MINUTES
BROWARD COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION
April 3, 2025, 2:00 PM
Plantation Heritage Park
1100 S Fig Tree Lane
Plantation, FL 33317

I CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 2:04 PM by Chair John Fiore.

II ROLL CALL: Roll was called; a quorum was present.

Members:

Jerry Baer	John Fiore	Amanda Noon
Doug Beals	Julie Greenfield	Jo Stanley
Cliff Berry	David Ide	Clive Taylor
Penny Cutt		Barry Webber

Staff:
Jay Sanford, Staff Liaison, Broward County Parks & Recreation Division
Lisa Totten, Broward County Parks & Recreation Division

Guests:
Mary Ward
Darin Leigh, resident of the Moorings
Steve Ward, resident of the Moorings
Edd Kalehoff, Positano Pres.
C. Eberle, resident of the Moorings
Bob Hogg, resident of the Moorings
Elaine Hogg, resident of the Moorings
Matt Masi, Lighthouse Point Police Department
John Faul, Hallandale Beach Police Department
Travis O'Neal, Fort Lauderdale Police Department
Marc Johnson, Fort Lauderdale Police Department
Dayna Bhaggan, Fort Lauderdale Police Department
Matt Gioielli, Broward Sheriff's Office
David Turner, Wilton Manors Police Department
Louis Mastandrea, Hillsboro Beach Police Department
Joshua Triplett, Hollywood Police Department
Alexander Chang, Hollywood Police Department
Robert Marren, Hollywood Police Department
Christopher Alban, Hollywood Police Department
Bernadette Roelofs, Hollywood Police Department
James MacEntee, Pompano Beach Power Squadron

III PUBLIC COMMENTS: Christopher Eberle of the Moorings community, spoke of the Mooring Fields project. He emphasized the community's desire to be good neighbors while protecting their interests. Mr. Eberle highlighted their commitment to safety, security, and maintaining the quiet enjoyment of their neighborhood. He expressed concerns such as establishing a fair and safe marina setoff, ensuring a clean and well-managed marina, properly vetting marina users, and minimizing commercial activities. Mr. Eberle suggested that eliminating a mooring spot (N17) could resolve potential disputes.

Steve Ward of the Moorings community addresses the MAC to express both appreciation and concern about the mooring fields project. While thanking the committee for facilitating cleaning up derelict boats, he raised apprehensions about the mooring fields project design and potential impact. Mr. Ward is particularly worried about the mooring fields encroachment on the existing marina, questioning the setback lines and whether they align with the original approved plans. He emphasizes the importance of maintaining a clean marina and expresses concerns about potential issues such as long-term Airbnb boat rentals, noise disturbances, and inadequate security measures. Mr. Ward is critical of the mooring fields size relative to the available area and its potential negative consequences for existing property owners. His primary goal is to ensure that the voices of long-term property taxpayers are heard and prioritized.

Edd Kalehoff, of the Positano community, also raised concerns about the Mooring Fields project. He pointed out the lack of essential facilities, specifically mentioning the absence of pump-out facilities, electricity, and water. Mr. Kalehoff worries about the practicality of boaters using the marina, questioning how families with small boats will manage without these basic amenities. Mr. Kalehoff emphasized the community's concerns about proper waste management, highlighting the inconvenience of having to travel a quarter mile to reach a pump-out station. He strongly opposes any commercial development and is worried about potential noise and inexperienced boaters potentially causing issues near their boats.

Mr. Sanford advised that the MAC is not in charge of the Mooring Fields project. He stated the project is considering a 90-day to six-month stay for boaters, with a preference for a 90-day limit, and mentioned plans for water replenishment and a pump-out station on the north docks, where boaters can either relocate their boats or call a pump-out service. Six slips are currently planned for the south area. Mr. Sanford noted the attorneys are reviewing the application and the status of spots 16 and 17 is undetermined at this time.

