



MINUTES

CHARLOTTE COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 9th, 2024

9:30 a.m.

Charlotte County Administration Center

18500 Murdock Circle Room B-106

Port Charlotte, FL 33948

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Ireland called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Upon the roll being called it was determined a quorum was present.

3. Chairman's Comments

A. REMINDER TO ALL VISITORS ADDRESSING THE COMMITTEE: PLEASE SIGN IN. It is helpful when preparing the Minutes. A clipboard and a pen are provided on the podium for your convenience.

B. REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS STATE THEIR NAME AND ORGANIZATION and TO USE THE MICROPHONE WHEN ADDRESSING THE COMMITTEE. It is helpful when preparing the Minutes.

C. REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS, STAFF AND VISITORS TO PLEASE SILENCE THEIR CELL PHONES.

4. Changes to the Agenda

None offered.

5. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

None offered.

6. Regular Business

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Pre-Agenda Meeting from **April 4, 2024**.

Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting from **April 11, 2024**.

Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

C. Derelict Vessel Report – Liz Eastes

Liz Eastes said we currently have six open cases, five are ready to be removed, three have been removed since last month, one has been relocated. Two of those open cases are currently on administrative hold with FWC. Since this has been drafted, we do now have the one boat that hit the bridge is now a derelict.

Commissioner Deutsch said he got a call from someone who said they would be happy to take it from the county and scrap it, it should be that simple.

D. Charlotte County Sheriff's Office and City of Punta Gorda Police Dept. – Marine update

Charlotte County Sheriff's Office

Lieutenant Aaron Williams gives a power point presentation on the derelict vessel process. Before he gets into that he will give the run down on a couple of things they have going on. Right now, we're heavily getting prepared for Memorial Day weekend. I'm sure most of you're aware that the boat page 20 festival is going to occur at the Sandbar in Boca Grande, right by Little Dog Island. So, its gonna be interesting this year they have a bigger headliner then they have had before. Last year they had about 40,000 in attendance just at that sandbar area. Doesn't count any of the boats, boating anywhere else in the county. This year with the headliner they are hoping for 50,000 so we will see what happens with that, don't know if that's gonna occur or not. So, we have been putting in a lot of time and effort into preparation for that. Working with FWC and fire and different local agencies, I even talked to somebody from DEP this morning. So, that way they can kinda monitor the sea grass afterwards. Then the actual derelicts we have going on, we've had a couple adjustments that we have added in recently. Had some different things happen, in Englewood we do have one in Chadwick Cove and that has been sent out to be able to be bid for removal. So, we sent the authorization and that's going to be going out to bid to be removed shortly which is helpful. There is a boat in the Myaka River we've had a lot of talk and complaints off and on over time. It was a blue sailboat and for a long time it wasn't derelict, it's finally gone derelict, and the owner has some other issues. So, that includes an active warrant out for another charge, so we put a open probable cause for him. When we locate him and instead of just serving him just a criminal summons to show up in court. We're gonna actually arrest him and serve him the derelict paperwork and at that point we can start our 21-day period. The only reason I mentioned that it's very rare typically our process is to give a criminal citation, give a court date, so it's very rare to take people into custody physically when we start the derelict process. We then we have another one in the County as well. There is a boat that was being investigated for derelict on Baldwin Court which is in Charlotte Harbor area up towards the beach complex area. That actually was brought into compliance and is going into the vessel turn in program with FWC. That should take care of getting that out of here so we're not going to be dealing with that again. In the Punta Gorda area, Peace River we have a 57-foot Hilburn houseboat that had been being investigated as derelict. That boat actually was actually brought into compliance from the derelict end. That owner is going to be enrolling it in the vessel turn in program as well. We are seeing a lot of momentum from that turn in program and it's hopefully gonna alleviate some of the derelict issues in the area. The other two boats that we have, both of them have drawn some attention, one of the big windstorms there was a 21-foot sailboat named Ankle-deep that broke anchor and drifted up onto the beach over towards Bayshore Park. That is the other one, that owner has some issues as well, he is homeless in the Charlotte Harbor area. We actually have open probable cause on him because of the other issues going on with him. He is another one that when we find him, he'll go to jail. It's an unusual process and we have two of those going right now. Then the big one that everybody's been asking about is the 53-foot cruiser that is hard of ground out off Lilo Point that's the vessel Game it was the boat that broke loose about a month ago. It ran into the 41 bridges at that point FWC handled it at that point and through rescind did a rapid relocation, get it off of the bridge. That was funded through rescind and it was fairly expensive, but they covered that cost. The owner of the boat at that point decided to go and do the turn in program. One of the criteria of the turn in program is you have to keep your vessel out of derelict status. He submitted the paperwork but hadn't made it into the program yet. The vessel went derelict and so after there was a news interview on it with Deputy Nelson from our unit. After that last week on Thursday, he located the owner on Friday served him

