, Ms. Abeels stated the problem of “fuzzy docks” is attributed to salt water evaporation – as salt water penetrates the wood piling, the sun evaporates the water and salt crystals remain on the wood, causing the cells to break down. Ms. Abeels stated the research study indicates the wood piling decay is not likely caused by a marine fungus. Mr. Hanlin shared he recently installed a vinyl seawall during which he had learned of a company that treats wood pilings to prevent the “fuzzy dock” decay. The company claims the “fuzzy dock” decay is caused by a marine fungus. There was discussion on the topic. Mr. Brown stated the need to identify and quantify the problem. A concern is the life expectancy of the dock pilings. Mr. Brown recommended contacting the various marine associations and asking the question on the perceived degradation of wood structures. Chairman Cunningham added the need for updated and current information. **Mr. Hanlin moved to make an inquiry to the Army Corps of Engineers, Florida Marine Contractor’s Association, Marine Industries Association, and/or any other related boating and marine organization for more research and data on wood piling decay. Mr. Daniels seconded the motion.** Mr. Rosasco asked for clarification on the motion which was provided by Mr. Hanlin. **The motion passed unanimously.**

2. Unfinished Business

a. Space Coast Boat and Waterfest

Mr. Culver stated flyers for the Waterfest at Turkey Creek, Waterfest at Kiwanis Island Park, and the Third Annual Space Coast Boating and Waterfest Calendar of Events have been distributed to each BMAC member. Mr. Culver announced the Waterfest events will be promoted by Hometown News with advertisements for Waterfest at Turkey Creek and Waterfest at Kiwanis Island, Out and About segments, and an article on the Third Annual Space Coast Boating and Waterfest. Mr. Butz inquired if staff had been successful in contacting Kerry Bartlett from the Cocoa Beach Powerboat Races. Mr. Culver stated he made an inquiry, but he has not received a reply. Mr. Culver added he checked the Powerboat Races website, and it seemed to be an already well-established event with sponsors. Mr. Brown indicated it could still be possible to banner the Cocoa Beach Powerboat Races as a Waterfest event. **Mr. Hanlin moved to send all the participants and future potential partners a letter from the BMAC, detailing the success of Waterfest 2011 and the anticipated Waterfest next year. Mr. Penovich seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Culver stated the Citizens for Florida’s Waterways (CFFW) donated child and youth sized life vests and a Walmart gift card. Mr. Culver added the Sebastian

Inlet Marina will be an exhibitor and will donate items at the Waterfest at Turkey Creek.

Mr. Brown encouraged the BMAC members to attend Waterfest events. Mr. Culver offered to send an email to the BMAC members with the details of the Hook Kids on Fishing program to be held during the Waterfest at Kiwanis Island Park on Saturday, May 21, 2011.

At the conclusion of Unfinished Business, Ms. Janet Luce of Atkins, requested permission to speak on the wood piling decay agenda item. Chairman Cunningham granted permission. Ms. Luce stated the American Wood Protection Association (AWPA) would be the best resource to contact for additional information on wood piling decay and copper-chromium-arsenic (CCA).

IV. Reports

1. Staff Report – Ernest Brown, Director, Natural Resources Management Office

No Report

2. Staff Report – Matt Culver, Boating and Waterways Coordinator

No Report

3. Staff Report – Holly Abeels, UF/IFAS Extension Center

Ms. Abeels reported the UF/IFAS Extension Center is conducting an online survey to gather input from the public to assist with the UF/IFAS Extension Center's long-range planning sessions. Ms. Abeels offered to send the link to the online survey to the BMAC members.

At the conclusion of Reports, BMAC members made comments or asked questions on several topics prior to Public Input.

Chairman Cunningham stated the Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) purchased a former school located on U.S. Highway 1 in Palm Bay to be used by FIT in their marine sciences programs.

Mr. Butz stated he is working with Brevard County Parks and Recreation to develop a summer sailing program. Mr. Butz said there will be an organizational meeting next Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the scope and volunteer effort of the program. The program will have two 18-ft sailboats in the central Brevard area near SR 520 available for sailing. Ms. Haugh suggested the Sea Scouts has a potential volunteer group for the sailing program. Mr. Culver also suggested the U.S. Navy Sea Cadets.

Final

Mr. Daniels congratulated staff on the successful derelict vessel removal near the Pineda Causeway. Mr. Daniels stated he was impressed with the private/public accomplishment. Mr. Culver reported another derelict vessel is pending removal.

Mr. Hanlin inquired on the progress of the artificial reef. Mr. Culver stated the site scan surveyor has taken a trip to the artificial reef site, and the survey report is pending.

Mr. Hanlin inquired on the developments of Griffis Landing at Blue Crab Cove. Mr. Culver reported on a Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) grant application for the engineering design of the site. The potential grant award could provide \$60,000 towards engineering design with a \$60,000 County match requirement from the Brevard Boating Improvement Program fund. Grant award notification will take place in July or August of 2011. Mr. Hanlin asked a follow-up question regarding the educational facility at Griffis Landing. Mr. Brown stated a minimum 1,000 sq ft educational facility was one of the Florida Communities Trust grant requirements that will be met in the future. The recently applied FIND grant is only for engineering design of the site. Mr. Brown stated Griffis Landing is a commercial fishery working waterfront. Mr. Rosasco inquired are the docks being utilized and is there a commercial demand at Griffis Landing. Mr. Brown answered yes there is a demand, but the use is currently limited due to the 2004 storm damage.

Mr. Rosasco approached the subject of freshwater lakes, the role of BMAC, and lead agency determination. Mr. Brown stated not a lot of attention has been given to freshwater issues in the past by BMAC. Mr. Brown added Mr. Daniels and Mr. Rosasco's freshwater interests and perspective will bring added value to the topic.

Mr. Rosasco inquired on spoil islands and cleanup efforts. Mr. Culver replied he has participated in several projects. Mr. Butz added Keep Brevard Beautiful (KBB) conducts cleanups twice a year on spoil islands. Mr. Daniels made the suggestion of a new program, Adopt-A-Spoil Island, to coordinate other organizations involvement. Ms. Haugh stated the CFFW used to conduct cleanups on Ski Island on a quarterly basis. Mr. Culver added that recent focus has been the elimination of exotic plants and species on the spoil islands. There was additional discussion on the successes and challenges of spoil island cleanup efforts. Mr. Butz recommended inviting Larry Webber from KBB to the next BMAC meeting. Mr. Rosasco announced the Brevard County Air and Powerboat Association will be conducting a St. John's River cleanup on April 30, 2011.

V. Public Input

1. Ron Morgan

Mr. Morgan reported on the decision to wait until next year to nominate the Comprehensive Maritime Management Master Plan (CM3P) for the Sustainable Florida Best Practice Awards. Mr. Morgan stated the additional year would allow for the compilation of economic data to substantiate the nomination. Mr. Brown added the CM3P would be complete by this year, and staff would be better prepared for the award nomination process.

2. Sgt. Keck, BCSO

Sgt. Keck informed the BMAC the Brevard County Sheriff's Office Agricultural and Marine Unit is the recipient of a boat safety grant to create and broadcast a Public Service Announcement (PSA). The PSA includes footage of Bobby the Boat. The grant also supplied funding for key chains and stickers to give away during boating safety outreach events.

VI. Attendance Review

Chairman Cunningham conducted the Attendance Review.

VII. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Butz. Mr. Penovich seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.