



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
MARINE ADVISORY BOARD  
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE  
COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM – 8TH FLOOR  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2020 – 6:00 P.M.**

<b>Cumulative Attendance May 2019 – April 2020</b>			
Grant Henderson, Chair	P	7	1
Ed Strobel, Vice Chair	P	7	1
Cliff Berry II	P	5	3
Robyn Chiarelli	A	2	1
Barry Flanigan	P	1	0
James Harrison	P	3	2
Rose Ann Lovell	P	8	1
Kitty McGowan (arr. 6:04)	P	5	3
Ted Morley	P	3	0
Norbert McLaughlin	P	9	0
Curtis Parker	A	3	4
Rossana Petreccia	P	6	2
Roy Sea	A	6	2
Bill Walker	P	7	1

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

**Staff**

Andrew Cuba, Manager of Marine Facilities  
Jonathan Luscomb, Marine Facilities Supervisor  
Sergeant Todd Mills, Fort Lauderdale Police Department  
Division Chief Stewart Ahearn, Fort Lauderdale Fire Department  
Brigitte Chiappetta, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

**Communications to City Commission**

**Motion** made by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Morley, to request the City Commission form a subcommittee of the Marine Advisory Board, to be formed by the members of the Marine Advisory Board and City-appointed subject matter experts, to study current and suggest future regulations as to proper pumping and management of gray and black water from vessels within the City. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

**Motion** made by Mr. Morley, seconded by Vice Chair Strobel, to make a communication to the City Commission to expand waterway testing to include sedimentary testing and

Vice Chair Strobel asked if either Sgt. Mills or Division Chief Ahearn had noticed a difference in the bridge response since testing of blockages began in 2019. Sgt. Mills replied that he had seen no difference. Division Chief Ahearn noted that most Fire Department calls are also on the eastern side of the bridge. Most calls from the west can be initially addressed by land-based units, and most losses in this area are monetary, while losses to the east of the bridge include lives. He felt the Fire Department's resources are in the correct location.

Division Chief Ahearn continued that another major challenge in the west is access to a water supply, particularly at marinas where hydrants are already providing water to land-based units. The smaller fire boat is only capable of 500 gallons per minute, while most land-based units can use up to 4000 gallons per minute. If a fire boat were kept on the west side of the tracks, there may not be personnel available who are certified to use it, or they may be more helpful to land-based units. There would also be concerns with securing another vessel and equipment. The Department's overtime budget is also a consideration.

Chair Henderson asked if there were any emergency scenarios in which the bridge would open if it was not providing both passenger and freight service. Division Chief Ahearn explained that law enforcement has no jurisdiction over the bridge. The Fire Department must contact the entity that owns the bridge to learn when it will open. The Department has submitted a budget request to keep the fire boat staffed.

## **VII. Waiver of Limitations – 1476446 Ontario Limited – 736 NE 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

David Nutter, representing the Applicant, recalled that the Board reviewed and approved this Application several months ago, including a recommendation to move the mooring pilings closer to shore by 3 ft. The pilings are now 125 ft. and 75 ft. from the wet face of the seawall, which places them 128.3 ft. and 78.3 ft. from the property line. The request is for a maximum variance of 103.3 ft.

Mr. Nutter advised that while the City Commission did not approve the Application, their concerns were primarily for the ownership and use of the property rather than the location of the pilings in the water. The Commission also expressed concern that the Applicant's team meet with the appropriate neighborhood association. This meeting will take place in the next few weeks before the Application goes before the City Commission again. Mr. Nutter concluded that there have been no changes to the Application since the Board previously approved it.

Josh O'Hara, Captain of the Applicant's vessel, advised that a 139 ft. yacht is currently moored at the property. The Applicant owns a second boat that is currently on the Great Lakes. The 125 ft. waiver request is consistent with the placement of other pilings in this section of the river. The canal at the subject location is roughly 700 ft. wide, which means the pilings are well within the 30% limitation.

Mr. McLaughlin requested clarification that the owner of the property also owns the vessel moored there. Mr. O'Hara confirmed this is the case, noting that the vessel is owned by a holding company for liability purposes.

Mr. Berry asked if the dock on the property has a pump system. Mr. O'Hara advised that there is no dock and no pump-out facility on the property. When holding tanks are full, the vessel uses a sewage treatment system and dumps treated water at the property.

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

**Motion** made by Vice Chair Strobel, seconded by Mr. Morley, to accept [the Application] as amended. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

#### **VIII. Discussion – 2020 Broward County Marine Summit Agenda Talking Points**

Mr. Cuba explained that the 2020 Broward County Marine Summit is scheduled within two weeks in the city of Hollywood. He requested that the Board determine the talking points for Fort Lauderdale that they would like to see represented at this meeting.

Mr. Morley advised that one issue is where vessels may discharge treated water. He pointed out that the entire Intracoastal Waterway is a no discharge zone, which many owners and captains may not realize. He felt raising this issue to the County level may be useful in communicating this information.

Mr. Berry suggested that the Board establish a subcommittee to perform in-depth research with respect to pump-out facilities. He asserted that any owner wishing to upgrade his/her dock, any new home on the water, and any multi-family dwellings with docks should include pump-out stations. He also felt there should be a full-time City inspector assigned to marine issues.

Mr. Cuba recommended that a request of this nature be sent as a communication to the City Commission, as the Commission would need to approve the concept and appointment of a subcommittee.

**Motion** made by Mr. Berry [for] a subcommittee [to be] formed by the members of this group to study the regulations, now and going forward, on the proper pumping or management of gray and black water from vessels in the City.

Mr. Berry further clarified that he did not wish his **motion** to be misconstrued as being related to the City's recent sewer breaks. He felt the release of gray or black water may cause contamination unrelated to sewage spills, and that information on the City's