and that's now in the 21-day process waiting period to be removed. Now he goes over the stages and process before he starts the presentation.

Vice-Chair Darden said what does that mean stored aground.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said basically that's the owner, that says my boat is kinda not in the best shape, it's taking on water, so let me get it in the shallow area so that it will float a little bit but most of the time it's going to be touching the bottom, so that it never fully sinks. So, that's the kinda of stored aground, you're getting it to the shallows pulling it up there. So, you're not risking your boat sinking all the way and going down, you're just kind of using the bottom.

Vice-Chair Darden said but qualifies for like a guy across the canal who's storing his derelict vessel on a lift, that wouldn't be considered at risk, right?

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said so, if a vessel is on a lift, it will never be derelict or at risk because it's on a lift. That boat to meet that criteria has to be on the water.

Mr. Hickey said let me ask one other question on that. A boat that might have sat on a lift before the Hurricane came and then the lift collapsed and now the boat is touching the water the lift is collapsed on top of it. Is that a derelict boat?

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said it it's touching the water and that means is not longer that means is no longer there that lift is collapsed and put into the water we could do that yeah. That could be a derelict because a boat tied up to a dock that's in the water and sinks could be considered derelict. So, just because there is a lift, some lift pieces there that are collapsed and allowing it in the water. I wouldn't see that as much different than tied up at that point.

Mr. Hickey said one last thing the last item on that previous slide was a vessel without propulsion. I think about a year ago I don't remember if it was you or the city police were talking about a new procedure where you could go out and force these people to demonstrate that the boats that can make a certain distance or whatever.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said correct there is provision in state statute for propulsion testing and it's a set course. I believe it's a, it has to be set to the boat. So, a sailboat you can't have the same requirements for it as a power boat. All it is a boat has to move, it can be a little kicker motor, it can be the main motor, it could be the sails if it's a sailboat. Essentially you contact the owner, you give them a rough notice of I believe of the top of my head it's about 24 hours. Hey, we want to do a propulsion test on your boat, you need to meet us out at the boat. At that point you're taking into account the wind and the tides, and the conditions going on. You set about a quarter mile, of course they have to navigate down to that quarter mile turn around and come back. There is a certain time limit for it, I don't know the time limit off the top of my head, I have to go back and look that up. So, there is ability to do that.

Mr. Hickey said is the Sheriff starting to do that?

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said we do that as needed yes, a lot of times without propulsion that gets pretty obvious so it's only very rarely. We actually make the person show the propulsion. That's gonna be the guy who has maybe a 50-foot boat with a 4-horse kicker motor on it, they have a discussion.

Mr. Russell said is this across the state or just our County? The reason I ask is cause in Key West they got a lot of boats that are around what's called Christmas Tree Island. I don't think some of them have been underway in years and there still there.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said currently this is all by state statute, so this applies statewide and different areas have different needs and abilities to do things. The amount of boats down in the Keys compared to what we have is just unbelievable. He has a discussion on this. Then starts the power point and goes over the stickers, criteria, at risk and derelicts etc.