IV APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Clive Taylor made the motion to approve March 6, 2025, meeting minutes and David Ide seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

V CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

VI OLD BUSINESS: Jay Sanford mentions that we are out of manatee season. He notes that the manatee population peaked at 601 and by early February had dropped to 104. He states that there are about a dozen manatees that live in the county full-time, and the population reduction is likely due to water temperatures. Chair Fiore asks if there were any fatalities, Mr. Sanford responds that no fatalities have been reported to him.

VII NEW BUSINESS:

EMLEG FY 23/24 Quarterly Statistic Reports.

Mr. Sanford presented the Quarterly Statistic Reports for last year. He highlighted that during EMLEG (Enhanced Marine Law Enforcement Grant) hours, there were 6 reported accidents, which was below their goal of 10. The report also showed over 13,000 contacts during EMLEG time across various agencies. He emphasized that the program does not track citations, as its primary purpose is to have officers on the water who can assist boaters and respond to emergencies, such as saving three people during an incident out of Hillsboro.

MAC Member Reports and Additional Information from Applicants on FY 2025-2026 EMLEG Applications.

Broward County – Peter Grady: Mr. Grady was not present due to an injury, but he submitted a memorandum to Chair Fiore. In the memorandum, Mr. Grady discussed the Broward County EMLEG funding request for training funds. Mr. Grady notes that he met with Jay Sanford on April 1, 2025, to discuss the program's history. Over the past three funding cycles (FY 2022, 2023, and 2024), the Committee has funded $37,000 worth of training for local law enforcement agencies. Mr. Grady believes these dollars are well spent and provide a benefit to Broward County boaters. Mr. Grady supports funding the EMLEG request and asks other board members to do the same.

Broward Sheriff's Office – Julie Greenfield: Julie Greenfield reported on her day with Broward Sheriff's Office, describing it as a comprehensive tour. She was picked up on their dock and traveled through the entire county, stopping in Fort Lauderdale and Pompano. She noted the connection between the county and cities, and how BSO supports local jurisdictions. Ms. Greenfield was impressed with their work and recommended funding their EMLEG request. She also raised a question about Zone VII, asking about the potential harm or benefit of funding both BSO and Hollywood for marine law enforcement in that area, and expressing interest in understanding the resources each agency brings to the zone.

City of Fort Lauderdale – John Fiore: Chair Fiore reported on his ride-along with Sergeant Travis O'Neal in Fort Lauderdale. He noted that Fort Lauderdale is the largest city with the most waterways in the county. Fiore emphasized the city's focus on boating safety, ensuring people have fun while preventing injuries and damages. He mentioned he has personally seen Fort Lauderdale police boats on the water since 1968 and praised their long-standing reputation. Based on his experience, Chair Fiore recommended fully funding Fort Lauderdale's EMLEG request.

City of Hallandale Beach – Jerry Baer: Jerry Baer reported on his meeting with Sergeant Faul on March 19th, at the Hallandale Marina. He noted that the main patrol area is the intracoastal waterway from the Dade-Broward County line to the Hallandale bridge. Mr. Baer highlighted that the area has changed from a 25 mile per hour speed limit to a slow speed zone. The department has several trained and certified officers to patrol with their boat. They patrol areas including the marina, Golden Isles, and a large cove south and west of the Hallandale bridge, which has been an area for derelict and liveaboard boats. While there were no sunken boats during his visit, Mr. Baer described the area as the largest eyesore for Hallandale Beach. Based on his observations, he recommended full funding for Hallandale Beach's EMLEG request.

Town of Hillsboro Beach – Amanda Noon: Amanda Noon reported on her March 25th meeting with Captain Pugliese at the Hillsboro police station. She noted that the dock dredging was completed six months ago. The department is currently short on officers, which may limit their ability to maximize hours, but a new full-time officer will be joining soon. They have approximately 15 officers trained to operate the boat and coordinate effectively with Lighthouse Point's Marine Unit to prevent overlapping patrol coverage. Their 27-foot Contender boat with twin Mercury engines has 1800 hours and is kept on a lift at the station. They have two electronic speed signs in front of the station and two further down the Intracoastal Waterway. Ms. Noon recommends continuing to provide full support to the Hillsboro Beach police.

