

MINUTES
FORT MYERS BEACH
Anchorage Advisory Committee
Town Hall Council Chambers
2731 Oak Street
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931
Monday, January 27, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.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 and December 30, 2024

(The motion and vote for the November minutes were not recorded at the December meeting and were not updated here.)

MOTION: AAC Member Lurie moved to approve the December minutes, seconded by AAC Member Lawwill.

VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

VI. HISTORIC CANAL MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Harbormaster Ludwig apologized for not having the opportunity to retrieve documents yet. AAC Member Lawwill indicated it would be nice to know which canals were private and which were not. AAC Member Lurie commented that the information was on the property appraiser's website and he offered to do some research.

VII. CRUISER APPRECIATION DAY

Chair King summarized the key points and encouraged feedback. AAC Member Rusk offered to invite the Coast Guard Auxiliary. The event will be held at Bayside Park and Chair King will contact the Chamber of Commerce. AAC Member Lurie suggested having it from 2:00-4:00 p.m. with the raffle drawing at 3:30. AAC Member Rusk suggested starting at 1:00 and AAC Member Schoonover suggested 1:00-3:30 with the raffle at 3:00 since the Bayside band started at 4:00. Discussion was held regarding food, tables and chairs, tents, sponsors, Beach Talk Radio, vendors,

tickets, raffle items, budget and a floating key chain with a QR code to give away. AAC Member Lurie discussed who will receive complimentary tickets and suggested they make a list and vote at the next meeting. Harbormaster Ludwig recommended creating an itinerary to distribute and posting it on the town's website. AAC Member Lurie stated that in the past, \$10.00 bought a basic meal and a drink. Discussion was held regarding the number of complimentary tickets per vessel. AAC Member Rusk will check with Marine and Environmental Resources Task Force (MERTF) about participating. AAC Member Nash indicated he would create a schematic. AAC Member Lawwill noted that Bayside Park was almost half the size of the previous location. AAC Member Lurie brought up permits. He suggested that members create a list of businesses that might contribute and they can assign who contacts which businesses. Liaison Atterholt suggested contacting businesses with a symbiotic relationship with boaters, such as marinas and waterfront restaurants.

AAC Member Nash will share a list of vendors who participated in the Putt and Pub event. Chair King will create a list of questions for the town attorney and Liaison Atterholt suggested inviting her to their next meeting.

The event was tentatively scheduled for Sunday, April 27, from 1:00-3:30 p.m. AAC Member Lawwill mentioned the possibility of the event becoming a street fair where people set up tents and sold items. AAC members agreed it would not be appropriate and should be limited to an informational event. Chair King brought up the educational aspect for the public and boaters. Chair King will contact Nervous Nellie's and Snug Harbor regarding their interest in participating. She will draft a proposed budget.

AAC Member Rusk brought up a DJ and Harbormaster Ludwig indicated that Nervous Nellie's might have a band playing then. She suggested setting up the booths toward the walkway in the back and said she would create a schematic instead of AAC Member Nash. Chair King will send the information discussed to Harbormaster Ludwig for distribution to AAC members.

VIII. STAFF REPORT AND UPDATES

Harbormaster Ludwig reported that the debris removal project was at the south end of the island. He noted they were towards the end of canal cleanup and the next step was to remove items from deeper water. He indicated the sunken boat on Ball 47 would be removed, but he does not have a timeline. Balls 5-9 were still a work in progress and the Kelly Brothers were awarded the dinghy dock contract. Harbormaster Ludwig shared and described a copy of the dinghy dock plans and noted he forwarded them to AAC members.

Harbormaster Ludwig hired two new people who will start tomorrow and next week. All 89 mooring balls had been inspected, maintained and in good shape.

IX. MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS

AAC Member Schoonover asked whether they could get a quarterly financial report.

Chair King indicated that she contacted Dave Nusbaum from MERTF regarding the joint session with Captains for Clear Water and the Calusa Waterkeeper. Any Friday in late February or early March appeared feasible for all members.

AAC Member Nash stated he would be out of the country and miss the February meeting.

AAC Member Rusk brought up performing a skit or song at the Cruiser's Appreciation event.

Liaison Atterholt mentioned impact fees and a water ferry.

No items from other members.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.

XI. SET NEXT MEETING AGENDA – February 24, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Add invite Nicole regarding communication, 2025 priorities and Harbormaster Ludwig's community presentation.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: AAC Member Lawwill moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m., seconded by AAC Member Rusk.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

Adopted 2/24/25 with/without changes. Motion by Sam Lurie, seconded by Ed Schanom
(DATE)

Vote: All in favor Signature: Chris Radel 15

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