

**DRAFT**  
**MINUTES OF THE MARINE ADVISORY BOARD**  
**100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE**  
**8<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA**  
**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2012 – 6:00 P.M.**

<u>Board Members</u>	Attendance	<b>Cumulative Attendance</b> <b>May 2012 - April 2013</b>	
		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Barry Flanigan, Chair	P	4	0
James Harrison, Vice Chair	P	3	1
F. St. George Guardabassi	P	4	0
Chad Moss	A	2	2
Norbert McLaughlin	P	4	0
Jim Welch	P	4	0
Robert Dean	A	2	2
John Holmes	P	3	1
Bob Ross	P	4	0
Joe Cain	A	2	2
Tom Tapp	P	4	0
Herb Rassing	P	4	0
Frank Herhold	P	3	1
Lisa Scott-Founds	A	2	2
Zane Brisson	P	3	1

As of this date, there are 15 appointed members to the Board, which means 8 would constitute a quorum.

It was noted that a quorum was present for the meeting.

**Staff**

Andrew Cuba, Manager of Marine Facilities  
Jonathan Luscomb, Supervisor of Marine Facilities  
Levend Ekendiz, Intracoastal Facilities Dockmaster  
Matt Domke, Downtown Facilities Dockmaster  
Sgt. Kevin Shults, Marine Police Staff  
Phil Thornburg, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Brigitte Chiappetta, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

**Communications to City Commission**

**Motion** made by Mr. Tapp, seconded by Mr. Guardabassi, to recommend that the consultants involved in the design process of the development of Las Olas

Marina communicate directly with City Marine Staff, specifically with regard to seagrass mitigation. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

**I. Call to Order / Roll Call**

Chair Flanigan called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and roll was called.

**II. Approval of Minutes – July 17, 2012**

Mr. Tapp noted a correction on p.4, paragraph 4: the correct name of the individual who had addressed the Board is Steve Bertone.

**Motion** made by Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Tapp, to approve the July 17, 2012 minutes as amended. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

**III. Statement of Quorum**

It was noted that a quorum was present at the meeting.

**IV. Waterway Crime & Boating Safety Report**

Sgt. Shults advised that in District 1, power cords were stolen from a vessel and two larcenies of engines have occurred. There were also five electronics thefts, four of which took place in Bahia Mar. He noted that the security video system currently in place at Bahia Mar is not sufficient for the facility, and it is in the process of upgrading to a more extensive system.

Mr. Holmes asked to know the appropriate office to call if pollutants are observed in a City canal. Sgt. Shults said the Marine Police are notified via 911 or through the non-emergency number; once they have taken an initial report, they alert the Coast Guard or the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

**V. Permit Application – Private Use of Public Property – Sec. 8-144: 715 Cordova Road / William Jubb Corbet, Jr., and Joan K. Corbet**

Margaret Corbet, representing the Applicant, explained that the request included neither construction or variance. Chair Flanigan added that it is necessary to apply for a new permit when a property changes ownership.

There being no further questions from the Board at this time, Chair Flanigan opened the public hearing. As there were no members of the public wishing to speak on this Item, the Chair closed the public hearing and returned the discussion to the Board.

**Motion** made by Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Rassing, to approve as stated. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Mr. Cuba stated that the permit would be good for five years, with automatic renewal provided there is no transfer of ownership.

**VI. Discussion – Jet Pack Usage at George English Park**

Mr. Cuba recalled that at the July 17 meeting, he had been asked to arrange a discussion of the jet pack concession at George English Park. He introduced Phil Thornberg, Director of Parks and Recreation, and recognized Benjamin Olive and Ben Smith of RocketMan, Inc.

Mr. Olive explained that RocketMan has been operating at George English Park since May 2012 with the permission of Parks and Recreation. The concession purchases a monthly permit to operate within Fort Lauderdale. Since May, RocketMan has successfully "flown" over 1000 participants at this location, renting the equipment for 20 to 30 minutes per customer. Pursuant to their agreement with the City, there is no on-site advertising.

Mr. Rassing asked if any accidents have been reported on the site. Mr. Olive replied that there was one incident in which an individual "banged their knee" on some equipment. He pointed out that because the concession's technology is very new, all participants are considered to be beginners. Flight instructors, who are specifically certified by the manufacturer, provide an intensive overview of the process for customers; these instructors also control the units' power. If there appears to be danger or the participant does not seem to know what to do, the instructor lowers them into the water.

Mr. Olive continued that participants are provided with headphones, through which the instructor may communicate with them. RocketMan keeps a Jet Ski on standby in the event that an accident may occur, and at least two staff members, including the instructor, are always present to assist the participants in the water if necessary.

Mr. Rassing commented that the Board had discussed the safety of the concession at their July meeting, and asked if there was any potential for danger of which the Board should be made aware. Mr. Olive reiterated that the technology is very new, and that most customers remain "bobbing in the water" throughout the experience. He stated again that power to the units is always controlled by the instructor.

Mr. Cuba showed the Board members a brief video of the concession in operation.