



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Escambia County Central Office Complex
3363 West Park Place
Pensacola, FL 32505

MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Approved
RESUME OF MEETING MINUTES
October 09, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Sidney Clopton		District 2 / Commissioner Underhill
Eilene Beard		District 3 / Commissioner May
Joe Denmon		District 3 / Commissioner May
David Dodson		District 4 / Commissioner Robinson
Kerry Freeland	Vice-Chair	District 4 / Commissioner Robinson
Walt Woodfin	Secretary	District 5 / Commissioner Barry
Gabe Jackson	Chair	District 5 / Commissioner Barry
Ed Fish		County Administrator Brown

Staff Present

Robert Turpin CED / Marine Resources Division Manager

Absent Excused

Cathy Watson District 1 / Commissioner Bergosh
TBD District 2 / Commissioner Underhill

Absent Unexcused

Mark Moore District 1 / Commissioner Bergosh

Visitors Present

Rick O'Connor	Florida Sea Grant
Philip Glover	FWC, Captain Pensacola
Brunie Emmanuel	Resident, Kees Bayou
Rita Wright	Resident, Shipwatch
Steve Wright	Resident, Shipwatch
Pat Hodson	Resident, Shipwatch
Cathy DeMarteau	Resident, Shipwatch

- **5:30 PM Call Marine Advisory Committee Meeting to Order:**
- **Attendance:** A quorum is present.
 - New FWC Law Enforcement Captain Phillip Glover introduced to Marine Advisory Committee and public in attendance.
- **Minutes Approval:**

- MRD Update: Minutes from August meeting read verbally and approved (with additions from MAC members) by MAC
- **Diving Safety and Emergency Response:** No update. Remove from agenda
- **10836 Lillian Highway Public Boat Ramp:**
 - MRD Update: Permit application has been submitted to Army Corps of Engineers. Consultant is developing permit application to Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Although grant timeline is getting tight, we have assurance from consultant that project will be completed before 31 December 2017.
- **Natural Resources Damage Assessment - Oil Spill Restoration & Recovery:**
 - No MRD Update
- **New Inshore Reefs at Pensacola Beach:**
 - MRD Update: All permits have been issued for the Casino Beach Snorkeling & Kayak-fishing Reef; funding proposals have been submitted. Permit for Pensacola Beach Fishing Pier Habitat Enhancement has been issued by Florida Department of Environmental Protection; Army Corps of Engineers permit has not been issued.
- **Proposed No Wake Zones in Bayou Garcon, Bayou Grande, and Innerarity Point Park, etc:**
 - MRD Update: Two additional areas have been requested for establishing Boating Restricted Areas ("No Wake Zones"): **Kees Bayou** and **Old River**. (See attached letters). Stakeholders from both areas are in attendance and will provide verbal comments.

- **Kees Bayou No Wake Request:**
 - Brunie Emmanuel stated that Kees Bayous is very shallow, contains seagrass and has been visited by manatees. Residents are aware of the issues. In recent years non-residents and jet ski traffic has become an issue, damaging the seagrass. The residents of Kees Bayou would like a no wake zone.
 - Dave Mucci asked if the presence of submerged seagrass would have a significant influence on the establishment of a no wake zone. Brunie Emmanuel commented that as much as seagrass is an issue, public safety is the primary concern.
- **Old River No Wake Request:**
 - Pat Hudson stated that Shipwatch Condominiums have boat slips and a launch for residents and guests and the wakes of passing vessels are creating a hazard and causing damage to docked vessels. A recent fatality on Old River, partially attributed to high speed elevates the concern.
 - Captain Phillip Glover asked if there were other no wake zones in the area. Robert Turpin stated that there are zones on the Alabama side.
 - Dave Mucci asked if the issue more about speed or large vessels. Steven Watson stated that both are an issue, along with the vessels passing in close proximity to the docks. Dave Mucci commented that plowing upon coming off plane of large vessels would necessitate a large no wake zone.
 - Robert Turpin suggested that other single and multi family residence facilities would also have an interest in the issue. Steven Watson stated that the single-family residences in the area had lifts which minimize the issue. Shipwatch does not allow lifts, as the slips are leased, not owned.
- Dave Mucci asked how no wake zone enforcement was prioritized. Captain Phillip Glover stated that high use and high incident areas are prioritized for enforcement. Isolated areas are usually monitored by the public and FWC responds when called out. Local and recreational vessels usually yield to the signage, as required. Anglers are usually more likely to disregard the signage, as they are rushing to their fishing spot. Any documentation of issues will help support the case for new zones.
- MRD will obtain additional information from stakeholders, FWC and other entities. MRD will work with FWC to ensure proposals comply with all state and federal requirements. MRD will provide update at 13 November 2017 MAC meeting.
- Walt Woodfin made the motion:
 "To incorporated the requested Kees Bayou and Old River no wake zones into the existing list of sites under consideration."
 Eilene Beard seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
- **Comprehensive Waterways Management:** No update. Remove from agenda.
- **Lionfish Issues/Developments:** No update.
- **Old Business:** None.
- **New Business:** None.

- **Adjourn:** Walt Woodfin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sidney Clopton seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM