

Brevard Marine Advisory Council (BMAC)

September 16, 2010

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

Members Present:

Jerry Butz
Mike Cunningham, Chairman
Gary Hanlin
John Mongioi
Bill Powell

Members Absent:

Doug Jaren
Rick McCrary
Jim Mazza
Joe Penovich

Staff Present:

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

Public Present:

Sgt. Byron Keck, BCSSO
Lt. Sidor, FWC
Bill Giers, USCG Auxiliary
Ron Morgan

Handouts:

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

- Johnson, Bruce R. "Effect of Salt Water Evaporation on Tracheid Separation from Wood Surfaces." *Forest Products Journal*. 42 (1992): 57-59.
- McGuire, Maia. "Fuzzy Dock Posts." UF/IFAS Sea Grant Extension Agent, Flagler County Extension Office

I. Call to Order

Chairman Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Mongioi moved to approve the August 19, 2010 minutes. Mr. Hanlin seconded the motion and the 8/19/10 minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Agenda Items

1. New Business

a. Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Grant Opportunities – Mr. Hanlin

Mr. Hanlin encouraged Brevard County to pursue FIND grant opportunities. Specifically, Mr. Hanlin suggested Brevard County consider applying for an artificial reef project in the Indian River Lagoon (IRL). Mr. Culver provided basic information on FIND, a special taxing district for the management of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. Mr. Culver stated the Waterways Assistance Program is one type of FIND grant. Mr. Culver briefly outlined the FIND grant cycle: 1) Brevard County will receive an application package in early January 2011. 2) The application is due by April 1, 2011. 3) If the application meets the District's guidelines, project presentations are evaluated and rated by the District's Board. 4) Eligible projects receive funding by the District on October 1, 2011. As a special note, Mr. Culver stated staff must seek the permission of the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) prior to applying for grants. Lastly, Mr. Culver reported Brevard County will be receiving FIND grant funds for Griffis Landing at Blue Crab Cove. Mr. Hanlin added BMAC could submit a Letter of Support if Brevard County applies for a FIND grant in 2011. Mr. Butz inquired on the specifics and criteria regarding the potential artificial reef project in the IRL. Mr. Culver stated the reef would be near shore and would be comprised of reef balls. Staff Action Item: Mr. Culver will provide additional information on the IRL artificial reef project. Mr. Hanlin moved to consider pursuing FIND grants. Chairman Cunningham seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Old Business

a. Christenson's Landing Grand Opening – Chairman Cunningham

Chairman Cunningham reported on the Christenson's Landing Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held on Saturday, August 28, 2010. Chairman

Cunningham said the event was well attended with over 200 guests.

Chairman Cunningham stated the boat ramp has been highly anticipated and will be well utilized by boaters, especially in South Brevard County. Mr.

Hanlin also attended the Ceremony.

IV. Staff Report

1. Matt Culver, Boating & Waterways Coordinator, NRMO

a. *Comprehensive Maritime Management Master Plan (CM3P)*

Mr. Culver reported the BoCC considered and received CM3P draft Goals IB, IIA, IIB, IID, IIIA, and VA. This recent BoCC action will allow the continuation of the CM3P development. Mr. Mongioi asked if grant funds will still be available for the CM3P working groups. Mr. Culver replied grant funding has been successfully secured.

b. *Mooring Field Siting Analysis*

Mr. Culver informed BMAC the University of Florida will give a presentation on a proposed Brevard County mooring field. The presentation is scheduled for Thursday, October 21, 2010 at 1:30 PM at the UF/IFAS Extension Office located in Cocoa, Florida. Mr. Culver requested a BMAC member to attend the presentation. The emphasis of the meeting will be to prioritize locations within the County for a mooring field. Mr. Butz explained criteria would include factors such as popularity, sea grass locations, and species.

Additionally, Mr. Butz asked if BMAC members will be briefed on the presentation. Staff Action Item: Mr. Culver will provide materials and information from the Mooring Field Siting Analysis (PowerPoint presentation, handouts, etc.) to the BMAC. Lastly, Mr. Culver stated representatives from the Army Corp of Engineers, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Brevard County Sheriff's Office, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and CM3P participants have been invited to attend the 10/21/10 presentation.

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

a. *Southwest Florida Regional Boating & Waterways Workshop*

Ms. Abeels shared Mr. Culver's CM3P presentation was well received by the workshop participants. Ms. Abeels added Mr. Culver was asked the question of how he was able to recruit "400 people" to the CM3P working group meetings. Ms. Abeels informed BMAC she will chair next year's workshop, tentatively scheduled for late spring 2011.

b. *Fuzzy Docks*

Ms. Abeels provided information on "fuzzy docks" as requested by Mark Leslie, Titusville Marina Dockmaster. Ms. Abeels stated there has been some debate on the source of the "fuzzy docks." According to research findings, the problem is attributed to salt water evaporation. As salt water soaks into the wood pilings, the sun evaporates the water and salt crystals remains on the pilings. It appears the wood is "decaying." However, salt water evaporation is not likely to affect the lifespan/function of marine pilings. On the other hand, there have been recent reports that the problem is caused by a fungus. A company claims that treating the wood pilings with Bioxxin will help to prevent this decay. Staff Action Item: Ms. Abeels will distribute the two articles and Bioxxin information to the BMAC.

V. Public Input

1. Sgt. Keck, BCSO, reported a recent rash of outboard motor thefts in the Merritt Island area, near the IRL and Banana River. Sgt. Keck stated the BCSO have identified suspects and one arrest has been made. Additionally, Sgt. Keck noted fishing poles and surf boards have been reported missing from local docks.
2. Lt. Sidor, FWC, reported the Cocoa Beach Air Show will be held on the weekend of October 30-31, 2010. The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds will headline the event and aircraft demonstrations will take place over the beachfront between State

Road 520 and Minutemen Causeway. Lori Wilson Park is the designated Show Center.

3. Gary Hanlin inquired of the recent offshore powerboat races held in August at Cocoa Beach. Mr. Butz stated the event was a success with over 200 spectator vessels.
 4. BMAC members addressed operational concerns of the Canaveral Lock located on the Canaveral Barge Canal during heavy boat traffic events. Mr. Butz moved to submit a Letter of Support to the Army Corp of Engineers requesting to leave the Canaveral Lock open during the Air Show. Mr. Hanlin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
 5. Mr. Morgan stated he supported Mr. Butz's recommendation to further investigate the criteria of an artificial reef project in the IRL. Also, Mr. Morgan suggested contacting Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Surplus for materials. Mr. Culver added he has been seeking concrete materials for the proposed Brevard County artificial reef site.
 6. Bill Giers, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, gave a preliminary report on the Space Coast Boating and Waterfest 2011. Additionally, the need for fire boats, 23-25 ft class, was discussed. Mr. Giers suggested KSC surplus as an option. Staff Action Item: Mr. Culver will contact Brevard County Fire Chief Larry Collins to determine if fire boats are needed.
- VI. Attendance Review – Chairman Cunningham conducted the attendance review.
- VII. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Butz. Mr. Hanlin seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.