City of Hollywood – David Ide: David Ide reported on his March 24th ride-along with Officer Marren. During the patrol, they traveled from Hallandale to the Nova Southeastern University Oceanographic Center, through the port, and up and down several canals, including the mangroves and Dania Cutoff Canal. They used their Fluid boat. Mr. Ide stated that Hollywood has done a wonderful job and recommended their funding. Mr. Sanford asked if he wanted to discuss Zone VII, and Mr. Ide deferred comment, saying he would wait to discuss it later.

City of Lighthouse Point – Jo Stanley: Jo Stanley reported on her March 18th meeting with Chief Vaccaro and ride-along with Officer Tomasi at Lighthouse Point. She noted they have 18 square miles of waterway. During the patrol, they discussed several incidents, including a boat that was waked out by a yacht near Hillsboro Inlet, which they were able to quickly address by apprehending the speeder and involving FWC. They also discussed ongoing issues with overnight fishermen in kayaks using marina docks. Ms. Stanley mentioned that Lighthouse Point previously had lower patrol hours due to boat maintenance issues, but now they have a new Fluid 29 boat and Chief Vaccaro expects patrol hours to increase significantly. Ms. Stanley recommends their funding request of $65,832, noting an upward trend in zone usage and a clear local need for their presence.

Pompano Beach Power Squadron – Jo Stanley: Jo Stanley reported on her March 18th meeting with Commander James McEntee of the Pompano Beach Power Squadron. She highlighted the organization's unique service in promoting boating safety and offering educational classes. While they currently cannot do in-water demonstrations due to insurance concerns, they still provide hands-on training like flare deployment. The classes attract a broad age range, from school kids to older boaters. McEntee shared details about the growing demand for their services and how funds are used for public outreach and boater education. Stanley noted that the Power Squadron is cost-effective, even renting out their building to a church on weekends and part of their parking lot to a neighboring business. She mentioned they're requesting a slight increase in funding to $31,400, primarily due to increased shipping costs for safety textbooks. Ms. Stanley wholeheartedly recommended fully funding their request.

City of Wilton Manors – Doug Beals: Doug Beals reported on his March 20th meeting with Sergeant David Turner at the Island City Park Preserve. He noted that Wilton Manors has two vessels, a 17' Dusky and an 18' Dusky, primarily using the 18' boat stored on a lift. The department has 6 personnel assigned to the marine unit and is requesting $34,416 for 332 hours of daytime patrol and 284 hours of aggressive night patrol. Last year, they used 98% of their allocated hours and are motivated to use 100% this year. Sergeant Turner mentioned that weekend hours are sometimes swapped for aggressive hours due to road patrol requirements. Mr. Beals also

noted that officers selected for marine law enforcement training are currently attending Honor Guard training. He observed that Wilton Manors' marine patrols help build community rapport, as most boaters know each other, and improve boater safety through word of mouth. Mr. Beals enthusiastically recommended full funding for Wilton Manors Police Department.

MAC Discussion and Recommendation to County Commission for funding of FY 2025-2026 EMLEG Program

Jay Sanford presents three funding options for the EMLEG program, including fully funding all hours and training funds.

Funding Option 1- is the hours requested, and the training funds requested.

Funding Option 2 - is the hours requested, and fully funding their training.

Funding Option 3 - is fully funding all the hours that are generally scheduled, fully funding everyone with training money to attend training at $1,000 per officer. And then there are two choices, one with Hollywood in Zone VII, and one with BSO in Zone VII.

Mr. Sanford invites BSO and the City of Hollywood P.D. to make their final presentations to the MAC Members.

Sergeant Gioielli reviewed Broward Sheriff's Office's (BSO) interests regarding Zone VII, emphasizing their consistent presence in the area. He noted that BSO has 11 deputies with boats permanently assigned to the location, with continuous coverage between BSO and harbor patrol. Sergeant Gioielli highlighted their strong performance, achieving 88-90 percentile in zone coverage last year. When discussing the potential transfer of Zone VII to Hollywood Police Department, he clarified that BSO would still remain in the area. Sergeant Gioielli indicated that even if Hollywood P.D. takes over the zone, BSO would continue to work in the area and maintain their collaborative relationships with other law enforcement agencies. His presentation underscored BSO's ongoing commitment to marine law enforcement in the zone, regardless of which agency is working the EMLEG grant.

