

**MINUTES**  
**FORT MYERS BEACH**  
**Anchorage Advisory Committee**  
Town Hall  
2525 Estero Boulevard  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

**Wednesday, November 17, 2021**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Light.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

Members present: Bob Beasley, Douglas Eckmann, Greg Holmes, Ted Lawwill, Katherine Light, Sam Lurie and Mike Ratliff.

Staff: Public Works Director Chelsea O'Riley and Harbormaster Austin Gilchrist.

Council Liaison: Rexann Hosafros

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – no comment.**

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 20, 2021**

**MOTION:** AAC Member Lurie moved to approve the minutes; second by AAC Member Ratliff.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**VI. MOORING FIELD AND STAFF REPORT**

Harbormaster Gilchrist reported that the field was at 84% and the front of the field was full. They were starting to transition to the back of the field to utilize it more. He noted they were monitoring the movement of vessels and three boats were turned away due to the size of their masts. The pump-out boat schedule was working well and some requested more than one pump-out per week. He discussed laws regarding composting heads. He noted the fuel gauge on the pump-out boat had to be repaired. Director O'Riley stated that they were working on an agreement with Lee County to temporarily keep the boat on San Carlos Island. Harbormaster Gilchrist was researching locations and prices for dockage. He noted that he was still waiting for an answer from Moss Marina and he had quotes out to install a lift on Virginia Ave. Dive operations have resumed and Matthew Ball, who is open water certified, was hired. One system was replaced and monthly inspections and cleanings have started. Patrick Z. will be certified at the end of the month for a total of seven divers. Harbormaster Gilchrist noted maintenance was done on Wednesdays. He indicated they were logging all the office traffic and responding to messages. He stated that they tracked two oil spills with the drone and reported them to the Coast Guard.

Chair Light questioned where they were with the Virginia property. Liaison Hosafros replied that the staff was researching the location. Director O'Riley remarked that there was a right-of-way issue with the property and she would meet with the Town Attorney later.

Director O'Riley stated that the office hours would change from 7:00 a.m.-noon to 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in December and they would continue to monitor the office traffic. She noted she would explore hiring another part-time seasonal person to help cover office hours. She remarked that she was waiting for CenturyLink to install static IPs for the fob system.

Director O'Riley indicated that they applied for the Clean Vessel Act grant and hoped to hear back soon. AAC Member Ratliff questioned whether some of the grant money could be used to purchase an approved Coast Guard container for compost heads. Director O'Riley replied that she would look into it. She described the October occupancy data from the handout provided and reviewed the unaudited numbers for October.

## **VII. EXPANSION OF THE MOORING FIELD UPDATE**

Director O'Riley stated they received the land lease from the state. The Sheriff's Office and Lee County Department of Natural Resources was contacted and the derelict vessels would be removed. She reported that she was waiting on the agreement from FBIP (Florida Boating Improvement Program) for construction. Harbormaster Gilchrist noted that jurisdictional signage would be added to the expanded field in the future.

## **VIII. UPLAND SERVICE PROVIDER UPDATE**

Director O'Riley reported that Coastal Engineering Consultants were still reviewing sites.

## **IX. STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW/COMMUNICATION PLAN**

Director O'Riley stated that the document attached to Resolution 21-02 was the current Harbormaster Plan. She added that the AAC duties and responsibilities were updated.

Chair Light offered changes regarding contracting with an upland service provider and Director O'Riley agreed. AAC Member Eckmann suggested that Director O'Riley and Harbormaster Gilchrist make changes to the document and bring it back to the AAC for review. AAC Members agreed. Director O'Riley discussed the deposit system.

The Strategic Plan was updated. Topics discussed included office hours, monitoring patron feedback, constructing the expansion, ship store for convenience, a measurable number for occupancy (SMART), the future direction of the Mooring Field, parking rates and adding an anchorage area.

## **X. MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Chair Light reviewed her report to Town Council and noted they received approval to host Cruiser's Appreciation Day. March 26 or April 2, 2022, at Lot 4 was mentioned. Discussion was held regarding food trucks and holding the event on a Friday instead of a Saturday. Director O'Riley stated that a banner with the new logo would be ordered. Dates will be checked and food trucks called for availability. Consensus was reached to tentatively hold the event on Friday, March 25, 2020. AAC Member Holmes stated that he would contact food trucks for availability and they would go from there. Chair Light discussed the raffle and giveaways.

AAC Member Ratliff questioned whether they would receive occupancy reports every month. Director O'Riley replied affirmatively.

AAC Member Lawwill proposed that they could not determine what they wanted to happen without knowing what was happening with the numbers. Director O'Riley replied that she would do her best to provide the numbers in the future.

Director O'Riley reported that the WCIND contract was going to Town Council for approval on December 6, 2021.

No items from other members.

**XI. PUBLIC COMMENT** – no public comment.

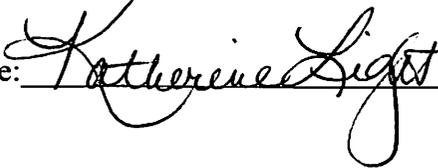
**XII. SET NEXT MEETING AGENDA** - December 15, 2021

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** AAC Member Beasley moved to adjourn the meeting; second by AAC Member Holmes.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

Adopted 1-19-2022 with/without changes. Motion by \_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

Vote: 6-0 Signature: 

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