



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**DRAFT
MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
MARINE ADVISORY BOARD
VIRTUAL MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.**

		Cumulative Attendance	
		May 2021 – April 2022	
Grant Henderson, Chair	P	1	0
Ed Strobel, Vice Chair	P	1	0
Cliff Berry II	P	1	0
Deirdre Boling-Lewis	P	1	0
Robyn Chiarelli	P	1	0
Barry Flanigan	A	0	1
Richard Graves	A	0	1
James Harrison	P	1	0
Rose Ann Lovell	P	1	0
Kitty McGowan	P	1	0
Norbert McLaughlin	P	1	0
Ted Morley	P	1	0
Christopher Rotella	P	1	0
Bill Walker	P	1	0
Steve Witten	P	1	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
- Jonathan Luscomb, Marine Facilities Supervisor
- Sergeant Todd Mills, Fort Lauderdale Police Department
- Brigitte Chiappetta, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

Communications to City Commission

Motion made by Mr. Morley, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, to send the following letter as a communication to the City Commission:

By Ordinance C-2074, one of the Marine Advisory Board's top responsibilities is that of waterway safety and traffic control on the waterways of Fort Lauderdale. As mitigation for the concerns of this Board, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Marine Industry Association, the DEP added the specific condition prohibiting dockage along this section of Riverwalk. DEP permit issued January 25, 2016 specific conditions operation and maintenance activities No. 15. Within 10 days of completion of dock construction, permit handrails and No Mooring signs shall be

Sergeant Todd Mills of the Fort Lauderdale Police Department's Marine Unit reported the following activity from the month of April 2021:

- 62 citations
- 107 warnings
- 11 safety inspections
- 6 accidents
- 14 incidents

Sgt. Mills noted that several of the 14 incidents recorded in April occurred in relation to jet ski rental companies, while others involved vessel issues. A derelict vessel was removed from Lake Sylvia. The Marine Unit also towed away three vessels that were at risk of becoming derelict. They are currently working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) to retrieve a sunken boat.

Sgt. Mills continued that the Air and Sea Show begins today. The Marine Unit will be present during the show from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Air box restrictions are in place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. A large crowd is anticipated for the event.

Mr. Morley commented that sand bars are increasingly used by commercial vessels such as charter boats, and asked if there are any restrictions on their use. Sgt. Mills replied that sand bars are open to the public. He added that boating traffic has increased significantly since the pandemic.

VI. Dock Waiver – 321 N. Birch Road / Lee J. & Patti A. Engler

Steve Tilbrook and Kathryn Bongarzone, representing the Applicants, advised that this Application requests a boat lift on which a 40 ft. vessel will be raised. There are two existing waivers at the property for triple pile clusters that are 75 ft. from the property line as well as for another boat lift at 55 ft. Neighbors have provided letters of support.

Ms. Bongarzone showed a PowerPoint presentation on the Application. The requested boat lift is a "no profile" lift that would be placed 51 ft. from the property line. As the allowed distance from the property line is 25 ft., the request is for a 26 ft. waiver. She noted nearby properties that have received waivers. The waterway is 562 ft. wide in the subject area.

Extraordinary circumstances include:

- No structures will exceed 30% of the waterway
- Width of the waterway
- Location is a high wave energy/high traffic area
- Proposed structure does not exceed any previous resolutions issued for the subject site
- Boat lift will allow light penetration to benthic resources on the waterway floor

Mr. Morley asked if the Applicant could provide the dimensions from the proposed lift location to the eastern marker of the Intracoastal Waterway, as the distance to the navigational channel is more important than the width of the waterway. Ms. Bongarzone replied that they did not have these measurements on hand, although she estimated that this distance is more than 100 ft. The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) is expected to review the distance to ensure that the lift is at least 62.5 ft. from the edge of the channel. Mr. Morley recommended that this distance be provided in future presentations.

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

Motion made by Ms. Lovell, seconded by Mr. Morley, to approve. In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

VII. Dock Waiver – 141 Isle of Venice / Madison Abele, Casa Murano LLC

Kathryn Bongarzone, representing the Applicant, showed a PowerPoint presentation on the Application. The facility at the subject location already has existing finger piers and mooring piles as well as nine authorized slips. The existing structures extend 37.1 ft. from the property line. The finger piers are 15 ft. from the edge of the existing seawall.

The Applicant proposes to change this to eight slips with additional mooring piles and finger piers. Only the mooring piles will be farther than 25 ft. from the property line. The authorized vessels at the site will range from 35 to 44 ft. in length. Ms. Bongarzone showed a rendering of the proposed changes, including upland development as well as the new seawall and dock. 21 mooring piles are proposed for the site at 49.4 ft., 44.7 ft., 39.8 ft., and 26.4 ft. from the property line. None of the piles or vessels will exceed 30% extension into the waterway.

The waterway is 164.6 ft. wide at the subject location. The greatest distance into the waterway requested by the Applicant is 49.4 ft., which would require a waiver of 24.4 ft. The mooring piles are necessary for vessels of the subject size at this location. The project is consistent with other waivers issued in the area. The location is an existing marina which is being revitalized by new development.

A Zoom neighborhood outreach meeting was held on April 14, 2021, with neighbors on Isle of Venice and Hendricks Isle invited to participate. Environmental permitting for the project has already been completed by the ACOE as well as Broward County.

Mr. Witten requested clarification of the location of the mooring piles proposed for the site. It was noted that the proposed piles would extend 7 ft. further into the waterway than the current piles.