



MINUTES

CHARLOTTE COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 11, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Charlotte County Administration Center

18500 Murdock Circle Room B-106

Port Charlotte, FL 33948

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Ireland called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Upon the roll being called it was determined a quorum was present.

3. Chairman's Comments

A. REMINDER TO ALL VISITORS ADDRESSING THE COMMITTEE: PLEASE SIGN IN. It is helpful when preparing the Minutes. A clipboard and a pen are provided on the podium for your convenience.

B. REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS STATE THEIR NAME AND ORGANIZATION and TO USE THE MICROPHONE WHEN ADDRESSING THE COMMITTEE. It is helpful when preparing the Minutes

C. REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS, STAFF AND VISITORS TO PLEASE SILENCE THEIR CELL PHONES.

4. Changes to the Agenda

None offered.

5. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

None offered.

6. Regular Business

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Pre-Agenda Meeting from February 4, 2021
Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting from February 11, 2021.
Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

C. Financials – Jim Darden

Jim Darden presented the F/Y 2021-2022 Grant request for MAC to vote on.

1. Charlotte County Public Works, Hayward Canal Dredge (\$150,000) Revised to (\$170,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant will be used for the maintenance dredge of approximately 3,600 cubic yards of sediment from the public navigational channel in Hayward Canal.

Mr. Strube made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte County Public Works, Hayward Canal Dredge grant application in the amount of (\$170,000); second by Mr. Killion; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

2. Civil Air Patrol, Sundown Flights (\$20,500)

Mr. Darden stated this grant is to offset costs of operating aircraft on 4 Harbor Patrols each week. The flights provide search for boaters in distress and facilitate SAR missions.

Mr. Welsh made a motion to recommend approval for the Civil Air Patrol, Sundown Flights, grant application in the amount of (\$20,500), second by Mr. Mayes; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

3. Charlotte County Public Works, South Gulf Cove Dredge (\$75,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant will be used for the removal of approximately 1950 Linear Feet/1184 cubic yards of shoaled in sediment in the South Gulf Cove public access channel.

Ms. Bareither made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte County Public Works, South Gulf Cove Dredge grant application in the amount of (\$75,000), second by Mr. Piper; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

4. Charlotte County Public Works, Sunrise Channel Dredge (\$45,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant would be used for maintenance dredge of sediment from the public access channel to the Sunrise Waterway and Port Charlotte Beach Park Boat Ramp.

Mr. Killion made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte County Public Works, Sunrise Channel Dredge grant application in the amount of (\$45,000), second by Mr. Strube; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

5. Charlotte County Parks, Military Reef (\$50,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant is to build and place a military memorial structure in the Gulf of Mexico that will honor past, present, and future military personnel.

Mr. Scott made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte County Parks, Military Reef, grant application in the amount of (\$50,000), second by Mr. Mayes; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

6. Charlotte County Parks, Artificial Reef Monitoring (\$25,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant will be used for funds to monitor an existing artificial reef. Provide enhancement to fishing and diving. Provide ecological benefit through enhanced fish habit, and economical benefit from chartered fishing.

**Mr. Hickey made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte County Parks, Artificial Reef Monitoring grant application in the amount of (\$25,000), second by Mr. Welsh; unanimously approved.
16 Aye / 0 Nay**

7. Charlotte County Public Works, New Marine Markers (\$55,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant would assist in establishing new navigation aids in Charlotte County maintained waterways. Day boards, pilings, solar marine lights, and buoys.

**Mr. Killion made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte County Public Works, New Marine Markers grant application in the amount of (\$55,000), second by Mr. Strube; unanimously approved.
16 Aye / 0 Nay**

8. Charlotte County Parks, Derelict Vessel Removal (\$35,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant will assist Charlotte County in removing derelict vessels from County waters in a more timely manner.

**Mr. Hickey made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte County Parks, Derelict Vessel Removal grant application in the amount of (\$35,000); second by Mr. Falsch; unanimously approved.
16 Aye / 0 Nay**

9. Punta Gorda Police Department, LE Activities – Derelict Vessel Removal (\$101,387)

Mr. Darden stated this grant is funds to purchase boat motor, boat equipment, new safety equipment and training for dive team, additional municipal water patrol, and enhanced derelict vessel removal from city waterways.

**Mr. Savino made a motion to recommend approval for the Punta Gorda Police Department, LE Activities – Derelict Vessel Removal grant application in the amount of (\$101,387), second by Mr. Scott; unanimously approved.
16 Aye / 0 Nay**

10. Coastal Heartland National Estuary, Environmental Education (\$5,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant will be used to provide free public environmental education and citizen science events on a monthly basis in Charlotte County.

**Mr. Welsh made a motion to recommend approval for the Coastal Heartland National Estuary, Environmental Education grant application in the amount of (\$5,000), second by Ms. Campanella; unanimously approved.
16 Aye / 0 Nay**

11. Peace River Sail & Power Squadron, Boater Safety Materials (\$4,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant would be used to purchase teaching equipment and materials for boater education.

**Mr. Killion made a motion to recommend approval for the Peace River Sail and Power Squadron, Boater Safety Materials grant application in the amount of (\$4,000), second by Mr. Mayes; approved.
15 Aye / 0 Nay / 1 Abstain**

12. Charlotte County Public Safety, RIBs, Motors, Training (\$92,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant would be to purchase 2 Rubberized Inflatable Boats with motors; provide rescue training, and rescue and safety equipment.

Mr. Scott made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte County Public Safety, RIBs, Motors, Training grant application in the amount of (\$92,000), second by Mr. Piper; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

13. Charlotte County Sheriff, Vessel, LE Marine Equipment, Holiday OT (\$231,730)

Mr. Darden stated this grant is for replacement of 2006 19' Angler boat, motor, and trailer; purchase new safety equipment for helicopters and DIVE team for maritime operations and training; provide additional manpower and increase patrols for Holidays and Special Events.

Mr. Kumm made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte County Sheriff, Vessel, LE Marine Equipment, Holiday OT grant application in the amount of (\$231,730); second by Mr. Mayes; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

14. Charlotte County Public Works, Marine Debris Removal (\$20,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant will assist in the removal of trees, docks, and other materials floating or submerged that impede boater access in County waters.

Ms. Bareither made a motion to recommend approval for Charlotte County Public Works, Marine Debris Removal grant application in the amount of (\$20,000), second by Ms. Campanella; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

15. Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center, 4th Grade Environmental Education (\$42,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant is for the 4th grade program which is designed to give students a better understanding of the water systems of Florida and an introduction to safe and courteous boating.

Mr. Strube made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center, 4th Grade Environmental Education grant application in the amount of (\$42,000), second by Ms. Bareither; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

16. US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Class Materials, Class and Comm. Renos (\$4,818)

Mr. Darden stated this grant would be used to purchase teaching equipment and materials for boater education.

Mr. Killion made a motion to recommend approval for the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Class Materials, Class and Comm. Renos grant application in the amount of (\$4,818), second by Mr. Strube; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

17. US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Boating Course Materials (\$8,738)

Mr. Darden stated this grant would be used to purchase teaching equipment and materials for boater education.

Mr. Piper made a motion to recommend approval for the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Boating Course Materials grant application in the amount of (\$8,738); second by Mr. Strube; approved.
15 Aye / 0 Nay / 1 Abstain

18. Charlotte Harbor Reef Association, Be the Fish (\$7,095)

Mr. Darden stated this grant would assist in the 8-week class teaching and outfitting children about fishing and protecting the environment of Charlotte Harbor.

Mr. Killion made a motion to recommend approval for Charlotte Harbor Reef Association, Be the Fish grant application in the amount of (\$7,095), second by Mr. Mayes; unanimously approved.
16 Aye / 0 Nay

19. City of Punta Gorda, Pump Out Boat (\$5,000)

Mr. Darden stated Augments a Dept. of Environmental Protection grant to conduct pump out activities with Charlotte Harbor & Lashley Park Marina. The grant also would pay for vessel maintenance and fuel.

Mr. Hickey made a motion to recommend approval for the City of Punta Gorda, Pump Out Boat grant application in the amount of (\$5,000), second by Mr. Savino; unanimously approved.
16 Aye / 0 Nay

20. Learn to Sail, Docking Floats, Permit (\$32,005)

Mr. Darden stated this grant would be used to purchase floating docks and lifts to facilitate sailing program (\$27,005); and to pay for a permit in Gilchrist Landing Boat Basin (\$32,005).

Mr. Scott made a motion to recommend approval for the Learn to Sail, Docking Floats, Permit grant application in the amount of (\$32,005), second by Mr. Hickey; unanimously approved.
16 Aye / 0 Nay

21. Manchester Waterway Civic Association, Feasibility Study (\$23,681)

Mr. Darden stated this grant is to evaluate the effect of waterway restoration project on water movement between the Manchester Waterway and the Myakka River and Charlotte Harbor.

There was discussion on this item. When the MSBU was set up, the language is a certain way and some feel this MSBU was not set up for certain items. There is money in the MSBU but not allowed for a feasibility study.

Mr. Strube made a motion to recommend to reject for the Manchester Waterway Civic Association, Feasibility Study grant application in the amount of (\$23,681), second by Mr. Falsch; denied.
9 Aye (to deny) / 7 Nay

22. Manchester Waterway Civic Association Water Testing (\$9,460)

Mr. Darden stated this grant would be to conduct monthly water testing where water enters Manchester Waterway to determine contamination levels.