Commissioner Deutsch said one of the issues I found interesting, in most states if you have a documented vessel and there usually thirty feet and up. But if you have a documented vessel you don't have to register it. But Florida is one of the few states where if your vessel was documented you also have to register it.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said correct yes you do have to register it and they assign an FL; however the FL does not have to be displayed on the hull. There is a sticker you have to display that's usually by the helm.

Commissioner Deutsch said documented we always display them on the inside.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said yup on that inside window somewhere near the helm generally. One of the biggest take away from this, if you guys ever sell a boat of any type, doesn't matter whether it's a little 14-foot John boat or 40-foot sailboat. When you fill out that title paperwork there is a little slip on the top, a little section that tears off. When you sell that boat fill that out write the information of who ever is buying it on that and keep that and take it right to the DMV and turn it in. Make yourself a copy and turn it in, because if you've sold your boat and the person doesn't register it and it does derelict, we go back to who ever it's titled to. That slip in DMV will show that hey the vessel has been sold and who it's been sold to. So, at that point we wouldn't even have to bug you. We would have that documentation already so the boat you sold 5 to 6 years ago, and you don't remember who you sold it to. We wouldn't have to bug you on that. If that doesn't happen and it goes derelict Sheriff's Office or FWC ends up coming knocking on your door and saying hey tell me about your boat. Then you're like I sold that, well you gotta show us something that you're no longer responsible for it at that point. That title thing that is one of the biggest things I can say, if you sell a boat do that it saves so many headaches. I've even had personally where I sold a boat a little Johnson skiff, I did the paperwork and turned it into the DMV. Thankfully because about 2 years after that I got a phone call from a patrol deputy working asking if one of my boats had been stolen. They told me what boat; I said no yeah ya know I sold that years ago and it was derelict also at the time. At that point they were able to go in and pull that paperwork and realized that it had been sold. I didn't have to worry about it anymore. Then continues again with discussing the slides on the power point and information.

Mr. Hickey said that \$5,000 dollars that' for a boat that's still floating.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said correct.

Mr. Hickey said what does it cost on average to get one up off the bottom and then haul it to shore?

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said I know it's more I don't have that exact number but, we've seen bills that are \$9K, \$10K, \$12K dollars easily. Specially it depends on you know you have to lift bag it; can you just pump it, do you have to kind of make that hull secure or fix water intrusion issues in order to be able to pump it and lift bag it. There is a lot of complexity with it or if you have to bring a backhoe or crane out on

a barge to lift it. There are a lot of things that go into that. He mentions there is a lot of things that can go into that and discusses regarding the removal of a vessel, registered owner no longer owns it and the title thing.

Mr. Hickey said money question, \$5,000 approximately to have Sea Tow or somebody pull it out. How much does it cost the Sheriff's Department in all your running around, back and forth, paperwork and all that. What do you estimate is cost the Sheriff's Department and if you gotta go to court, the court's time? I'll bet it's more than the \$5,000.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said oh yes, yes so you can figure in time wise I would say with the paperwork and everything on an easy case. An officer is probably going to have at least 10 hours into it, at least 10 hours that you're paying him and then you got fuel for running boats around, fuel for running vehicles around so it could easily depend on what we get into it, it could go several thousand dollars. I don't know the exact dollars I would have to look at what the deputy rates are to see. But ya ten hours for the deputy and you'll figure I'll have an hour or two into reviewing the case and making sure everything is done right. Then it's got to go to the Lieutenant to be reviewed so they are going to have time into reviewing it. Then the final signature for that is going to be with a captain in the agency. So, after it's gone through the deputy and then I review it and sign off, then the Lieutenant reviews it and signs off, then the Captain reviews it and signs off. So, that's probably another five or six hours.

