

Brevard Marine Advisory Council (BMAC)

October 21, 2010

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

Members Present:

Jerry Butz
Mike Cunningham, Chairman
Gary Hanlin
Jim Mazza
John Mongioi

Members Absent:

Doug Jaren
Rick McCrary
Joe Penovich
Bill Powell

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. Sidor, FWC
Ron Morgan
Mr. Perrone

Handouts:

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

- Notice to Navigation Interests on the Canaveral Lock Closure
- Florida Inland Navigation District Waterways Assistance Programs Webpage
- NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Proposal

I. Call to Order

Chairman Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. At that time, a quorum had not been established. At 6:06 PM, Mr. Butz arrived and a quorum was established.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Mongioi moved to approve the September 16, 2010 minutes. Mr. Hanlin seconded the motion and the 9/16/10 minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Agenda Items

1. New Business

a. Mooring Field Siting Analysis for Brevard County

Mr. Culver reported on the Mooring Field Siting Analysis panel which was held on October 21, 2010 at the UF/IFAS Extension Center located in Cocoa. Mr. Culver and Ms. Holly Abeels attended as staff members. Mr. Mongioi and Mr. Penovich attended the panel representing the BMAC. Agency representatives from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Agriculture, and Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program were also in attendance. Lastly, Mr. Morgan attended as a member of the public. The University of Florida gave a presentation on the mooring field siting analysis required to determine potential mooring field locations within the County. The presentation explained how the determination of sites will be made. In order to prioritize locations, a ranking system would be established and scoring would be based on criteria such as proximity to marinas, water depth, upland access and seagrass. Chairman Cunningham requested regular updates on the progress of the mooring field project. Mr. Culver stated a final report on the analysis will be completed by December 2010 to meet a grant deadline, and he will periodically report on the progress. Mr. Mongioi voiced his concern over the timeline and the ability to provide input as the siting analysis nears completion. He stated the BMAC has a vested interest in the mooring field project.

2. Old Business - None

IV. Staff Report

1. Matt Culver, Boating & Waterways Coordinator, NRMO

a. Florida Inland Navigation District Commissioner Sampson Presentation

Mr. Culver reported Commissioner Jerry Sampson, Florida Inland Navigation District, will attend the next Brevard County Board of County Commissioners meeting on October 26, 2010 to present a Waterways Assistance Program

grant award in the amount of \$596,500 towards the reimbursement for the acquisition of Griffis Landing at Blue Crab Cove.

b. Space Coast Boating and Waterfest

Mr. Culver shared the Super Boat International will tentatively conduct offshore powerboat races during May 2011 at Cocoa Beach. Mr. Culver stated this is an opportunity to add another event to the Space Coast Boating and Waterfest.

c. Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Grant Opportunities

Mr. Culver reported the Waterways Assistance Program from FIND has not released new details of eligible projects for the 2011 grant cycle. Mr. Culver did not find any specific information related to grant opportunities for artificial reefs in the Indian River Lagoon. Mr. Hanlin inquired if Mr. Culver directly contacted FIND. Mr. Culver replied he contacted Mark Crosley who reported no new developments.

d. Canaveral Lock Closure

Mr. Culver informed the BMAC of the pending Canaveral Lock Closure to start on December 27, 2010 through April 22, 2011. The lock will be re-opened for a NASA launch from February 25 through March 14, 2011. The Canaveral Lock will be closed for dewatering to install a new Manatee Protection System. These closure dates are tentative. Mr. Culver also provided the contact information for the Canaveral Lockmaster as:

Mike Mannhardt, Lockmaster
1000 Mullett Road
Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

e. Atlantic Sturgeon

Mr. Culver shared a letter from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration informing Brevard County of the proposed listing of two distinct population segments (DPS) of Atlantic sturgeon in the Southeast Region as endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

f. Artificial Reef Update

Mr. Culver announced the Florida Sports Fishing Association and the Central Florida Offshore Anglers Association donated \$10,000 to the development of the Brevard County artificial reef project. Specifically, the donated funds will be applied to the re-premitting expenses. Additionally, the Brevard County Tourism Development Council (TDC) provided \$5,000 as matching funds. Mr. Culver expressed his appreciation to both organizations for their support of the artificial reef project. Lastly, Mr. Culver has secured three bids from survey companies to perform the required side-scan sonar work at the site.

