MINUTES
BROWARD COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION
December 4, 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 2:00 PM by Chair John Fiore.

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

Members:

Jerry Baer	David Ide	Jo Stanley
Penny Cutt (via Zoom)	Joseph Martinet	Clive Taylor
John Fiore	Amanda Noon	Barry Webber

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

Guests: Robert Franks, Marine Advisory Board for the City of Fort Lauderdale

III PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

IV APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Clive Taylor made a motion to approve the November 6, 2025, meeting minutes and Joseph Martinet seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

V CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

VI OLD BUSINESS: Report of BBIP Grant Applications by MAC Members:

City of Hollywood P.D. – Derelict Vessel Removal. Jo Stanley reviewed the City of Hollywood's derelict vessel removal grant application. Ms. Stanley reported that on December 2nd she met with Lieutenant Alex Chang, Sergeant Josh Triplett, and Officer Chris Alban at the NSU Oceanographic Campus, where Hollywood maintains a small office and docks one of its vessels. Ms. Stanley stated that they conducted a ride-along covering their standard patrol area of approximately seven miles from the Port down to Hallandale Beach, including canals and waterways. Ms. Stanley stated they talked about how prior funding had been used, noting that during her on-water observation everything appeared orderly and she did not see any new derelict vessels. Long-standing problem areas such as Whiskey Creek showed noticeable improvement, and that approximately ten vessels had been removed in the past year using those funds. Ms. Stanley described Hollywood's proactive anchor management practice of

approaching vessels that anchor in designated areas to make immediate contact, collect owner information, become familiar with seasonal and transient boaters, and reduce the risk of boats becoming derelict, while also reinforcing visibility and community relationships. She commented that preventing regression is a priority, explained that the unit has two full-time marine officers plus additional part-time personnel and plans to expand staffing, and indicated that added staff and continued visibility and deterrence were considered valuable. Ms. Stanley also mentioned that Lieutenant Chang would be reassigned and would no longer be with the Hollywood Marine Unit as of January 2026. It was noted that, although the City of Hollywood's application originally requested $63,000, they amended it to $50,000 because anything greater will require matching funds. Ms. Stanley recommended funding the City of Hollywood's derelict vessel removal grant application at the full eligible amount of $50,000.

The project scored 82.50, making it eligible for funding.

City of Dania Beach – Derelict Vessel Removal. Jerry Baer reviewed the City of Dania Beach's derelict vessel removal grant application. Mr. Baer explained that at the previous meeting on November 6, Mr. Schutten and Ms. Johnson had requested $50,000 from the Broward Boater Improvement Program, and at that time reported there were no derelict vessels. After speaking with them by phone and arranging a meeting he visited Griffin Marine Park boat ramp on November 19th and observed two derelict vessels tied to the bottom of the floating dock, both with identification numbers removed. When he sent photos to city staff, they were not yet aware of the second boat as it might have happened the night before. Mr. Baer met with them on November 24th, discussed the city's waterways, and was told the city wants to get serious about not having derelict vessels in its waters. Mr. Baer stated that he spoke with them about measures the City of Hollywood is using to remove derelict vessels and provided information on the state vessel turn-in program so they could advertise it as an alternative for people who might otherwise abandon their boats at the park's floating dock. Mr. Baer stated that it has become a dumping ground for people to leave their derelict vessels. Ms. Stanley inquired if this is the first time Dania Beach has received funding and Mr. Sanford replied in the affirmative, stating this is the first time they have applied for derelict vessel removal grant funds. Mr. Baer concluded that the City of Dania Beach should receive the requested derelict vessel removal funding.

The project scored 73.17, making it eligible for funding.

Broward County – US 27 West Broward Boat Ramp, Phase I. David Ide reviewed the US 27 West Broward Boat Ramp, Phase I. Mr. Ide reported that he met on site with Jay Sanford and Cheri Gagne and stated that the facility needs a lot of work, noting that the ramp is not operable and the dock is not operable, while also acknowledging that the parking area is in good condition. The group then heard additional context from Jay Sanford about the project scope, including plans for solar lighting for security, extending the ramp further into the canal to allow launch and recovery during low water, and that this was a Phase I request for design and permitting for a roughly 50-year-old FDOT-built ramp that had not received prior BBIP or FBIP funding. Mr. Ide recommended funding for the West Broward Boat Ramp, Phase I project.

The project scored 83.5, making it eligible for funding.

