

**MINUTES**  
**FORT MYERS BEACH**  
**Anchorage Advisory Committee**  
Town Hall Council Chambers  
2731 Oak Street  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931  
Monday, December 30, 2024

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

Members present: Chris Riedel King, Ted Lawwill, Sam Lurie, John Wesley Nash, Jennifer Rusk and Ed Schoonover.

Absent: Rebecca Weber

Staff Liaison: Harbormaster Curtis Ludwig

Council Liaison: Jim Atterholt

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

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 25, 2024**

No recording.

**MOTION:**

**VOTE:**

**VI. HISTORIC CANAL MAINTENANCE PROJECTS**

Harbormaster Ludwig reported that the debris contractors were cleaning the canals and were midway down the island. He expected the project to be finished by the end of January. He described efforts to maintain the canals and encouraged residents to contact him when they encountered debris.

AAC Member Schoonover questioned when they would receive the historic canal maintenance information from Projects Manager Chustz. Harbormaster Ludwig replied that he would have something at the next meeting. A discussion was held concerning dredging.

**VII. CRUISER APPRECIATION DAY**

AAC Member Lurie distributed a press release from 2022 describing the event and added details. He indicated the event usually paid for itself. He stated that the last one was too long at four hours and suggested three hours. He reviewed past raffle items. AAC Member Rusk asked about advertising and AAC Member Lurie noted that Communications Coordinator Berzin could help with publicity. Chair King discussed incorporating the event with something else to draw a larger

crowd. AAC Member Rusk mentioned having it at Bayside Park and members agreed. AAC Member Nash suggested holding it on a Friday and having Beach Talk Radio help promote it. Discussion was held regarding sponsoring the event and inviting other entities to attend. Liaison Atterholt agreed with Chair King regarding holding it on a Sunday so people can attend the Bayside concert afterward. Discussion ensued about food, surrounding restaurants, the price of raffle tickets and the time of the drawing. Chair King will email an event plan before the next meeting. AAC Member Lurie suggested thinking of open businesses to solicit raffle items. He explained that they held the event after Easter because of traffic. The tentative date is April 27, 2025, and AAC Member Lurie will check the date with the town clerk.

## **VIII. STAFF REPORT AND UPDATES**

Harbormaster Ludwig stated that a contract for the dinghy dock would be awarded on January 8, 2025, and construction should be complete by the end of spring. He will email a rendering of the new dock before the next meeting.

The sunken vessel by Ball 47 will be lit with a white light by the end of the week. He hoped that it would be removed in the next couple of months. He indicated he would follow up with the Coast Guard regarding anchor light regulations.

Coastal Engineering will begin maintenance of the systems in the Mooring Field and train staff to eventually take it over. Chair King indicated that Operations & Compliance Director Frankie Kropacek suggested that Coastal Engineering continue maintenance for various reasons. Harbormaster Ludwig said he would discuss the issue with Director Kropacek and report back. Two positions were open and interviews were ongoing.

AAC Member Lurie read his letter to surrounding marinas and rental companies regarding the no-wake zone.

Harbormaster Ludwig stated the town was moving toward paperless, so the next agenda will be emailed.

## **IX. MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS**

AAC Member Rusk noted that Marine and Environmental Resources Task Force (MERTF) Chair Nusbaum said he would contact Chair King to coordinate a joint meeting with Captains for Clean Water and Calusa Water Keepers presentations. AAC Member Nash encouraged a separate joint meeting for the presentations. Harbormaster Ludwig suggested inviting members of the public to a separate AAC meeting with the presentations and possibly attending the Cruiser Appreciation Day.

AAC Member Lurie asked whether members had copies of the Management Plan and the Submerged Water Lease. AAC Member Rusk indicated both documents were on the website. AAC Member Lurie inquired about new member Rebecca Weber missing two meetings. He suggested that they invite Communications Coordinator Berzin to the February meeting to discuss the Crusier Appreciation event.

AAC Member Schoonover questioned the situation with Balls 5-9 and Harbormaster Ludwig replied that he did not have a resolution with the Coast Guard yet.

Town Clerk Baker will reach out to Ms. Weber regarding her attendance. She indicated the time of their January 27, 2025, meeting had to change. A consensus was reached to move the time to 1:00 p.m.

**MOTION:** AAC Member Lurie moved to change the time of the January 27, 2025, meeting to 1:00 p.m., seconded by AAC Member Rusk.

**VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously.

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

**XI. SET NEXT MEETING AGENDA** – January 27, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

Add Balls 5-9, rendering of the dinghy dock, debris targets and notification.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** AAC Member Schoonover moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:31 a.m., seconded by AAC Member Nash.

**VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously.

Adopted 1/27/25 with/without changes. Motion by Sam Lurie  
(DATE)

Vote: Paul Lawrie Signature: Chris Needel 15

- End of document