Mr. Hickey said then the boat to go out and put the stickers on, the gas to run the boat.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said it's not a cheap or fast process. Which is why we do it, thankfully DMV has some that process for at least freezing registrations hopefully make the person pay for it. So, there are, there is a couple of ways of doing that with the reimbursement. On the criminal side you can if a person is convicted of that charge, you can order restitution. However, if restitution is ordered it eliminates the civil side with the freezing the DMV registrations and all that. So, on the criminal restitution side there's not as much leverage necessarily to make people pay as there is on the civil side. So, it typically we stay away from asking for restitution on the criminal case and we ask for the restitution on the civil removal side. Because there is a better chance of getting it paid back and a little more incentive.

Ms. Campanella said what happens with the volunteer turn ins?

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said so at the voluntary turn in program your vessel can't be derelict, you go to FWC's website, or you contact an FWC officer, and you start the application process to turn it over to them. There is a bunch of paperwork to fill out and with that you sign the title over to FWC at that point.

Ms. Campanella said what do they do with the boat once they take it?

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said they take the boat, and they remove it and destroy it. So, anything that goes out and is removed as derelict or removed as a turn in program vessel goes to the landfill and is destroyed. So, it will no longer be an issue and that was one of the reasons that the turn in program was started. It's a way to get to people who can't and don't have the resources or means to maintain that boat. A lot of these boats that you can't sell them for much or if you sell them to somebody else, it's just somebody else that has those problems than the original person. So, that's why everything is geared towards hey problem boat here's an avenue that you don't get in trouble. Get rid of it, it goes to the landfill and it's never a problem again.

Mr. Russell said who should be the point of contact for any boat that somebody spots in the Charlotte County waters? Sheriff's Office, FWC, Coast Guard who should be the point of contact as far as reporting it?

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said the Coast Guard is not going to deal with any derelict vessel issues, it's gonna fall to FWC or the Sheriff's Office. Realistically, either one can be the point of contact. If you guys live in Charlotte County, it's a boat in Charlotte County it is not an issue call us and we will start the investigation. Either entity can work it just the same and it's perfectly fine, there's no one that trumps the other. The only time we've had with like the Hurricane all those boats we sent over to FWC just because there was so many of them. FWC has the resources and structure to be able to handle that large capacity of boats. Either one will work, you can call us we're happy to start working on them. We coordinate with FWC to make sure if FWC already started the case we won't pick it up we will let them continue. If we've already started a case, they won't pick it up they will let us continue.

Chair Ireland said that is a great presentation thank you!

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said your welcome guys, one of my deputies put that together he works, Richard Nelson works most of our derelict investigations. So, he is very passionate about it and he does a good job, so we let him run with that.

Ms. Colicchio said well I would like to introduce Michael Cunningham he is going to be taking over for Mark, when Mark does leave.

Mr. Cunningham said Michael Cunningham, fiscal liaison, I just want to remind you that the recommendations will be presented to the board on Tuesdays meeting. Team Punta Gorda and Waterfest will be there to plea their cases.

Commissioner Deutsch said little bit of good news is we have the discussion regarding the Waterfest and actually what we decided to look at the airshow in the same manner. Because primarily this group, we're never opposed to it, we just felt it should have been handled by held by tourism. It appears we're going to do, and we are pretty much all in agreement on this. We're going to be channeling those two events and they are premier events of the community, they're great events for the community, but it's more appropriate they go into tourism. Tourism has the funding to handle it.

Vice-Chair Darden said to Mike welcome to the team, did you hear anything back from U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary 87?

Mr. Cunningham said no I did not, I will follow up.

City of Punta Gorda Police Department

MPO AJ Russell is absent due to having to work out in the field.

E. FY24/25 Financials – Mark Snow/Carol Colicchio

Mark Snow is absent.

F. MSBU Update – Matt Logan

Matt Logan is absent and nobody is present to speak on his behalf. The report has been provided.

Ackerman Waterway: No active projects at this time. Refer to Manchester Waterway.

Alligator Creek: This dredge design project is currently awaiting permitting by ACOE.