Broward County – Deerfield Island Marina Basin Dock, Phase I. Cliff Berry was not in attendance at the meeting. However, he provided a statement for the committee members regarding his review of the project. Mr. Sanford then read Mr. Berry's remarks, in which he explained that he visited Deerfield Island Park and reviewed the project on December 3rd. He received an extensive overview of both the dock project and island operations. Mr. Berry emphasized that the new floating dock is needed immediately, describing the existing system as not adequate nor safe at low tide, and noted that the proposed dock would allow for safe egress and ADA accessibility. Mr. Berry noted that the existing fixed dock, which was done in part with BBIP funding, is in very good condition and usable for larger vessels. Lastly, Mr. Berry indicated that Deerfield Island is a hidden gem in our community and encouraged anyone who has not visited to take time to go and see it. Mr. Berry strongly recommends granting $70,000 of matching BBIP funds towards the Phase I design and permitting for the new dock system.

The project scored 78.50, making it eligible for funding.

Scoring and Ranking of BBIP Grant Applications.

Jay Sanford totaled the Project Ranking Forms and all four projects met the minimum score criteria and are eligible for funding. He stated that, after throwing out each project's highest and lowest scores and averaging the remaining ones, the top-ranked project was the West Broward Boat Ramp, with a score of 83.5; the second-ranked project was the City of Hollywood derelict vessel removal with a score of 82.50; the third-ranked project was the Deerfield Island Marina Basin Dock with a score of 78.50; and the fourth-ranked project was the City of Dania Beach derelict vessel removal with a score of 73.17, which he noted still met the minimum threshold for funding. Mr. Sanford then stated that, based on these scores, all projects are eligible for funding, and he indicated that funding all four at their current requested levels would total $255,000 from the program's allocated funds, leaving a remaining balance of $1,635,750 for future projects which are expected to come in.

MAC Recommendations to the Broward County Board of County Commissioners for Funding in Broward County FY 2026/2027 Budget.

Chair Fiore called for a vote on whether the MAC recommend funding to the County Commission. Vice Chair Webber made a motion to recommend to the County Commission funding for all four projects and Clive Taylor seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sanford added that the MAC would submit all four projects to the County Commission for funding consideration.

VII NEW BUSINESS: NONE

VIII CHAIR'S REPORT: Chair Fiore mentioned that the Fort Lauderdale and Pompano Beach boat parades were coming up and hoped attendees would have a good time, noting that the Pompano parade was now in its 63rd year. He wished everyone happy holiday season.

IX DANIA BEACH MAB REPORT: NONE

X HOLLYWOOD MAB REPORT: NONE

XI POMPANO BEACH MAB REPORT: NONE

XII LIAISON'S REPORT: Jay Sanford noted that committee member Penny Cutt was attending remotely via Zoom, and he conveyed her holiday greetings to the group. He directed attention to the 2026 Marine Advisory Committee meeting schedule in the packet, explaining that the committee does not meet in January to allow members to travel and enjoy the holidays, and that they typically also do not meet in June, July, or August unless needed. He stated that until Secret Woods is reopened, the committee would continue meeting at the current facility unless another host, such as Patience Cohn's organization, invited them to meet elsewhere. Mr. Sanford then noted the dates of the upcoming Pompano Beach and Fort Lauderdale boat parades, mentioned that committee member Cliff Berry was one of the chairs of the Fort Lauderdale boat parade. He added a safety reminder for those attending the parades, noting that it is dark on the water and that every year at least one boater arrives without having preregistered, causing complications at the end of the parade.

XIII MAC MEMBER COMMENTS: David Ide inquired about manatee protection licenses. Mr. Sanford explained that the program is a state requirement under the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and has not changed, despite concerns raised in an article about possible federal policy shifts that could reduce protections for species like manatees. He noted manatees are no longer considered federally endangered but remain threatened, and any changes would require FWC action. Mr. Sanford said it was recommended to pool all available slip licenses countywide instead of dividing them into three zones, allowing reallocation. Most construction occurs south of Sunrise Boulevard, and the only dry stack expected to be removed, and return licenses to the system, is Riverfront Marina. He described manatee counts, which are conducted by helicopter on cold days when animals gather in warm waters. Historical data show large congregations in the Port cooling canal during cold weather. Mr. Sanford also detailed some changes at the port, such as replacing fixed fenders with inflatable ones to reduce manatee injuries, and noted that while small boats are often blamed, large vessels and tugboats can also cause serious harm.

XIV ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM by Chair Fiore.