

Lake Wylie Marine Commission



**August 24, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

**Red Fez Club
16,600 Red Fez Club Road
Charlotte, NC**

Minutes

Commissioners Present: Chairman Sandy DuPuy (Mecklenburg County), Secretary Treasurer Smitty Hanks (Gaston County), Commissioner Ron Wanless (York County), Commissioner Terry Everhart (Mecklenburg County), Vice Chairman Vernon Peers (York County), Commissioner David Cloninger (Gaston County), Commissioner Howard Virkler (Mecklenburg County)

LWMC Staff Present: Joe Stowe, Executive Director, Chris Clark, Legal Counsel

LWMC Staff Absent: Annette Demeny, Clerk

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Welcome & Introductions	Chairman Sandy DuPuy called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.	
Approve Minutes – July 27, 2009	The minutes from July 27, 2009 were approved.	Commissioner Wanless made a motion to approve the July 27, 2009 meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Virkler. The motion was approved.

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Approval of the August 24, 2009 Meeting Agenda	<p>The August 24, 2009 meeting agenda was approved with the following revision: Chairman Sandy DuPuy requested that a letter from River Hills Marina requesting moving three “NO WAKE Buoys” be added to the agenda.</p>	<p>Vice Chairman Peers made a motion to approve the change. It was seconded by Commissioner Ron Wanless. The motion was approved.</p>
Consent Agenda	Consent Agenda – None	
Public Comments	Public Comments – None	
Stakeholder Reports	<p>Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Dept and SPLASH Report – (Commissioner) Officer Everhart reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity is slowing down on the lake. • SPLASH was not active <p>Gaston County Sheriff’s Office - Officer Rodney Hamrick reported.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have begun having a limited presence on the lake. • They are working a complaint of a sinking boathouse in Paradise Point. Duke Energy has a procedure for dealing with dilapidated structures that involves 3 notices to the owner before legal action can be taken. <p>York County Sheriff’s Office – Officer Ed Mabry reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity is slowing on the lake- they are patrolling weekends and as needed. • There is a growing problem at Allison Creek boat access with swimmers despite “NO SWIMMING” signs that are posted. Two rope swings have been installed as well as a diving platform. They have made several requests to Duke Energy for help since this is a designated access area. Currently, the only action that they can take is to tell the swimmers to leave. 	<p>Ronnie Lawson will follow up with York County officers and report in September.</p>
Stakeholder	<p>N.C. Wildlife Resources - Sgt Barry Rowell reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are beginning to prepare for hunting season and will have a limited presence 	

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Reports (cont.)	<p>on the lake.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He checked on the reported unauthorized No Wake buoys along the lake and had found several. The Gaston County Sheriff’s Department was notified and appropriate action will be taken by the by David O’Neal on the Tailrace illegal buoys. <p>Tega Cay Police Department – No one was present to give report</p> <p>S.C. Dept of Natural Resources – Officer Mark Ferrell reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCDNR will be on the lake only in a limited capacity and are preparing for dove season. • They have also had problems at the Allison Creek access area. <p>Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Service Agency (LUESA) – David Buetow reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Buetow referred Commissioners to handouts of Water Quality Condition Results (July, 2009) - Results range form Good to Excellent except for one very high (200 fecal coliform colonies/100 ml) recorded in Snug Harbor cove. Two days later the reading was 12/100ml. There was no explanation for the spike reading. • A new rating scale is in effect, called LUSI (Lake Use Support Index). The new index should produce more usable and understandable data, comparing several years’ data in relation to current readings. Data will be taken semi-monthly allowing staff time to check other water quality issues that have not been able to be scheduled previously. Fecal coliform colonies will continue to be monitored monthly during the summer months. Excessive algae growth will be reported under a different index. There will be a metal index. The new report will also include fishable and swimmable indicators for lakes. • The new sampling protocol began in July 2009. • Mr. Buetow also presented information from South Carolina DHEC’s Dave Chestnut which does less frequent monitoring of Lake Wylie water quality at 7 sites although only 3 are currently active: the dam, Crowders Creek and Mill Creek. Those are monitored monthly. Results can be found at the DHEC website: http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/water/ 	

