

# **Broward County Municipal Marine Summit**

## **Meeting Summary**

**Wednesday, February 21, 2018**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Municipal Marine Summit meeting was called to order by Broward County Marine Advisory Committee Chair Danial Yaffe at the City of Deerfield Beach Central City Campus located at 401 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Deerfield Beach FL 33441 at 7:20 pm.

### **II. WELCOME**

Chair Yaffe welcomes all the boards and committees to the meeting and outlined the agenda for the evening. He also welcomed the United States Power Squadron, Pompano Beach Chapter, Florida Inland Navigation District, United States Coast Guard, Broward Sheriff's Office, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission and Marine Industries of South Florida. He introduced Dan West, Director of the Broward County Parks and Recreation Division, as well as, other staff from the Division. Chair Yaffe explained that this was the third summit of it's kind in three years and remains a great change for the boards and committees to open lines of communication and solve issues. Chair Yaffe introduced Katie Hendrickson, Chair of the Deerfield Beach Marine Advisory Board along with Tina Murto, Broward County Parks and Recreation Senior Program Project Coordinator and Summit Moderator.

### **III. INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

Moderator Murto welcomed all the boards and committees and asked them to introduce their members and guests. Participants from the United States Power Squadron, Pompano Beach Chapter, Florida Inland Navigation District, United States Coast Guard, Broward Sheriff's Office, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission and Marine Industries of South Florida also introduced themselves.

### **IV. MARINE ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

#### ***Broward County Marine Advisory Committee***

Chair Yaffe, introduced John Fiore, Liaison for the Broward County Marine Advisory Committee, and thanked him for coordinating and organizing the summit. Mr. Fiore stated that the committee was founded in 1974 to help distribute funds from recreational vessel registration fees. The committee administers both the Broward Boating Improvement Program (BBIP) as well as the Enhanced Marine Law Enforcement Grant (EMLEG). The committee has awarded over \$18 million in BBIP funds. Since 1996, the committee has funded, through EMLEG, over 300,000 additional hours of law enforcement on the waterways.

Mr. Fiore also discussed the creation of the Broward County Safe Boating Guide in collaboration with the United States Power Squadron. Each committee and board were provided a stack of guides to hand out in their local communities.

***Dania Beach Marine Advisory Board***

Dania Beach thanked the organizers for their summit invitation. The board informed attendees that their meeting occurs on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month and they have worked on a variety of issues including the regulation of local fishing tournaments and water ski zones.

***Deerfield Beach Marine Advisory Board***

Deerfield Beach discussed their creation of multiple community events including cleanups, fishing clinics, safe boating events and more. They are also creating a beach management plan and working on evaluating and providing recommendations to the city commission regarding their dune system.

***Fort Lauderdale Marine Advisory Board***

The Fort Lauderdale board discussed the contract for the Las Olas Marina and dredging of the Intracoastal Waterway in collaboration with Florida Inland Navigation District. The board also discussed their new fire boat and trash collection barge as well as upgrades to their law enforcement vessel fleet in addition to a new sea wall ordinance and application for dock waivers.

***Hollywood Marine Advisory Board***

The Hollywood Marine Advisory Board thanked the event organizers and went on to discuss their 2017 accomplishments. The board discussed the creation of a city-run mooring field along with regulations to residential dock leases and the sponsorship of the cardboard boat races in the coming year.

***Lighthouse Point Marine Advisory Board***

The Lighthouse Point board informed attendees that their nautical flea market sold out this year and discussed issues regarding dock maintenance from Irma and the board's implementation of a grandfathering in of old docks to help with dock maintenance issues.

***Pompano Beach Marine Advisory Board***

The Pompano Beach board discussed the purchase of a new boat for garbage removal from waterways along with a new step-down ordinance to help redefine structures on seawalls. The board also revised ordinances for parallel mooring and completed navigable signage on canal sea walls. The board was happy to discuss a new approval for the water taxi and their excitement for an upcoming Army Corp. of Engineers study which will recommend new sea wall elevations.

***Broward County Sheriff's Office (BSO)***

BSO discussed the addition of several new deputies and a new agency related to smuggling. They also discussed updating their patrol vessel fleet.

### ***Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND)***

FIND discussed the deepening of Port Everglades and reminded all attendees that the Waterway Assistance Grant Program deadline is March 30.

### ***Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC)***

FWC discussed the updating of their vessel fleet along with new cabin boats. Discussion of the ESF-10 process regarding the removal of pollutants and vessels from waterways after Hurricane Irma. Over 945 vessels were removed from Broward and Miami-Dade at a cost of 53 Million dollars.

### ***Marine Industries of South Florida (MIASF)***

MIASF discussed the importance of the marine industry. MIASF informed attendees that the marine industry in South Florida represents over 11.5 billion dollars and over 136,000 jobs. The Fort Lauderdale Boat show brings in 857 million dollars and included Foreign Trade Zones which is the 1<sup>st</sup> of its kind in the United States. They also discussed their work with Brightline trains to reduce the amount of time a train has to use a waterway bridge, inhibited vessel traffic on the water. Lastly, they discussed their work with local universities to create a marine research hub along with a partnership with Google to map the Intracoastal Waterway and create an app for restaurants and businesses. In closing they discussed their creation of a video series focused on marine related job opportunities titled “Salty Jobs”.

### ***United States Power Squadron-Pompano Beach Chapter (USPS)***

USPS discussed their collaboration with Broward County to create the Broward Safe Boating Guide. They also informed the group that they performed over 800 safety vessel checks and have increased class participation through the use of social media and partnership with Broward Schools.