Mr. Piper made a motion to recommend denial for the Manchester Waterway Civic Association Water Testing grant application in the amount of (\$9,460), second by Mr. McIntosh; denied.
12 Aye (to deny) / 4 Nay

23. Charlotte Harbor Youth Sailing, Boat Equipment and Education Material (\$13,503)

Mr. Darden stated this grant would be used to purchase education materials for Sailing Camps, Advanced Sailing Program, High School Sailing Team, and sailboat equipment.

Mr. Savino made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte Harbor Youth Sailing, Boat Equipment and Education Material grant application in the amount of (\$13,503); second by Mr. Scott; approved.

14 Aye / 2 Abstain

24. Charlotte County Public Works, Stump Pass Monitoring (\$50,000)

Mr. Darden stated this grant would assist in paying for FDEP-required seagrass, sand, tortoise, and shorebird monitoring associated with the Stump Pass maintenance dredge. Without the monitoring, the County would lose its permit to have Stump Pass open.

Mr. Piper made a motion to recommend approval for Charlotte County Public works, Stump Pass Monitoring grant application in the amount of (\$50,000), second by Mr. Strube; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

25. Englewood Beach Waterfest, Waterfest Event Support (\$44,000)

Mr. Darden said this would be financial support for water-based Waterfest event to include on-the-water law enforcement, crane, helicopter, sea tow, advertising, docks, tent/table/chairs for exhibitors..

Mr. Falsch made a motion to recommend denial for the Englewood Beach Waterfest, Waterfest Event Support grant application in the amount of (\$44,000), second by Ms. Campanella; unanimously denied.

16 Aye (to deny) / 0 Nay

26. Charlotte County Public Works, Maintenance to Navigation Aids (\$75,000)

Mr. Darden said this grant would assist in maintaining the existing navigation aids in Charlotte County-maintained waterways. Day boards, piling, solar marine lights, and buoys. (\$75,000).

Mr. Killion made a motion to recommend approval for the Charlotte County Public Works, Maintenance to navigation Aids grant application in the amount of (\$75,000), second by Mr. Strube; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

Commissioner Deutsch said regarding the William R. Gaines memorial park on Edgewater Drive, the playground is finished, the running trails are working and we have 3 major projects underway. 2 projects are for Honoring all our military service veterans and there will be one Honoring the six first responder's departments that service the County. About a year and a half ago, I was approached by a non-profit group, called Paddle for Heroes, which is involved in other parts of the Country, and they built a kayak launch in Ohio. They have spoken with Parks and Recs and had a plan developed to refurbish the kayak launch at the Gaines Park to make it 100% handicap accessible. This plan has been included into the Master Plan for the park by the Commission. Under the agreement with the County, the non-profit was going to raise the bulk of the funds required for all the improvements, and the County agreed to make all the improvements on the ground. We kicked off a fund raising effort and they did have a 5K run. We lost time because of Covid-19 and we raised around \$8,000 but this looks like it would take another 2 years to get the funds. He asked the MAC to consider to make the improvements to the kayak launch out of our funding for \$20,000-\$25,000 so we can get it done this year. He offered this for consideration.

Mr. Darden said there is money available if the Commission does not approve the Waterfest.

Mr. Darden said this could be an out-of-cycle request.

Mr. Scott made a motion to recommend approval for the request for out-of-cycle funding request for Charlotte County for kayak launch at William R. Gaines Park grant application in the amount of (\$25,000), second by Mr. Mayes; unanimously approved.

16 Aye / 0 Nay

16 MSBU Update – Zach Patchell

Mr. Patchell discussed the items on his MSBU project update list.

Ackerman and Manchester Waterway – no projects – refer to Manchester waterway.

Alligator Creek – there is no active project at this time.

Buena Vista – no active project at this time.

Edgewater North – An RLI has been submitted to the purchasing department to initiate a bathymetric survey of the system.

Gulf Cove – Atkins North America Inc. was the selected Engineering firm for the Interior canal survey and design project. Atkins has completed a survey of the canal system and they are working towards 90% plans.

Harbour Heights – no active project. The pre-storm bathymetry survey results were discussed with the Waterway Committee and there was a motion to get a cost of designing a spot dredge.

Hayward canals – Charlotte County initiated a contract with Johnson Engineering for the design engineering, permitting and construction management for a maintenance dredge of the Hayward Canal. Permitting is underway and 80% plans have been reviewed.

Manchester Waterway – No active project at this time.

