

# City of Clearwater

*Main Library - Council Chambers  
100 N. Osceola Avenue  
Clearwater, FL 33755*



## Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

**8:00 AM**

**Main Library - Council Chambers**

## **Marine Advisory Board**

## Rollcall

**Present** 5 - Chair Michael Grohman, Vice Chair Kevin Laughlin, Board Member Deena Stanley, Board Member Francis Bugaj, and Board Member Rick Broom

**Absent** 1 - Board Member Phillip Rugari

**Also Present** – Michael MacDonald – Marine & Aviation Director, William Hodgson - Marine & Aviation Division Manager, and Rosemarie Call – City Clerk

### 1. Call To Order

*The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.*

### 2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approval of December 13, 2023, Marine Advisory Board Meeting Minutes.

**Board Member Bugaj moved to approve the December 13, 2023 Marine Advisory Board meeting minutes. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

### 3. Citizens to be Heard Regarding Items Not on the Agenda

*Darrell Lakey opposed the proposed multi-slip dock on Stevenson Creek that was recently approved by the Community Development Board and supported a no wake zone for all of Stevenson Creek.*

*Marine and Aviation Director Michael MacDonald said the original dock request was denied because it was designed to run north and south. The dock has been redesigned to run along the shoreline and does not impede the deepest part of the navigable water. He said his review of the request found no hazards to the navigation; the depth survey provided indicated the proposal was outside of the deepest part of the channel.*

### 4. New Business Items

4.1 Beach Marina Replacement Project Expectations

Discuss expectations for the next 4 months for the Beach Marina Replacement Project.

*Public Works Engineer Jeff Walker provided a PowerPoint presentation.*

*In response to questions, Mr. Walker said the dredged material was tested and it will need to be dewatered prior to going to the landfill. In some places the docks will be higher than the sea wall and in other places it will be lower. Mr. MacDonald said he has not been able to*

*coordinate a meeting with Mr. Colby. He said the proposed parking garage would alleviate Mr. Colby's concerns regarding need for storage space. The proposed garage was included in the FY 24/25 Capital Improvement Project list; the project has not been funded yet. Mr. MacDonald said the recreational tenants' last day was February 29, 2024; transient boaters will use the slips until construction begins. The recreational tenants have been placed on the waiting list and will have first rights to come back when the Marina reopens.*

#### 4.2 Southside Wave Attenuator Replacement Project

Discuss the Southside Wave Attenuator Replacement Project on the South Basin.

*Marine and Aviation Operations Division Manager William Hodgson said the project wrapped up in mid-February. Staff is going through the punch list with the contractor. He said the old wave attenuators had the pilings outside of the attenuators with capture rings.*

#### 4.3 Northside Wave Attenuator Replacement Project

Discuss the Northside Wave Attenuator Replacement Project on the South Basin.

*Mr. MacDonald said three wave attenuators failed due to Hurricane Ian. Ericksson Engineering reevaluated the three sections and identified significantly more damage after the storm. Moffat & Nichol were selected to do the design work. He said 60% design work will be completed by May 1 and will also include the estimated cost. Staff anticipates FEMA will pay for a portion of the project.*

#### 4.4 Elect 2024 Chair and Vice Chair

Elect 2024 Chair and Vice Chair for the Marine Advisory Board.

**Vice Chair Laughlin moved to elect Michael Grohman as Chair. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**Board Member Bugaj moved to elect Kevin Luaghlin as Vice Chair. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

### **5. Old Business Items**

#### 5.1 Anchor Limitation Area Update

Discuss update on the Anchor Limitation Area.

*Mr. Hodgson said the anchor limitation area for the Mandalay Channel is 10% of the navigable waterways, 100 acres or less. First Line Coastal conducted a survey of utilities. Pilings with signage will be installed and one of the buoys with signage will be located by the day docks near the recreation center. Mr. Williamson said the signage will inform the public of the 45-day anchoring limitation. He said the signage is consistent with those used by Pinellas County.*

*Discussion ensued with a concern expressed with the wake boarding schools using the channel. It was suggested that rules be implemented to make the Channel a No Wake Zone or mark it as a channel.*

## **5.2 Seminole Street Boat Launch Ramp Replacement Project Update**

Discuss update on Seminole Street Boat Launch Ramp Replacement Project.

*Mr. MacDonald said when the boat ramp was built, FDEP did not exist. It has been difficult obtaining an initial permit for something that already exists. Staff hopes the project will start soon as the issue with the riparian rights and the layout of the land is clarified with FDEP.*

## **6. Director's Report**

## **7. Board Members to be Heard**

*Mr. Lakey requested additional time to speak.*

**Member Laughlin moved to wave the rules to allow Mr. Lakey to speak. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

*Mr. Lakey expressed concerns with the impact the proposed dock in Stevenson Creek will have on the manatees and questioned why the Marine Advisory Board did not review the dock request.*

## **8. Adjourn**

*The meeting adjourned at 8:54 a.m.*

---

Chair, Marine Advisory Board

Attest:

---

Board Reporter