

Final

Brevard County Marine Advisory Council (BMAC)
June 17, 2010
Space Coast Room, Building C, Government Center, Viera, Florida

Members Present:

Jerry Butz
Gary Hanlin
Doug Jaren
Rick McCrary
Jim Mazza
John Mongioi
Bill Powell

Members Absent:

Mike Cunningham, Chairman (excused)
Joe Penovich (excused)

Staff Present:

Matt Culver, Boating & Waterways Coordinator, NRMO
Holly Abeels, Marine Extension Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Office
Jeanette Scott, Administrative Assistant, NRMO

Public Present:

Lt. Robert Rowe, FWC
Sgt. Byron Keck, BCSO
Bob Musser, Canaveral Port Authority
Dawn Jaren
Ron Morgan

Handouts

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

- CM3P Goal Drafts prepared by the first four Working Groups
- Fishing Regulations
- Red Snapper Closure Information
- Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response
- Artificial Reef Site Scan
- Pumpout Station flyer
- Dawn Jaren Presentation

I. Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Gary Hanlin called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Mongioi moved to approve the May 20, 2010 minutes. Mr. Jaren seconded the motion and the 5/20/2010 minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Agenda Items

1. New Business

a. *CM3P – Matt Culver*

On June 15, 2010 the CM3P Steering Committee held its second meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Goal Drafts prepared by the first four

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Working Groups. The Steering Committee members provided recommended changes to the Goal Drafts. Mr. McCrary attended the meeting on behalf of the BMAC. Mr. Culver pointed out that each BMAC member received the Goal Drafts in tonight's agenda packet.

Mr. Mongioi asked if the Goal Drafts contain the recommendations made by the Steering Committee. Mr. Culver explained that the Goal Drafts do not contain the recommendations, because the Steering Committee comments are being prepared by staff.

Mr. Culver will cover the CM3P Goal Drafts in greater detail during the July 15, 2010 BMAC meeting. He suggested the members focus on the CM3P tasks. There are approximately 35 tasks in the Goal Drafts, and the BMAC must assign each task a priority ranking of high, medium or low.

Vice-Chairman Hanlin inquired if the CM3P tasks and associated data would be eventually added to a computer application which would facilitate tracking and reporting of the CM3P progress. Mr. Culver stated he intends to use flow charts and link related items. Mr. Culver then reviewed the CM3P development and process. The Working Groups conducts sessions to prepare the goal drafts and the Steering Committee provides input. The BMAC will then make the formal recommendation on the CM3P, which the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners will consider for approval tentatively in September 2010.

Mr. McCrary added that during the Steering Committee meeting a consensus was reached on the Goal Drafts.

Mr. Mongioi requested a list of the Steering Committee members. Staff Action Item: Mr. Culver will email a list of the Steering Committee members to the BMAC.

b. Fishing Regulations

- Mr. Mongioi requested information on fishing regulations. Mr. Culver distributed the first two pages of the "Florida Fishing Regulations, Saltwater Edition valid from Jan.1 2010 through June 30, 2010" from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to the BMAC members. Mr. Culver also provided the BMAC with information from the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council which included a list of managed species. Mr. Culver pointed out an updated version of "Fishing Regulations for U.S. South Atlantic Federal Waters" is currently under development and will be posted online. Staff Action Item: Post the fishing regulations information on the BMAC webpage and create links to the FWC and South Atlantic Fishery Management Council websites.

Mr. Mongioi inquired about fishing regulations in state waters compared to federal waters. An example he gave was that the state regulation allows for only a 10 inch black sea bass; whereas, the federal regulation is 12 inches for this same species. Lt. Rowe, of the FWC, stated that in most instances, the state and federal regulations are consistent with each other. In the scenario described by Mr. Mongioi, Lt. Rowe advised that the boater should

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take the most expeditious route from the federal waters back to the boat ramp. The boater should not linger in state waters with fish caught in federal waters, because it is difficult to ascertain if the fish were originally caught in federal waters. Lt. Rowe provided the tip that boaters should return straight back to the ramp to avoid such confusion.

- Mr. Culver also provided preliminary information on the red snapper closure. Mr. Culver reported the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council approved Amendment 17A to address overfishing of red snapper and rebuild the stock during a meeting held earlier in the week. If approved by the Secretary of Commerce, the new measures in Amendment 17A will likely take effect later this year. Mr. Culver included a map depicting the area closure.