Buena Vista Area Waterways

- The four bids received on April 24th are under review.

Edgewater North: No active projects at this time.

Gulf Cove Waterways:

- Draft deliverables for the interior dredge design project have been reviewed and are being finalized.

Harbour Heights:

- No active projects at this time.

Hayward Canals:

- No active projects at this time.

Manchester Waterway: No active projects at this time.

Northwest Port Charlotte:

- ATL mobilized to the site on December 4th and began the dredging of the interiors on December 11th. They are currently dredging the Cheshire Waterway.

Peace River Shores: No active projects at this time.

Pirate Harbor:

- The dredge design projects are in final design stages.

Southbridge Waterway: No active projects at this time.

South Gulf Cove: No active projects at this time.

South Gulf Cove Parallel Lock:

- 30 percent Tender House plans were received and reviewed and returned with comments. The consultant will be advancing towards 60 percent submittal and matching the level of completion with the parallel lock plans.
- The Geotech work for the tender house has been completed.

Suncoast Waterway: No active projects at this time.

G. Community Services Update – Tina Powell

Tina Powell went over her monthly report.

- **Ainger Creek Park:**
 - o Park Redevelopment project is managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance; project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following update in April: Permit plans were submitted to the Florida Dept of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and the US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) in August. A permit was issued by the FDEP and we are still awaiting review by the USACE. Grant applications were submitted for FWC's Florida Boating Improvement Program grant.

- **Allapatachee Park:** No projects at this time.

- **Anger Fishing Pier:** No projects at this time.

- **Bayshore Live Oak Park:**
 - o Fishing Pier replacement is being managed by Community Services; additional project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. The pier is currently closed due to unsafe conditions; regulatory agencies are requiring the project to be fully re-permitted; the FDEP permit was issued; we are still waiting on ACOE.

- **Boca Grande Fishing Pier:** No projects at this time.

- **Butterford Waterway Park:** No projects at this time.

- **Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center:**
 - o Seawall replacement design project is being managed by Community Services; the design team is working on 30% design plans for staff review.

- **Cedar Point Environmental Park:**
 - o Pier replacement is being managed by Community Services; minor repairs were completed in July. Staff has provided comments on the 30% design plans.

- **Centennial Fishing Pier:** No projects at this time.

- **Darst Park:**
 - o Community Services is managing the boarding pier replacement and seawall replacement along with ramp scour protection; the design is at 90% and in permitting with the regulatory agencies.
 - o HURRICANE DAMAGE may affect the status of this project moving forward.

- **El Jobean Boat Ramp:** No projects at this time.

- **El Jobean Fishing Pier:** No projects at this time.

- **Englewood Beach at Chadwick Park Fishing Pier:** No projects at this time.

- **Harbour Heights Park:**
 - o Community Services is managing the seawall replacement project; permits have been approved; the construction bid is being awarded by purchasing.
- **Hathaway Park:** No projects at this time.
- **Lemon Bay Sunrise Rotary Park:** No projects at this time.
- **Live Oak Point:**
 - o The erosion assessment project has been completed. The project design has been awarded; however more damage was sustained as part of Hurricane Idalia.
- **Placida Fishing Pier:**
 - o Community Services is managing the parking lot and solar lighting of the pier. The project is completed.

Mr. Russell said with regard to Port Charlotte Beach Complex.

Ms. Powell said I am not to that one yet.

Mr. Russell said I want to make a comment, I was with a bunch of our neighbors and there's questions coming up about what's going on there. The building and pool is going to be kept where it is and there is a whole bunch of stuff going on. The actual project what is the current status of that project, and you could probably answer that too.

Ms. Powell said sure I will give a full update when I get down to that one and continues.

- **Placida Park:**
 - o 2014 Sales Tax project for the boat ramp expansion is being managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance; project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following update in April: The County and engineering consultants are still working with FDEP and USACE.

Vice-Chair Darden said on Placida Park is that like right across the street from

Ms. Powell said no it is inclusive of the overfull parking and the existing park, it's going to be completely redesigned and expanded to six ramps.