## **DISCUSSION OF GLOBAL ISSUES AND BEST PRACTICES**

### ***Retention of Working Waterfront, Creation of Updated Master Plan -FTL***

Fort Lauderdale Board discussed the loss of 12,000 feet of working waterfront due to conversion to condos. They asked for idea from attendees for how to protect/prevent? It was recommended that they discuss zoning changes and multiple members from other boards discussed the need for regulation by city commissions. Various attendees suggested that boards and MIASF should have a say. MIASF recommended finding ways to incentivize owners to stay. Penny Cut from the Pompano Beach board recommended the creation of something similar to the Miami River Commission which is a clearinghouse which must approve zoning changes to waterfront lots and advocates on behalf of waterfront lot conservation in the Miami area.

### ***Boater Safety Awareness, Creation of Marine Safety Committee – FTL***

Fort Lauderdale board discussed congestion on the new river and the safety of boaters on Broward waterways in general. They invited ideas for how to manage congestion and keep waterways safe. Discussion of the creation of a Harbor Safety Committee similar to what Port Everglades has. Others in the room suggested making the New River an Idle Speed zone as the current congestion and speed zones create dangerous wake and make the entire waterway unsafe.

### ***Increasing Marine Industry Awareness – FTL***

The Fort Lauderdale Board discussed making sure the Fort Lauderdale Commission understands the importance of waterways and the marine industry and how the marine business feeds others.

### ***Use of Enhanced Marine Law Enforcement Grant Hours – BC***

The Broward County Committee discussed the continuing reduction in on-the-water patrol hours and expressed their hope that cities will work with law enforcement agency to get officers out on the water. They further explained that they fund approximately 16,000 additional hours annually and only about 10,000 are being used.

### ***US 1 Bridge over the Dania Cut-off Canal – DB***

Dania Beach Board discussed the safety issues at the US 1 bridge over the cut-off canal due to increasing currents at tidal times. They reviewed the history of trying to increase dredging in the area in 2002, after which nothing happened. A feasibility study was agreed to by FDOT and completed in 2016 but the board was asking whether they need to take this information back to the commission or go to the county. The board also asked the attendees if they agree to the boards' request to add additional signage indicating "Yield to Following Current – Narrow One Way". Summit attendees informed the board that they should take the study finding to the commission so that they can budget the money and then contact the county to have them write a letter to FDOT to help move the project along. Attendees also recommended the signage discussed.

### ***Slow and Idle Speed Zones – DB and DF***

Discussion of speed zones along the Intracoastal was discussed by the Deerfield Beach and Dania Beach boards. Attendees recommended additional signage for kayakers along with a change in the statutes restricting boat speeds. Suggestions were made by John Fiore and others to change the Broward Statute to be regulated and enforced by size; 30-foot boats and under can go no faster than 30 mpg while boats over 30 feet must go slow. It was discussed that this method would be easier to enforce because it would be obvious to law enforcement. The need for further boat education was discussed as well in relation to all types of vessels.

Dania Beach board discussed speed zone issues near Port Everglades and their request to FWC to change the zone from a Slow Speed to an Idle Speed Zone. Officers from FWC discussed the process for changing of a speed zone. Board Liaisons must contact the FWC Waterway Management Division managed by Rob Rowe and Gary Klein. The board must go to their city commission to make a city/county ordinance regarding that area of the

Intracoastal if it is in their jurisdiction. Once an ordinance is made it will be agreed to by FWC and then they will change out the signage.

***Marine Construction Companies Use of Public and Private Property – HW***

The Hollywood Board discussed issues for marine companies worked on houses along the water and having limited access for loading/unloading in residential areas without a permit. They asked for advice related to regulations. Officers from FWC stated that their agency creates an agreement between their contractors and their local commission to ensure that the site used will look the same or better after access is granted. FIND discussed their commercial access study which will evaluate whether they should purchase sites on the water for public access.

***Derelict Vessels and Anchoring Regulation – HW***

The Hollywood Board discussed a mooring field at North Lake and their need to ask the state for legislation because the community was not in favor. The board would like to get recreational zones in North and South Lake as there are currently 28 boats in the lake. The board requested advice related to anchoring regulations. FWC officers discussed a Daytona ordinance that only allows boaters to anchor for 3 days. It was discussed amongst all boards that if you own the land under the water column that you can restrict and regulate it thereby allowing the regulation of anchoring but not the regulating of access.

***Aid to Navigation Maintenance – HW and DF***

Discussion regarding the Intracoastal South of the Dania Cutoff and various posts that are hard to see at night. Recommendations from various boards included solar charge lights, reflective tape and contacting Gary Klein at FWC to ensure that the markers are in the correct place.

**V. COMMITTEE MEMBERS ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION OF MARITIME CONCERNS**

Discussion of all maritime concerns was done during previous discussion of global issues and best practices. There weren't any additional concerns brought up during this section of the meeting.

**VI. SUMMARY OF JOINT MEETING**

Moderator Murto thanked the 54 attendees and provided a summary of the meeting which included the creation of the safe boating guides, discussion of a harbor safety committee, applications for FIND grants, navigable signage update and speed zone relocation process and educational classes provided by USPS.

**VII. NEXT STEPS**

Liaisons from each board and committee expressed interest in having a liaison sub-committee in a few months to further discuss board and committee issues. John Fiore informed all liaisons that he will coordinate a meeting in the future.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Members of the public did not provide comments.

**IX. ADJORNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.