

City of Clearwater

*City Hall
112 S. Osceola Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33756*



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 13, 2018

8:00 AM

Council Chambers

Marine Advisory Board

Roll Call

Present 5 - Chair Edward O'Brien Jr., Board Member Michael Grohman, Board Member Kevin Laughlin, Board Member Ken Marlow, and Board Member Michael Mack

Absent 3 - Vice Chair Letitia Wold, Board Member Wade Carlisle, and Ex Officio Member Eric Spaulding

Also Present: Ed Chesney, P.E. – Marine & Aviation Department Director, Michael MacDonald - Marine & Aviation Operations Manager, Patricia O. Sullivan – Board Reporter

Awaiting approval

1. Call To Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at City Hall.

To provide continuity for research, items are in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.

2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approval of Minutes

Approve March 14, 2018 Marine Advisory Board Minutes.

Member Laughlin moved to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2018 Marine Advisory Board meeting as submitted in written summation. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

3. Citizens to be Heard Regarding Items Not on the Agenda: None.

4. New Business Items

4.1 Report on Clearwater Harbor Marina Wave Attenuator Replacement

Update the Advisory Board on the status on the damaged wave attenuators from Hurricane Irma.

Marine & Aviation Department Director Ed Chesney said replacement of the Clearwater Harbor Marina Wave Attenuator at first was based on original 2009 As-Built drawings and would cost more than \$750,000. Going with that approach, future storms could cause failure again. Clearwater's Marine Engineer of Record was hired to evaluate the cause of the failure, determine the weakest points, and make recommendations. Pilings supporting the attenuator tilted, possibly because they were not driven deeply enough. The final design will be based on newer technology with pilings internal to the dock system.

After analyzing construction methods, staff determined the Construction Manager at Risk method would be the most efficient. Boring data will determine the ideal depth for new pilings. A dock builder was identified for the attenuator; the project was in a production queue waiting for City Council to approve a contract. The new design was estimated to cost more than \$500,000 and could be installed in late August. Insurance will cover 1/3 of the costs and some FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) funds were anticipated, although reimbursement may take years.

It was questioned if the City had recourse re the original contractor's errors and omissions. Mr. Chesney said the last attenuator was designed to withstand conditions seen during the passing of Hurricane Irma. While Hurricane Irma's winds only reached 67 mph on Clearwater Beach, waves pounded the downtown marina for 10 hours. No EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) concerns re sea grass etc. were issues for the replacement.

4.2 Army Corps of Engineers Dredging Update

Update the Advisory Board on the dredging operations being conducted by the Army Corp of Engineers.

Marine & Aviation Operations Manager Michael MacDonald said the short cut channel between the beach marina and Clearwater Pass Bridge and the section between the 2 marinas would be dredged via a hopper dredge. Mr. Chesney said the Army Corps was responsible for maintaining Federal Channels. Channels were surveyed every other year, monitored, and dredged about every 7 years.

4.3 2018/2019 Fiscal Year Marina Funding

Capital Improvement Project of \$300,000 for next fiscal year on the Design Criteria for the Beach Marina reconstruction.

Mr. Chesney said this was his first year overseeing the Marina's budget. Funds currently set aside for repairs were insufficient. The downtown marina was 8 years old and starting to show its age. To establish a nest egg, future budgets will set aside \$100,000 annually for routine maintenance and CIPs (Capital Improvement Projects).

In response to a question, Mr. Chesney said while funds from new restaurant leases were directed to the beach marina budget, reserves remained below optimum thresholds. Both marinas operated as enterprise funds and did not receive ad valorem taxes. Management had the ability to increase boat slip rental rates 0 - 10% annually.

Clearwater Beach Marina

Mr. Chesney said the beach marina had expanded 3 times since it was built in the 1950s. Replacement of the marina was scheduled for FY 2022/23 where \$15 million was allocated in Penny for Pinellas 4 funds. The Marina Department has allocated \$300,000 in the FY 2018/19 budget to design an efficient conceptual layout that will limit wasted space, determine the number and size of slips, the type of dock system, electrical needs, location of commercial tenants and large boats, and estimate construction costs. Keeping the marina running during the staged construction of a new marina will be challenging.

Mr. MacDonald said the practice of people from mooring boats tying up skiffs etc. to the floating dock at the fuel dock had become dangerous; non marina tenants will need to find other accommodations outside the marina. Mr. Chesney said up to 10 kayaks tied to the floating dock all day created a security risk. The marina never intended to provide bathroom and laundry facilities or serve as an entry to the beach for people living on moored boats. The marina was working to limit use of its facilities to permitted tenants.

5. Old Business Item

In response to a question, Mr. Chesney said the State's 6-year pilot program on mooring fields ended in July 2017 and the anticipated follow-up report had not been issued yet. The City Code did not recognize/define mooring fields and had no ability to permit them. The owner of a proposed mooring field in Mandalay Channel never applied for a County or City permit. The City received no information re the mooring application submitted to the Army Corps of Engineers.

6. Director's Report

Mr. Chesney requested board members to contact him prior to the next meeting if they want items placed on the agenda.

7. Board Members to be Heard: None.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Attest:

Chair - Marine Advisory Board

Board Reporter