Vice-Chair Darden said across the street from that they just torn down a house.

Ms. Powell said correct and they both have a discussion.

Ms. Powell said the Port Charlotte Park project it is currently, we are working with both the county permitting department as well as Army Core for the building and as well as the placement of the pool. Currently the design has the pool and the recreation center being swapped in their locations. So, the recreation center will be where the pool currently is and the pool will be where the recreation center is.

Mr. Russell said so the timing on the pool knock down is going to be wiped out?

Ms. Powell said correct yes, those two phases of the project are being handled by our facilities department. Our department is handling the additional park, amenities, Bache ball courts are going to be affected those are going to be relocated. We did a public meeting a few months ago to get some additional feedback because with the relocation of those we're looking at what other improvements can we do to the undeveloped area of the park. We have a secondary public meeting coming up in August specifically to talk just about the park amenities.

Mr. Russell said question on the pavilions are going to be disrupted or

Ms. Powell said currently our plan has the pavilions staying where they are at and potentially adding an additional pavilion in a different section.

• **Port Charlotte Beach Park:**

- o 2020 Sales Tax project for the Recreation Center is managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance; project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following update in April: Charlotte County Facilities received comments/concerns from the different departments and has submitted to design team for review. A pre-app meeting has been set with ACOE for April 17th 2024. We received notification that DRC application has been received by Charlotte County.
- o 2020 Sales Tax Tier 2 project for the Pool is managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance; project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following update in April: We are looking into our options for the pool and pool house to see what will best accommodate the needs of the public.

• **Riverside Park:**

- o Ramp has been closed due to safety issues for motorized vessels due to safety issues cannot be address via repairs. The project is being managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance; project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following update in April: ACOE has responded we are requesting for a second time Letter of Permission which usually moves through faster, for Riverside Boat Ramp project.

• **South Gulf Cove Park:** No projects at this time.

• **Spring Lake Park:**

- o HURRICANE DAMAGE of the c/k launch boarding pier project; repairs waiting on determination from FEMA.
- o Community Services is also managing a ramp scour protection project the design is at 90% and in permitting with the regulatory agencies.

• **William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial Park:**

- o The trails, boardwalk, fitness equipment and signage project is being managed by Community Services; additional project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Project construction has begun.
- o The ADA canoe/kayak launch project is managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance Department and have the following update in April: The contractor is working on construction schedule and with Gaines foundation on Kayak Launch delivery

- and staging prior to construction.
- o 2020 Sales Tax project for the Phase 3 is managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance; project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following: No May update provided.

Mr. Hickey said to Tina have you seen any improvement in turnaround time from the Army Core of Engineers?

Ms. Powell said no, we have seen isolated incidents, our Harbour Heights seawall permit was turned around in less than six months. But any number of other permits were a year to two years in. So there doesn't seem to be a rhyme or reason as to why a handful of them have come around faster. That one was applied for around the same time as some other permits, so we have seen some isolated incidents but nothing that demonstrates they're collectively doing a better job.

Mr. Hickey said I know this have nothing to do with parks, but Alligator Creek has been waiting, I guess we're pushing close to three years now. There hasn't been anything done to that creek since they did the major project. Where they took the whole creek down by two feet, that's going on eight years ago. Pretty soon it's starting to affect navigation, is there any emergency things that can be fled? I know this has nothing to do with your department and maybe Stephen R. would know, hey it's starting to affect navigation. Why is it sitting for almost three years in a in bucket and nobody's putting in our bucket. Talks about low tide, vessels, and sailboats, I scrape the bottom to get out in the navigable channel, so something has got to be done. Some pressure has got to be applied somehow in some of these places where access is getting down to, get up in the dark you get out on high tide at three in the morning or something like that.

Ms. Powell said I can follow up with Matt Logan and see if can reach out to reviewer and see if he can get an update.

