

Lake Wylie Marine Commission
September 24, 2012 7:00 p.m.
Good Shepherd United Methodist Church
Meeting Minutes



Commissioners Present: Chair Smitty Hanks (Gaston County)
Vice Chair Terry Everhart (Mecklenburg County)
Commissioner Ed Hull (York County)
Commissioner Vernon Peers (York County)
Commissioner Brad Thomas (Gaston County)
Commissioner Robert Biggerstaff (Gaston County)
Commissioner Lynn Smith (Mecklenburg County)
Commissioner Howard Virkler (Mecklenburg County)

Commissioners Absent: Secretary/Treasurer Ron Wanless (York County)

LWMC Staff Present: Joe Stowe, Executive Director, Chris Clark, Legal Counsel,
Diane Dil, Commission Clerk

Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Hanks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item 2 – Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Everhart to approve the August 27, 2012 minutes as submitted. Commissioner Hull seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Item 3 - Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Everhart to approve the September 24, 2012 agenda as submitted. Commissioner Biggerstaff seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Item 4 – Consent Agenda

No items were submitted for the consent agenda.

Item 5 – Public Comment

No one was present for public comments

Item 6 – Stakeholders Reports

Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department – Officer Everhart reported

- Officer Everhart reviewed the activity related to the Democratic National Convention. He was pleased to report that the event went smoothly.

Gaston County Police Department – Officer Hamrick reported

- Officer Hamrick stated the Gaston County boat was on the water during the convention. He will meet with the Chief of Police in the morning to discuss the purchase of a new boat. If the boat is ordered in November it will arrive by June.

York County Sheriff – Sergeant Ware reported

- It has been quiet lately.
- They have been prepping a new dive truck that will be used during a dive training seminar on Lake Murray.

Coast Guard Auxiliary

- Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Fred Thompson, George Jeandheur, Dick Helwig and Hal Kennel reported on their emergency response to the boat fire on Lake Wylie September 1, 2012. The boat had seven people on board. There were no injuries.
- Executive Director Joe Stowe asked if a cause of the fire has been determined. They believe it was from a backfire after refueling.
- Commissioner Virkler asked how this could be prevented from happening again. They believe the best prevention is boater education and boat safety checks.

Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Service Agency (LUESA) – No sampling numbers to report.

Duke Energy of the Carolinas – Ronnie Lawson reported

- Lake level – 96.9’.
- Drought Management Group – Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) is at Stage 0.
- They are reviewing a dredging application from the Windward Cove HOA for the removal of 1000 cubic yards of sediment.

Lake Wylie Riverkeeper report – CD Collins and Ellen Goff reported

- CD Collins followed up on his report at a previous Marine Commission meeting of the erosion control failures at Stuart Cramer HS which is currently under construction in Cramerton. He is trying to get people involved. The lake adjacent to the site is filling up with silt very quickly. It is only going to get worse and nobody is taking responsibility.
- Ellen Goff reported that four covekeepers provided reports on recent activity. There is a new and very enthusiastic covekeeper in Tega Cay.
- There are more than 300 people who have pre-registered for Riversweep. This amount is larger than the number of people registered two days before last year’s event. Many people wait to register until the weather reports are out.

Item 7 – Treasurer’s Report

- Secretary Treasurer Wanless was not present to give a report.

Item 8 – Executive Director’s Report – Executive Director Joe Stowe reported

- **New Commissioner** – Mr. Stowe welcomed the new commissioner representing York County, George Medler. He will officially join the commission at the October meeting.
- **Law Enforcement Center** – All permitting agencies have approved the new boat ramp. A package which includes forms required by Duke Energy and copies of all permits has been forwarded to Duke Energy for their final review.

- **Riversweep** – Mr. Stowe requested guidance from the commissioners about the total number of t-shirts to purchase. The manufacturer is currently on track to make 600-700 t-shirts but will need to know by the end of the week if the full 1,000 is needed. Commissioner Thomas stated the pre-registration numbers appear to be on track with last year's number of volunteers. He suggests we do the same as last year which was to purchase 1,000 t-shirts. Others on the commissioner did not voice an objection to this amount.
- **Joint Meeting** – Mr. Stowe reminded the commissioners that the Joint Meeting with Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission will be held October 4th at the Gaston County Country Club.

Item 9 – Chairman's Report - Chairman Smitty Hanks reported

- **Bathymetric Survey** – Chairman Hanks received a quote to conduct a bathymetric survey for Paw and Boyd Coves. This is not something the Marine Commission can undertake but this can be used by homeowners within these coves for their information if they choose to pursue it.
- **Buoy** – buoys number 13 and 19 are at his house. Buoys are still missing at Dale's, Charlotte Yacht Club and the apartments. He and Mr. Stowe made some more anchors.

Item 10 – Old/New Business and Commission Project Reports

- **Water Quality**
 - Clean Marina - Commissioner Biggerstaff stated that the Clean Marina program is running smoothly. The next step is to review the marinas to be sure they are maintaining their Clean Marina status.
 - Invasive Species – Commissioner Virkler has nothing new to report.
- **Safety**
 - Commissioner Everhart has nothing new to report
- **Recreation.**
 - **Fireworks** – Commissioner Smith reviewed her work with the Fireworks Committee over the past two years. Communications with camp Thunderbird have been inefficient. She is not certain that the Marine Commission should continue will the same level of involvement and opened this for discussion with all commissioners. Commissioner Virkler agreed that response from Camp Thunderbird has been minimal. Chairman Hanks also agreed and suggested that the Marine Commission should step back from a leadership role for next year.
- **Public Information**
 - Commissioner Hull stated all is well with the website.

Chairman Hanks presented a gift to retiring Commissioner Peers and thanked him for his years of service to the Marine Commission.

Item 11 – Election of Officers

Legal Counsel Chris Clark conducted the Election of Officers for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer. Mr. Clark informed the Commission of the guidelines and procedures of this election then asked Mr. Stowe if a nominating committee has a recommendation of new

officers. Mr. Stowe listed the following recommendations: Chairman – Terry Everhart, Vice Chairman – Brad Thomas, and Secretary/Treasurer – Ron Wanless.

- Chairman – Terry Everhart was recommended for Chairman. Mr. Clark asked for other nominations. Hearing none Terry Everhart is the new Chairman of the Lake Wylie Marine Commission.
- Vice Chairman – Brad Thomas was recommended for Vice Chairman. Mr. Clark asked for other nominations. Hearing none Brad Thomas will be the new Vice Chairman of the Lake Wylie Marine Commission.
- Secretary Treasurer – Ron Wanless was recommended for Secretary Treasurer. Mr. Clark asked for other nominations. Hearing none Ron Wanless will continue as the Secretary Treasurer for the Lake Wylie Marine Commission.

Item 12 - Public Comment

No one was present for public comments.

Item 13 – Adjournment

With no more business the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The next LWMC business meeting will be held on October 22, 2012 at CMC Steel Creek Healthcare Pavilion, Charlotte, NC and will begin at 7:00 pm.