Northwest Port Charlotte – The County has secured a contract with Coastal Engineering Consultants for the surveying, design and construction management of and interior spot dredge. The MSBU advisory committee has vote to move forward with an interior dredge design depth of -3.5' MLW. The Engineering firm is pressing forward with this design work. The MSBU also requested Navigational Trimming work. That work is scheduled to start Feb. 8, 2021. Pre-storm bathymetry results were reviewed by the waterway committee.

Peace River shores: No active projects

Pirate Harbor: Project complete. This waterway is included in the upcoming pre-storm bathymetric survey. A purchase order has been issued and work is being initiated.

Southbridge Waterway: No active projects

South Gulf Cove: RLI went out for survey, design and construction oversight for a maintenance dredge project of the turn basin and access channel. Johnson Engineering has submitted draft plans and is working on securing permitting with State agencies.

South Gulf Cove Parallel Lock: DMK has submitted the permit application to the agencies for their review and are working toward the 90% plans. SWFWMD permit has been received and DMK is working toward FDEP clearance. The County has requested an estimate of cost to design a Tender House for the Locks, and some plan upgrades.

Suncoast Waterway: No active projects. This waterway is included in the upcoming Pre-storm bathymetric survey. A purchase order has been issued and work is being initiated.

Day boards: Topic and Options to be discussed separately.

Matt Logan said we all know Manasota Key is in beach renourishment. The one part of the associated project was the mitigation reef that has been on-going due to Covid and weather conditions, this project ran slower than we would like. Last week it was deemed complete. We are doing our final punchout.

Stump Pass what we are looking for now is projects for fiscal year 2022. We are working with Coastal Engineering on this and getting bid documents to send to Purchasing. Bid may go out in May.

17 Derelict Vessel Report – Roger DeBruler

Roger DeBruler said we removed quite a few vessels last month. We still have quite a few of the hurricane Edna boats.

18 Community Services Update – Tina Powell

Tina Powell said she will give a brief update on projects.

Ainger Creek – The park redevelopment project is managed by the Facilities construction and maintenance department. The most current information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Design now continues with the initial concept including underground vault storage.

Allapatchee – The fishing pier replacement design budgeted for this fiscal year is now with Purchasing.

Hathaway Park – Scope for the repair for the Hathaway Park floating dock and gangway has been submitted to purchasing.

Live Oak Point – installation for the new sidewalk handrail project is in permitting.

Placida Park – 2014 sales tax project for the boat ramp expansion is being managed by Facilities. They are working with Public Works on circulation/access for the new section of the park from roadways.

Port Charlotte Beach Park – the 2014 sales tax project for the sailing center is managed by Facilities construction and maintenance department. The boat storage is completed except the roofing; the pavilion work has the electrical to be completed and the roof installed. The workshop electrical has been completed, waiting for the windows to be installed and the roofing; the grounds grading is almost complete.

Riverside Park – the boat ramp has been closed due to safety issues for motorized vessels. The site condition assessment showed safety issues cannot be address via repairs, ramp will need a full design.

South Gulf Cove Park – Scope for the repair design for the Hathaway Park floating dock and gangway has been submitted to purchasing.

William R. Gains Jr. Veterans Memorial Park – a grant for additional trails, boardwalk, fitness equipment and interpretive signs was awards; design phase has begun initial site condition assessments began.

7. New Business

- Dave Vigne application – Pirate Harbor Yacht Club – replaces Chuck Falesch
- Keith Gordon – Port Charlotte Yacht Club – replaces George Bobko
- Military Memorial Reef Support Letter

Mr. Ireland said Mr. Vigne will be replacing Mr. Falesch. He has been recommended by the Pirate Harbor Yacht Club - Mr. Ireland took a vote to replace Mr. Falesch with Mr. Vigne – there was a unanimous vote to approve.

Mr. Ireland said they also have an application for Mr. Keith Gordon. Mr. Gordon is not present so they asked to have Mr. Gordon at next months meeting so they can meet him.

Mr. Ireland said referring to the Military Memorial Reef Support Letter, this was a request to send individual letters supporting this request to the Commissioners.

Ms. Bareither said we should do one letter from the MAC supporting this:

Ms. Bareither made a motion to forward a letter to the Commission supporting this, second by **Bob Mayes** with a unanimous vote.

8. Old Business –

Mr. Hickey asked about the status of the weather station.

Commissioner Deutsch said he called months ago, spoke with the man. He was going to call again to see what has happened.

9. Other Business -

None offered.

10. Citizen Comments –

None offered.

11. Good of the Order -

None offered.

12. Next Meetings

- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in the **E. Jay Carlson Large Conference Room. (f/k/a Building Construction Services)**
- The next **Regular Meeting** will be held Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in **Room B-106 in Murdock Building B.**

13. Adjournment

Mr. Kumm made a motion to adjourn, second by **Mr. Hickey**, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Minutes Approved

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Ireland", is written over a horizontal line.

Tom Ireland, Chair