Mr. Hickey said it just doesn't make sense that certain things sit forever.

Mr. Russell said Buena Vista Waterway since Matt's not here there's no update. We've got a waterway meeting coming up, but the question is we were also informed that the signs that we had at the point of the park that told boaters that they weren't supposed to be beaching their boats between the area there where the cut is.

Ms. Powell said those are being relocated to the actual swim area, it was just an error post Hurricane when signs were.

Mr. Russell said we'll here's the problem, you got people beaching their boat there, that's where we cut, that's the cut right there. That's the deeper part and it's filling in, it's filling from there, we have people that have catamaran sailboats that can't get out. Because somebody has beached their boat right there. So, the problem is we need to do something to put a bulkhead along there so people can't beach their boat along there. To keep the cut where it should be, something has got to be done.

Ms. Powell said the long-term solutions for the dredge and the park renourishment that we presented a few years back. We followed up with the board presented that to them an option was chosen we have applied for hazard mitigation money. For funding that project was currently unfunded so once there is funding available there is a plan to address that. But it is currently unfunded.

Mr. Russell said we still need to do something about bulkheading that cut, because if you look at the ariels where the actual right of way for the water channel is. Is actually up in the sand, but they're not cutting into where it used to be. I mean we got ariels from twenty-five years ago where you could see where the cut used to be ok and that's still where the markers should be and where the cut should be. But it's been encroached into the waterway and now it's even narrower when the boats tie, land their boats there you got twenty-five-foot boats sticking out in the channel. On the other side it's already filling in, they can't get out.

Ms. Powell said it's my understanding and they both discuss this.

Mr. Gloer said you know the fishing pier on Laishley Park is that part of?

Ms. Powell said that's a city of Punta Gorda Park.

7. New Business –

Chair Ireland said I have some comments I'd like to make; I was out for a fair amount of time and I'm getting back to being realistic, I guess. This committee handled itself so well it's the strongest committee you could ever ask for in terms in experience, knowledge, and follow through. You guys did that grant meeting in an hour and a half we used to take a whole day and have a lunch in the middle and two separate meetings. You guys are really valued, and Gerry is out, I'm coming around, Jim has just been a God send through this and having the knowledge and experience he has. I couldn't ask for a better support group and thank you for everything.

8. Old Business –

Vice-Chair Darden said Janette had mentioned a Sunshine Law video are we to look at the individually or we going to have at next meeting.

Chair Ireland said no.

Commissioner Deutsch said she'll come to the meeting, she usually does it once a year.

Vice-Chair Darden said so we want to schedule that for the next meeting.

Chair Ireland said yes.

9. Other Business –

John Welsh said this will be my last meeting and after six years of serving on the committee. I guess I have a hole in my head, I'm gonna miss it, great group of people, I've learned a lot just being on the committee.

Chair Ireland said we heard you were escaping the Hurricane's.

Mr. Welsh said I am moving to Central Texas.

Chair Ireland said and they only have ten or fifteen tornados a week. Listen, we're sorry to see you go! Have they got a replacement yet?

Mr. Welsh said I've notified the city.

Chair Ireland said it's great to have had you here and best of luck in Texas.

Mr. Hickey said I'm asking to be excused for next month's meeting as I will be out of state.

10. Citizen Comments –

None.

11. Good of the Order –

None.

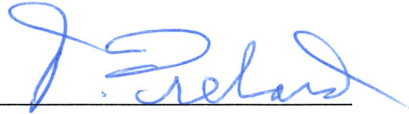
12. Next Meetings

- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held **Thursday, June 6, 2024**, at 9:30 a.m. in the **E. Jay Carlson Large Conference Room. (f/k/a Building Construction Services)**
- The next **Regular Meeting** will be held **Thursday, June 13, 2024**, at 9:30 a.m. at **18500 Murdock Circle 2 Story Building Room B-106, Port Charlotte.**

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Minutes Approved



Tom Ireland, Chair