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Stakeholders Reports (continued)	<p>Duke Energy of the Carolinas – Ronnie Lawson reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake level – 96.2 (target is 97’) which is below full storage. • Big Allison Creek No Swimming Signs: reported that one additional sign is on order • Buster Boyd Access: bids are out to do work on parking area. Most likely will pave the entire parking lot in lieu of filling pot holes although there have been many complaints about the parking lots condition. • In response to a question about release schedules for Lake Wylie, Mr. Lawson reported that the schedules were posted on the Duke Energy website: www.duke-energy.com/lakes. <p>Lake Wylie Lakekeeper – Ellen Goff reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York Count passed the revised buffer ordinance that encompasses the complete water shed including feeder streams affecting Lake Wylie. York County is planning an education and outreach plan to realtors, homeowners and contractors. There will be an educational presentation on the new ordinance at the September CoveKeepers meeting by David Pettine. • C. D. Collins reported that an expanded Riversweep is scheduled for October 3, 2009. A new clean up site has been added at the Riverfront community marina across from the Whitewater Center. He also reported that no staging and no construction taking place yet at the Riverfront community. • Mr. Collins asked the status of the sediment re-sampling on the HWY 274 /Allison Bridge project. Commissioner Ron Wanless met with a York County official who reported that the State is now managing the project, and he was told that nothing will be done until the project was complete which is possibly 2 years away. Commissioners expressed concern that too much damage that would be difficult to mitigate by the time. • Mr. Collins referred Commissioners to a recent article in the Charlotte Observer concerning a coal ash spill in Tennessee that will take 3 years to clean up. He will send a copy to Commissioners. <p>Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation – No one was present to give a report.</p>	<p>Further discussion on the sampling issue was deferred to the September agenda.</p>

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LWMC will not be eligible for a Duke Energy safety grant discussed at the July meeting since it is not a non-profit entity which is a requirement for eligibility. • Future Education Topics – Chair DuPuy asked for input on future educational topics for Commission meetings. Based on the cautions about potential hazards of coal ash pond presented by David Merryman at the joint meeting, she suggested asking a Duke Energy representative to speak to the Commission to explain their safety measures and emergency contingency plans at the Allen Steam Station and Riverbend. Recent EPA findings identified 4 ponds along the Catawba River with serious safety issues. • The Chair received a request from River Hills Marina Club President, Charles Wood, requesting to move three No Wake Buoys in the River Hills Marina Harbor 200’ east toward the main channel. 	<p>Chair DuPuy will request a Duke representative to present in October on safety planning and contingency plans.</p> <p>SC DENR officers will evaluate the request and report in September.</p>
<p>Old Business and Projects Reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass Carp Update – Commissioner Virkler. Some signs already that grass carp are doing their work. A suggestion was made to contact the Lake Wylie Pilot to continue awareness about grass carp. • IBT – Chair DuPuy – No additional information; waiting for a date to hear interveners’ requests. • Combined Law Enforcement Activities Report – Chair DuPuy. Reporting has been spotty so far with a few agencies reporting consistently. Chair DuPuy asked for summer numbers only from all agencies to evaluate the usefulness of the data. • Buoys Update – Commissioner Hanks Lighted Buoys - 25 lighted buoys have been received. Commissioners must take the Boater Safety Course before they can operate the Mecklenburg Park and Rec. boat to install the buoys. Commissioner Everhart noted that a light was missing from a buoy at the Buster Boyd Bridge and that another light was loose. 	<p>Chair DuPuy will resend forms.</p> <p>Secretary Treasurer Hanks will contact the manufacturer to insure the lights were properly installed. A date for the Boater Safety Course will be set.</p>

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Old Business (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Marina – Commissioner Peers. He has received one complete application for Clean Marina certification and has requested some additional information from them. River Hills Marina already holds a SC Clean Marina certificate and will automatically be a Lake Wylie clean marina. Two variations of a flag to denote clean marina status were presented to the commission to consider. 	Vice-Chairman Peers will e-mail pictures of proposed flags for the Commission to study.
Comments	None	
Adjournment	There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm	A motion was made by Secretary Treasurer Hanks to adjourn the August 24, 2009 business meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Wanless. The motion was approved.
Next Business Meeting Date and Location	The next LWMC business meeting will be held on September 28, 2009 at 7:00 at the Belmont City Hall, 115 North Main Street, Belmont, NC.	

Smitty Hanks, Secretary-Treasurer and Sandy DuPuy, Chair