Lieutenant Chang discussed the City of Hollywood Police Department's readiness to take over Zone VII. Lieutenant Chang highlighted Hollywood P.D.'s strategic investments in marine resources, including the purchase of another RIB boat that will expand their fleet to 6 vessels. Lieutenant Chang emphasized the new agreement with Nova that provides boat storage near the inlet, office space, and enabling quick response and consistent presence in the area. The department has developed a robust marine unit with over 30 boat-certified operators and is actively cross-training 18 beach unit officers in boat operations. Lieutenant Chang also noted they have two female officers currently certified and are looking to certify another. He expressed confidence in their ability to handle Zone VII, noting their intention to add a full-time officer dedicated to the port area and northern section. He expressed confidence in their ability to handle Zone VII and emphasized their desire to continue working collaboratively with BSO and other law enforcement agencies.

The MAC Members discussed the potential transfer of Zone VII patrol responsibilities from Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) to Hollywood Police Department. Chair Fiore proposed a one-

year trial period for City of Hollywood P.D. to manage the zone, suggesting they should be given an opportunity while acknowledging BSO's excellent past performance. Julie Greenfield raised questions about the potential benefits and resources of both agencies. David Ide suggested it might be good to have two different agencies patrolling the area. Jay Sanford noted that the Harbor Safety Committee would welcome multiple law enforcement agencies to help manage recreational boaters near large ships. The discussion highlighted the importance of the port area, which has high recreational and commercial traffic.

After the discussion, Vice Chair Webber made a motion to accept Option 3, which would have Hollywood cover Zone VII. The motion was seconded by Penny Cutt and carried unanimously by the Committee.

VIII CHAIR'S REPORT: Chair Fiore briefly mentioned the upcoming TAC Advanced Marine Police training on May 6 through 9, 2025.

IX DANIA BEACH MAB REPORT: NONE

X HOLLYWOOD MAB REPORT: NONE

XI POMPANO BEACH MAB REPORT: Penny Cutt reported on the Pompano Beach marine advisory board meeting. She mentioned discussing a variance that did not show up and another variance that did not qualify. They continued talking about vessel speed zones on the intracoastal waterway and recognized they likely will not be able to modify them. The board also discussed barges at Alsdorf Park and trying to keep them out. Another topic was the potential requirement of ladders on commercial and public docks, with discussions about spacing ranging from every 50 to 150 feet. Mr. Sanford noted that in a pool the requirement is one ladder for every 75 feet. Ms. Cutt also mentioned a potential commission vote on eliminating a rear yard corner triangle setback that affects view corridors, which has been deferred. She noted there were no updates on the property south of the inlet that was previously discussed.

XII LIAISON'S REPORT: Mr. Sanford thanked everyone for attending and notes that, aside from Peter Grady's absence, the full committee is present. He encouraged audience members to join the Marine Advisory Committee, which meets about 8 times a year, on the first Thursday of the month, excluding January and summer. Interested individuals can apply through the county website. The committee has the unique ability to allocate funds to police agencies and water access projects. Each county commissioner can appoint two representatives, allowing for up to 18 members; currently, there are 12.

Chair Fiore added that the Committee has been around for a long time and highlighted the way vessel registration monies are being used to assist boaters with EMLEG, which has helped save lives on the water. Chair Fiore also mentioned the Broward Boating Improvement Program (BBIP), which funds recreational boating facilities like boat ramps and docks. Mr. Sanford noted that dredging is only funded when it is part of a related project.

XII MAC MEMBER COMMENTS: Cliff Berry mentioned that Fleet Week is coming up, on April 27 – 29 and that there probably will be a lot of activity around the port during that time.

XIII ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 PM by Chair Fiore.