

**MINUTES**  
**FORT MYERS BEACH**  
**Anchorage Advisory Committee**  
Mound House  
451 Connecticut Street  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931  
Wednesday, April 17, 2024

**I. Call to Order**

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

**II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Roll Call**

Members present: Ted Lawwill, Sam Lurie, John Wesley Nash and Ed Schoonover.  
Excused: Jim Hockett and Chris Riedel King.  
Staff: Environmental Projects Manager Chadd Chustz.  
Council Liaison: Jim Atterholt

**IV. Approve the Agenda**

**MOTION:** AAC Member Schoonover moved to approve the agenda, seconded by AAC Member Nash.

**VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously.

**V. Approval of Minutes – March 20, 2024**

**MOTION:** AAC Member Nash moved to approve the minutes; second by AAC Member Schoonover.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Public Comment – no public comment.**

**VII. Current Items**

**A. Mooring Field Budget**

Finance Director Joe Onzick utilized PowerPoint for his presentation. Slides included Mooring Field 2024 Budget, 2024 YTD Actual and 2020-2023 Actual, 2024 Budget by Category, 2022 Average Occupancy Rate, Potential Revenue Based on 2022 Average Occupancy and Current # of Slips & Current Rates Compared to 2024 Budgeted Expenses. AAC Member Lawwill questioned who paid for 10 new balls. Director Onzick replied that grants and repairs funded part of the expenses and replacements would be reimbursed by FEMA. Director Onzick referred to the handout for details regarding expenses. He clarified that 2024 expenses would be offset by the \$8 million from the state and the bridge loan would be used in the short term.

Chair Lurie questioned where the money went when the Mooring Field made a profit and Director Onzick replied that it had gone into the capital fund reserve for the Mooring Field.

#### B. Mooring Field Marketing

Chair Lurie encouraged members to review Dockwa because he could not locate some information, although people were signing up and did not seem to have any problems.

#### C. 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Marina Operating Mooring Field

Projects Manager Chustz stated that the mayor suggested that the AAC might want to look into the topic. Liaison Atterholt indicated that after the insurance crisis with FEMA was resolved, he hoped to resume conversations with the county and the town regarding Bowditch Point. Operations & Compliance Director Frankie Kropacek stated that the town was interested in a person for the Harbormaster position who did not have ties to the area. He noted that conversations regarding Bowditch Point were ongoing and there were many unknowns with future developments. He encouraged AAC members to contact him with suggestions and commented that the town was actively pursuing every angle.

Eddie Paresi, General Manager of Matanzas Inn, described a lack of communication without a Harbormaster. He requested that all questions be directed to Patty. Chair Lurie stated that there were no complaints about their facilities from people in the Mooring Field. Mr. Paresi described upcoming upgrades to the Inn and the goal was to be completed by next year. The hotel and resort were 100% remodeled. Liaison Atterholt stated that the new Harbormaster would contact him as soon as they were on board. Mr. Paresi noted that no one from the town was around on weekends and remarked that the shop on the corner would be available after the contents were moved. He indicated that he would attend future AAC meetings.

### VIII. Members' Items

Chair Lurie distributed an email sent out after the last meeting regarding the Harbormaster leaving. He indicated that they had to keep up with the maintenance in the Mooring Field. He stated that there were 10 designated liveaboard balls. Liaison Atterholt suggested that the AAC discuss the parameters surrounding the issue at a future meeting. Chair Lurie questioned the status of the six slips shut down by the Coast Guard. Projects Manager Chustz reported there were no updates. He indicated that the channel shifted and staff was working with the Coast Guard to sort it out. Liaison Atterholt asked whether the AAC could change their meetings to Mondays or Fridays to accommodate AAC Member Hockett. Chair Lurie will add it to the next agenda for discussion.

### IX. Staff Update

Projects Manager Chustz reported that the permanent dinghy dock design should be completed any day, debris reports for the Mooring Field, canals, and waterways were

complete and an RFP for a debris contractor would go out soon. He was working with Laguna Shores and Marina Towers residents regarding setting up a municipal taxing district. LCSO (Lee County Sheriff's Office) continued to work on removing derelict vessels.

Chair Lurie noted the strategic plan was online and needed to be updated. He stated that the entrance to the Laguna Shores canal was very shallow and the sandbar was visible.

**X. Public Comment** – no public comment.

**XI. Set Agenda for Next Meeting** – May 15, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

**XII. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** AAC Member Schoonover moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by AAC Member Lawwill.

**VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Adopted 5/22/24 with/without changes. Motion by Ted Lawwill, seconded by Doug Eckman  
(DATE)  
Vote: 7-0 Signature: Amy [Signature], Town Clerk

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