2. Holly Abeels, Marine Extension Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Center

a. Information on Bioxxn

Ms. Abeels provided the Product Portfolio and United States Patent literature on Bioxxn as a follow-up on the fuzzy docks discussion from the September 16, 2010 BMAC meeting. Ms. Abeels stated she contacted the manufacturer of Bioxxn over a month ago for the MSDS information and has yet to receive a reply. She will inform the BMAC if she receives the requested information.

b. Aquaculture at Griffis Landing at Blue Crab Cove

Ms. Abeels reported she has recently meet with Mr. Brown and Mr. Culver to discuss aquaculture at Griffis Landing at Blue Crab Cove. A proposed plan would be to raise and sell bait fish on-site. Ms. Abeels stated aquaculture would meet the educational component of the grant requirements. The facility would be open to instructional opportunities geared to students and the public.

Prior to Public Input, Chairman Cunningham reported on the resignation of Mr. McCrary from the BMAC. Chairman Cunningham drafted a letter of recognition commending Mr. McCrary for his service to the BMAC. Additionally, Chairman Cunningham urged the BMAC members to start planning for the Space Coast Boating and Waterfest to be held in May 2011.

V. Public Input

1. *Mr. Morgan – Canaveral Lock Closure Impacts*

Mr. Morgan posed the question of how the tentative lock closure will affect fishing tournaments and anticipated boat traffic generated by such events. He inquired what the BMAC could do to offset the closure impact. Mr. Hanlin stated that event organizers would need to acquire a permit from the U.S. Coast Guard. During this process, they would be informed, if not already, of the lock closure. Mr. Culver pointed out the closure is scheduled during the off season, and the work is required to update the Manatee Protection System. As for communicating the closure to tournament participants, the event organizers are responsible to provide navigational updates. Mr. Culver added he would post the closure notice on the Boating & Waterways webpage.

2. *Mr. Morgan – The Space Coast International Science Center*

Mr. Morgan gave a brief presentation on the proposed Space Coast International Science Center (ISC). The ISC will provide office facilities to bring together representatives from the space, energy, and science agencies, high technology industries, and universities and colleges to communicate and share information on research and development projects. Wings dedicated to ocean science and earth science have been designed for the center. Staff Action Item: Reproduce the ISC “Our Future Awaits” overview and Resolution for BMAC distribution and review at the next meeting scheduled for November 18, 2010.

3. *Preston Perrone – Marina Parking*

Mr. Perrone addressed the BMAC on the parking issues related to the permitting of the restaurant located at the Sebastian Inlet Marina. Mr. Perrone is seeking support for a variance to the current parking requirement outlined in the Brevard County ordinance which states one parking space is needed for every two boat slips. This waiver request will need to be considered by the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Butz suggested the BMAC review

the current County ordinance. Mr. Culver stated he would provide the BMAC with the draft "Overview of Marina Use and Parking Standards" which he completed in 2009. The draft Overview includes an analysis with suggested marina parking ratios for Brevard County. Mr. Hanlin stated the marina parking Ordinance should be reviewed to ensure the requirements allow for the expansion and renovation of facilities at marinas. Mr. Mongioi moved to review and recommend amendments, if needed, to the Ordinance on marina parking as supported by the "Overview of Marina Use and Parking Standards" prepared by staff. Mr. Hanlin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Attendance Review – Chairman Cunningham conducted the attendance review.

VII. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Mongioi. Mr. Hanlin seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.