



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
MARINE ADVISORY BOARD
VIRTUAL MEETING**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.

		Cumulative Attendance May 2020 – April 2021	
Grant Henderson, Chair	A	5	1
Ed Strobel, Vice Chair	P	6	0
Cliff Berry II	P	4	2
Deirdre Boling-Lewis	A	4	2
Robyn Chiarelli	A	3	3
Barry Flanigan	P	6	0
Richard Graves	A	4	2
James Harrison	P	6	0
Rose Ann Lovell	P	6	0
Kitty McGowan	P	5	1
Norbert McLaughlin	P	5	1
Ted Morley	P	5	1
Christopher Rotella	P	1	1
Bill Walker	P	5	1
Steve Witten	P	6	0

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

Staff

Andrew Cuba, Marine Facilities Manager
D'Wayne Spence, Assistant City Attorney
Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Director of Public Works -- Sustainability
Ben Rogers, Director, Department of Transportation and Mobility
Sergeant Todd Mills, Fort Lauderdale Police Department
Jamie Opperee, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

Communications to City Commission

None.

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

Vice Chair Strobel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and roll was called.

II. Approval of Minutes – January 7, 2021

Mr. Rogers recalled that Suntex received its approvals from the state in September 2020 and those conditions are being integrated into the agreements between the City and Suntex. The City is reviewing these agreements to ensure they remain similar to the original proposal.

Mr. Flanigan asked if a time frame has been estimated for completion of the marina. Mr. Metz replied that once agreements are finalized and construction begins, the duration is expected to be 18 to 24 months. The schedule includes a buffer period to accommodate installation of the pump station.

Mr. Flanigan also asked a question regarding an issue on North River Drive which allowed valet staging for a restaurant at the Wharf property. He advised that this resulted in congestion and disrupted the allocation of parking spaces for customers with boats docked at the location. Mr. Rogers replied that the restaurant was issued a temporary valet permit through March 15, 2021 to determine if its proposal can be successful. If not, alternate plans for this location may be required. Mr. Flanigan offered to provide photographs of the subject area.

Mr. Harrison advised that with the *Anticipation* no longer docked at the Wharf property, the Wharf is using this space as its own. He requested clarification of plans for future dockage along this seawall. Mr. Rogers advised that representatives of other City Departments, such as Parks and Recreation or Sustainable Development, may have more information on this issue.

VIII. Dock Waiver – 2407 Aqua Vista Blvd. / Troy & Tais Eakins

Jena Robbins, representing the Applicants, showed a PowerPoint presentation on the project, which is in an area heavily traveled by boat traffic. The property includes a 100 linear ft. concrete seawall and 962 sq. ft. PVC dock. The dock, one slip, and two wooden mooring piles would be removed.

The proposed project includes installation of a 100 linear ft. concrete cap, a concrete marginal dock, and a platform boat lift and platform jet ski lift. The proposed lifts would extend approximately 34.5 ft. from the property line, which would require a waiver of 9.5 ft. for each structure. The boat lift is located 10 ft. from the riparian rights line, which places it outside the side yard setback. No guiding poles will be needed atop the lifts.

Ms. Robbins noted that the waterway width in the subject area is 550 ft., which she characterized as an extraordinary circumstance. None of the proposed structures would extend as far as 30% of the waterway. The proposed lifts at 34.5 ft. are consistent with the extension of other structures into the waterway in the subject area. They are necessary to safely moor the Applicants' vessels, particularly during high wind and severe weather events as well as large waves generated by boat traffic. The subject area is not a No Wake Zone. Lifting the vessels from the water will also aid in protection of natural resources.

Code provides for one mooring device per 100 ft. of lot width and for one lift designed to raise a personal watercraft from the water. These would cover both the boat and jet ski lifts. Ms. Robbins provided five letters of support for the Application. It was noted that no feedback was received from properties within 300 ft. of the subject property.

It was asked how far the boat may extend into the waterway at the subject location. Ms. Robbins noted that it may extend up to 30% of the waterway width according to Code, which would be significantly greater than 30 ft.

There being no further questions from the Board at this time, Vice Chair Strobel opened the public hearing. As there were no individuals wishing to speak on this Item, the Vice Chair closed the public hearing and brought the discussion back to the Board.

Motion made by Mr. Flanigan seconded by Ms. Lovell, to approve. In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed 8-0 (Mr. McGowan and Mr. Morley no longer present).

IX. Old / New Business

Mr. Flanigan addressed previous comments regarding dockage "at the western end," stating that the City was instructed not to use or rent these slips; however, the slips were in use a short time later by a restaurant. He felt it would be beneficial to the Board to see a Site Plan of the City marina, including the condition of dockage, how it is identified, whether or not the dockage generates revenue, and how that revenue stream is received by the City.

Mr. Flanigan continued that commercial boats docked near the channel "are there for a reason" related to the arrival of buses serving the cruise ship industry. He pointed out that the area provides a small turning basin and a pump out facility for these vessels. He concluded that if these vessels are relocated for a particular purpose, that purpose should be identified.

Mr. Cuba advised that the Marine Facilities Department was informed that the area adjacent to the Wharf and other restaurants was closed, and the Department placed signage in the area and discontinued sale of dockage at this location. Vice Chair Strobel requested that the Board seek clarification of whether or not the restaurants were charging for dockage at this location. Mr. Cuba stated that he would look into this further.

Mr. Walker asked if the dock in question remains closed at present. Mr. Cuba replied that the City had sold a portion of the dock space up until the previous week, at which time they were told to close the dock due to structural concerns. He reiterated that signage was placed on the dock indicating that it was closed.