

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

**Wednesday, February 16, 2022**

**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 and Sam Lurie.

Excused: Mike Ratliff

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

Council Liaison: Rexann Hosafros

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bill Morton, Ball 61, commented that he saw an amazing change in the Mooring Field services. He stated marinas all over Florida were full and had a waiting list. He described the excellent service from staff and noted the Mooring Field looked beautiful. He congratulated everyone.

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 19, 2022**

**MOTION:** AAC Member Eckmann moved to approve the minutes; second by AAC Member Beasley.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**VI. STAFF REPORT**

Harbormaster Gilchrist reported the Mooring Field is still at 100% occupancy with 48 boats on the waiting list. He noted staff was starting to decline new reservations until the middle of March. Letters of non-compliance were sent to a couple of boats. One ball failed and an engineer was called. Inspections started today. He indicated mathanzaz removed the beverage machine in the laundry room and replaced it with a new vending machine. He noted the staff received compliments concerning restrooms. A dinghy broke loose in the channel and the owner told Mooring Field staff to dispose of it. He commented there was not a lot of movement in the Mooring Field because people were extending their leases after a couple of days. The pump-outs were running Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. A new pump-out boat was expected in about five weeks.

Director O’Riley stated Town received the Florida Boating Improvement Program (FBIP) grant funding for the expansion. She indicated the ITB package would be put together with anticipated completion by the end of the year. She noted contractors were trying to install the pilings before construction of the systems. The closing for the new property was scheduled for February 28, 2022. She indicated the surveyor had to go back out to hit the mean high tide marks. She will notify members when the survey is complete. Director O’Riley stated that contractors would have to dredge if the depth was inadequate. She explained that the town would have to apply for a dock permit through the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) because the grant could not be accessed until a permit was issued. She referred to the financial report and stated budget was at 50% of projected revenue.

## **VII. STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW**

Chair Light reviewed and clarified previous edits.

## **VIII. CRUISERS’ APPRECIATION DAY – March 25, 2022, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

AAC Member Lurie stated the permit was filed and the fire department paid. Director O’Riley reported that the food truck was confirmed and Harbormaster Gilchrist indicated that the Yucatan was the only restaurant interested in providing alcoholic beverages. He noted he was working with them regarding permitting.

AAC Member Lurie distributed the press release for members’ feedback. Chair Light reviewed the list for raffle items. She noted the flyer Director O’Riley sent, did not print out correctly.

Harbormaster Gilchrist stated he had to contact the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for permission to hang the banner on the bridge. Discussion was held regarding tickets and gift bags.

**MOTION:** AAC Member Luried moved to allow MRTF to set up their pop-up tent at the Cruiser’s Appreciation Day; second by Chair Light.  
Discussion was held regarding space.

**VOTE:** Motion approved unanimously.

Chair Light will contact MRTF Member Rusk.

## **IX. HARBOR MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW – tabled until next month.**

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

AAC Member Lurie questioned adding signs to keep people from fishing at the closed dinghy dock. Harbormaster Gilchrist will check with code enforcement.

Chair Light questioned whether there was a depth chart for the Mooring Field. Director O’Riley replied that she would forward what Town had. Harbormaster Gilchrist added that he would also reach out to Lee County.

No items from other members.

## **XI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Yucatan employee proposed adding games to their drink tent at no cost.

**MOTION:** AAC Member Beasley moved to approve games in the Yucatan drink tent; second by AAC Member Holmes.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Valentine, Ball 6, discussed boaters in the Mooring Field. He suggested having a six-month limit to keep people moving through and noted it would take care of wet storage. He explained that since the Bahamas were difficult to get into, people were not moving. He described spacing issues at the dinghy dock.

Helen Gray, Ball 23, stated that the lack of parking under the bridge was frustrating for those with passes. She suggested Mooring Field residents be allowed to park elsewhere for free during the Cruiser's Appreciation event. Director O'Riley replied that parking was first come, first served. Director O'Riley discussed applying for the dinghy dock at Bayside Park and noted a meeting was scheduled next month to work through issues. Director O'Riley described the boardwalk at Bayside Park and commented that the adjacent property owner was very cooperative.

**XII. SET NEXT MEETING AGENDA - March 16, 2022.**

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** AAC Member Lurie moved to adjourn the meeting; second by AAC Chair Light.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Adopted 3-16-22 with/without changes. Motion by SAM LURIE  
(DATE)

Vote: 6-0 Signature: Katherine Light

- End of document