Mr. Butz recommended the BMAC monitor the developments of the red snapper closure. Staff Action Item: Provide clarification on the specifics of the red snapper closure and updates on the status of Amendment 17A.

2. Unfinished Business

a. *Space Coast Boating and Waterfest*

Mr. Butz reported on the events held in late May during the Space Coast Boating and Waterfest. He stated the BoatFlorida.com WaterFest held at Ski Island was a success with over 900 boaters participating. The WaterFest organizers conducted a fundraiser to benefit the Big Brothers, Big Sisters organization by raffling a chance to win a Ford Mustang convertible. Additionally, Mr. Butz reported on the match race held during Memorial weekend on May 29th in Cocoa. He stated that four sailboats participated in the event.

Mr. Culver inquired if BMAC would like to conduct a separate close-out meeting on the Space Coast Boating and Waterfest. Mr. Hanlin offered to represent the BMAC during the meeting.

Mr. McCrary expressed the need to gain more media attention on the events for next year's Boating and Waterfest. Mr. Culver explained that staff and BMAC attempted to gain media and public coverage with press releases, the flyer listing the calendar of events, and posting on the BoatBrevard.com website.

IV. Staff Reports

1. Holly Abeels, Marine Extension Agent, UF/IFAS

Ms. Abeels reported she recently assisted in a Florida Sport Fishing Association tournament by measuring the caught dolphin and recording the findings which will be used in research. Ms. Abeels stated she has been working with the 4-H staff from the UF/IFAS extension center during the summer camps. Ms. Abeels also shared that in September she will be attending the Southwest Florida Regional Boating and Waterways workshop held in Punta Gorda.

2. Matt Culver, Boating and Waterways Coordinator, NRMO

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Mr. Culver gave an update on the south Brevard County boat ramp known as Christenson's Landing. The target date for the boat ramp opening is July 8, 2010.

Mr. Culver provided information on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response in relation to the possibility of impacts to Brevard County. Mr. Culver distributed the printed pages from the County website at www.brevardcounty.us, which contains local information and links to general information on the spill. Mr. Culver explained In Brevard County, "211" may be dialed to volunteer to be a CoastWatch monitor, report oil sheen or tar balls, and report oily birds or wildlife. Lastly, Mr. Culver stated that the Brevard County Office of Emergency Management is the lead agency for coordination with the U.S. Coast Guard sector commands.

Mr. Mongioi inquired on the possible deployment of booms in Brevard County. Mr. Culver stated that there are contingency plans in place, but no firm decisions have been made. Bob Musser, Canaveral Port Authority, added that according to the latest projections, Brevard County's possible impact may be tar balls, not the crude oil as seen in the Gulf.

Mr. Culver also reported he will be assisting the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as the agency conducts an assessment of the Indian River Lagoon in advance of any possible impacts from the oil spill. Water quality and sediment testing will be conducted. Mr. Culver also stated staff attends weekly teleconference calls on the oil spill to stay apprised of the situation.

Mr. Culver gave an update on the proposed Brevard County artificial reef site. Mr. Culver distributed the results of a recent site scan. Mr. Culver will investigate the process to re-permit a portion of the County site and will provide updates to the BMAC.

As requested by Mr. Mongioi, Mr. Culver spoke on the use of pumpout stations and distributed a flyer from the DEP. Mr. Culver stated that funding for pumpout stations is available through the Clean Vessel Act grant programs.

V. Public Input

- Dawn Jaren

Miss Jaren presented a possible event for next year's Boating and Waterfest. She recently learned of Yachtapalooza, a series of seminars on yachting related topics, held in Chicago. She suggested conducting a similar event on boating and water-related topics next year during our Waterfest.

Vice-Chairman Hanlin encouraged Miss Jaren to pursue the seminar-type event for the 2011 Boating and Waterfest.

- Bob Musser

Mr. Musser reported on temporary closures at the Freddie Patrick Boat Ramp located at the Port due to technical engineering problems. On June 26, 2010 a kid's fishing tournament will be held near cruise terminal 3 located in the Port. Mr. Jaren asked if the locks will be closed next month. Mr. Musser stated that the

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closing of the locks has been postponed until December 2010. He added that the closing will be needed to make replacements to the manatee protection system.

VI. Attendance Review – Vice-Chairman Hanlin conducted the attendance review.

VIII. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Butz. Mr. McCrary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.