

Brevard County
Marine Advisory Council Minutes
July 19, 2007
Space Coast Room, Building C, Government Center, Viera, Florida

Members Present:

Mike Cunningham, Chair
Wayne Mozo
Finnbarr Murphy, Vice Chair
Al Pappas
George Reynolds

Members Absent:

Doug Jaren
Gary Hanlin
John Mongioi
Heie Simonsen

Staff Present:

Matt Culver, Natural Resources Management Office, Boating & Waterways Program Coordinator
Eddie Leonard, Agricultural & Extension Services
Liz McDuffee, Natural Resources Management Office

Public Present:

There were no members of the public present.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Mike Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes

George Reynolds moved to approve the minutes as written. Al Pappas seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

III. Agenda Items

1. New Business: "BoatUS Honors Access Award Winners" Press Release – George Reynolds.
The press release that George distributed described the initial presentation of the Boat US Recreational Boating Access Awards to seven recipients. The Access Award is presented to recognize groups, individuals, governmental agencies, non-profit organizations or businesses who have succeeded in preserving public access to the waterways. George Reynolds also brought a copy of the BoatUS magazine to the meeting and stated that the magazine is widely distributed and read by many. He felt that BMAC should apply for the Access Award next year. George suggested that staff review the past accomplishments of the BMAC and draft the award application. He also suggested that BoatUS be contacted to obtain copies of the applications of the seven award winners to use as a guideline in completing the application. Al Pappas moved that staff obtain information regarding the Access Award application process. Finnbar Murphy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Old Business

a. Comprehensive Maritime Management Master Plan (CM3P)

Mike Cunningham, Wayne Mozo, and Finnarr Murphy attended the CM3P meeting at the Lagoon House in Palm Bay on July 17th. It was the fourth CM3P meeting since August, 2006 and the third meeting this year. Mike said that he felt that it was a very productive meeting. Eddie Leonard stated that his office felt that this meeting went a lot better than the last one. Bob Swett and Charles Sidman, from the University of Florida, took the comments from the previous meetings and organized them into a draft comprehensive maritime master plan. Almost everything in the plan is directly from public input with the exception of the section describing the public input process. At the CM3P meeting, the draft was presented to the group for recommendations. (Eddie distributed a copy of this draft to BMAC members.) After the CM3P meeting, Eddie Leonard incorporated all of the group's recommendations into the draft, underlining all changes. (Eddie also passed out a copy of this draft to the BMAC members.) The CM3P group got as far as item 3, Navigation, in the plan and will continue the process in September. Matt Culver said he also felt it was a very productive meeting. This time the group did not break into subgroups. Wayne Mozo said that he felt it was a constructive meeting and that all participants were respectful of everyone else. Finnarr Murphy asked Eddie Leonard to add "investigate" to some of the tasks listed in the draft to make them consistent with how the other tasks are worded. Al Pappas asked if there were any suggestions regarding how to get more people to attend the CM3P meetings. Eddie said that a Hometown News reporter was there and that she was planning to run a story on it. Eddie stated that the fact that we had a document made a difference because we could point to it and say we are here at this point and ask for constructive suggestions. Mike Cunningham stated that as new people walked in, they got a draft handed to them and the sense was that work had already been done. Wayne Mozo said that this time the group stayed away from wordsmithing. George Reynolds asked that, in the future, Eddie send out an Agenda and the CM3P material ahead of time. Eddie said that he would do that and that it was also available on the Agriculture Extension web site. Matt said that staff from the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission contacted him to find out the current status of the CM3P and he directed them to the web site. Finnarr Murphy said that he noticed that the cities surrounding the Indian River Lagoon were not attending. Eddie Leonard said that he made some calls before the meeting and invited representatives from the Planning Departments of several municipalities. All of the city managers are also included on the invitations that go out for each meeting. There was some discussion that the night-time meetings might be impacting the attendance by the municipalities. Matt Culver suggested that the draft plan could be routed to the municipalities after the public input portion is completed. Mike Cunningham stated that if we could get buy in and feedback from the beginning, the plan could be tailored to be more effective. Wayne Mozo suggested that the draft could be forwarded to the City Planners before each meeting for their feedback so that they would not need to attend the meeting.

IV. Reports

1. Staff Report – Matt Culver

- Derelict Vessels Project – The derelict vessel project is going strong. The contractor has been working four days a week and has removed 15 derelict vessels to date. The contractor has been working primarily south of the Pineda Causeway. Some new derelict vessels have been discovered, but the proper authorities must placard them and the county must find funding before they can be removed. There is no risk of losing the \$20,000 that the county contributed for this year's derelict vessel project;

however, it has been cut from next year's budget. The remaining cost of this year's project is being funded through a state grant and FEMA.

2. 1976 Boating Study – Wayne Mozo
 - Wayne brought a copy of a 1976 Boating Improvement Study that Bob Day donated for the BMAC library. Wayne said that the study made boating improvement recommendations and that many of them were implemented. There was some discussion about using the study as a baseline for what is happening in Brevard County today.
3. Attendance Review – Completed by Mike Cunningham

V. Public Input
Not applicable.

Finnbarr Murphy made a motion to adjourn and Wayne Mozo seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.