

Lake Wylie Marine Commission
October 24, 2016
Carolinas HealthCare System – Steele Creek Healthcare Pavilion



Commissioners Present: Chairman Lynn Smith (Mecklenburg County)
Vice Chairman Neil Brennan (Gaston County)
Secretary Treasurer Robert Biggerstaff (Gaston County)
Assistant Secretary Treasurer Brad Thomas (Gaston County)
Commissioner Tim Mead (Mecklenburg County)
Commissioner Blanche Bryant (York County)
Commissioner George Medler (York County)
Commissioner Ellen Goff (York County)

Commissioner Absent: Commissioner Peter Hegarty (Mecklenburg County)

LWMC Staff Present: Joe Stowe, Executive Director; Chris Clark, Legal Counsel;
Emily Parker, Administrator

Meeting Minutes

Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed everyone present.

Item 2 – Approval of Minutes

Chairman Smith asked if any changes need to be made to the September 26 minutes. Commissioner Mead moved to approve the September 26 minutes. Commissioner Bryant seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Item 3 – Approval of Agenda

Chairman Smith asked if any changes need to be made to the October 24 agenda. Vice Chairman Brennan moved to approve the October 24 agenda. Commissioner Bryant seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Item 4 – New Marine Commissioner Introduction

Executive Director Stowe introduced new Marine Commissioner Ellen Goff (York County) and everyone welcomed her. Ms. Goff introduced herself to the group.

Item 5 – Public Comment

None.

Item 6 – Stakeholder Reports

Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department – Officer Joye reported that the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department’s (CMPD) boats are up and running. Their supervisor got promoted to Captain, so now they have a new supervisor. He reported that they have made progress with the boat house – they have plans and a price. CMPD’s current boat houses are falling apart. The new boat house would look like the York County Sheriff’s Office (YCSO) boat house – with three slips and boat lifts. If they get approval from City Council, it could be in place as early as next season.

Gaston County Police Department – Officer Hamrick reported that the October event at Home Depot was cancelled because of Hurricane Matthew.

York County Sheriff's Office – Sgt. Mabry reported that their dive team was dispatched to Williamsburg County, SC because of flooding caused by Hurricane Matthew. The team went out for two days and assessed damages on land. Many of the residents of that county made the YCSO team feel welcome and appreciated for being there. This was the YCSO's first deployment out of York County.

NC Wildlife Resources Commission – No report was given.

SC Department of Natural Resources – No report was given.

US Coast Guard – No report was given.

US Coast Guard Auxiliary – No report was given.

Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services Agency (LUESA) – Dave Ferguson reported on the September Lake Use Support Index (LUSI) map, which looks normal. He stated that Lake Wylie is nutrient rich in its coves. Hurricane Matthew brought the lake level up about a foot, but it has been dropping since the rain ended. The water temperature is dropping. He noted that the fall lake turnover will happen soon, so do not be alarmed if the water is copper colored – that is normal.

Duke Energy – Ronnie Lawson reported that:

- Lake level: 95.9' (target level: 97.0')
- Low inflow protocol: Stage 0.
- No dredge permits have been submitted or approved in the past month.

Gaston County Cove Keeper – No report was given.

Lake Wylie Lakekeeper Report – No report was given.

Item 7 – Treasurer's Report

Secretary Treasurer Biggerstaff provided the monthly finance update. Commissioner Bryant asked about the NC Capital Management Trust (NCCMT) fund and Executive Director Stowe provided an answer.

Item 8 – Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Stowe reported:

- a. Water Management Group Update – Executive Director Stowe attended a recent meeting and provided a brief update to the group. Barry Gullet leads the Water Management Group. Mr. Stowe would like to invite Mr. Gullet to make a presentation to Marine Commission. He also noted that the City of Charlotte is considering a new sewage discharge into Lake Wylie. Mr. Stowe will follow up and provide an update to the group.
- b. Stakeholder Appreciation – Executive Director Stowe and the officers have discussed honoring stakeholders by having a gathering at the home of Joe and Janice Stowe. The Marine Commissioners concurred that having a stakeholder appreciation gathering is a good idea.
- c. Boat Show – Executive Director Stowe reminded the group that the Mid-Atlantic Boat Show will be a week earlier this year.

- d. Goal Setting – Executive Director Stowe asked if the Marine Commission should schedule a goal setting session with an outside facilitator this year or take a different approach. Vice Chairman Brennan suggested reviewing the goals for 2016, perhaps at the November meeting. The group could also review goals from the past couple of years and discuss them without a facilitator. Commissioner Bryant noted that she has enjoyed the past goal setting sessions, but that it could be time for the group to lead its own session. This goal setting will likely need to happen outside of the regular monthly meeting. A next step is to schedule that meeting.

Item 9 – Chairman’s Report

Chairman Smith reported that she attended the October officers meeting. She noted that the November meeting will be the last one of 2016 and that the Boat Show will be here before we know it after the first of the year. She asked the Marine Commissioners to think about how and when they can help at the Boat Show. The group can talk further about this at the November meeting. There is \$3,000 budgeted for the Boat Show this year.

Item 10 – Clerk’s Report

Ms. Parker did not have a report.

Item 11 – Old/New Business and Commission Projects Reports

Old Business

- Water Quality –
 - Clean Marina/Clean Boating – Secretary Treasurer Biggerstaff reported that they contacted Ralph Dixon, operator of the new Riverside Marina in Belmont. Once that marina is operational, they will inspect it.
 - Invasive Species – Commissioner Medler did not have a report.
- Buoys – Secretary Treasurer Biggerstaff reported that we are going to need to order more buoys.
- Safety – Commissioner Bryant coordinated with Executive Director Stowe and Janice Stowe about communicating with five area high schools about participating in the life jacket awareness campaign. A follow up email will go to each of the school principals tomorrow.
- Recreation – No report was given.
- Public Information – Commissioner Goff volunteered to take over being the point person for public information efforts related to the Marine Commission.

Commissioner Bryant showed the group a magnetic mesh “Trash Trapper” that is designed to go on a boat. She may be able to obtain a quantity of Trash Trappers for the Marine Commission to give away at the Boat Show and elsewhere.

Item 12 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.
