

Pinellas County LRRC Meeting Minutes

Pinellas County Offices- Clearwater

May 28, 2014: 1-3 PM

Members in Attendance: Bill Allbright, Elizabeth Fleming, Serra Herndon, Dave Kandz, Mark LaPrade, Terri Skapik, Doug Speeler, Dave Travis, Katie Tripp

Staff in Attendance: Carol Grynewicz and Dave Walker (Pinellas County), Scott Calleson and Mike Sommers (FWC)

1. Approval of minutes from 5/21 meeting
 - a. Motion for approval by Doug Speeler, seconded by Mark LaPrade, all in favor
2. Committee member comments/questions
 - a. Doug Speeler presented information regarding the number of boats in Pinellas marinas and how often they are used. Dave Travis commented his marina gets 40 dry stack launches on a weekend. Mark LaPrade said his marina in Englewood gets 20. The committee requested this be emailed for everyone to see.
 - b. Doug also commented that S11 has 6 existing markers for either seagrass or other county regulation.
 - c. Dave Travis requested boat registrations. Scott Calleson has and can provide to the LRRC. A comment was made that the peak occurred in 2006 or 2007 and has decreased since then.
3. Mention of policy regarding public comment for those members of the public in attendance
4. Confirmation of upcoming meetings
 - a. June 4th meeting to be held at County offices in Clearwater
 - b. June 11th and 16th meetings will be held at Weedon Island
5. Consent vote on those zones for which the preliminary LRRC vote resulted in unanimous approval as proposed by FWC
 - a. The group reviewed the list and consulted the maps one final time.
 - b. A motion was made by Doug Speeler and seconded by Mark LaPrade to accept the following zones as proposed by FWC: S3 (warm season), S4 (year-round), S5 (warm season), S8 (warm season, 7 day/week), S10 (warm season), S12 (year-round), S14 (warm season), S17 (year-round). All committee members voted in favor.
6. Consent vote on zones unanimously supported by LRRC during preliminary vote, after modification of original FWC proposal
 - a. The preliminary list up for consideration consisted of: S2, S6, S7, S13, and S15
 - b. Discussion resulted in S2, S7, S13, and S15 being removed from this list and placed on a list for further discussion
 - c. Dave Travis made a motion to accept S6 as modified by the LRRC, Dave Kandz seconded. All were in favor.
7. Discussion of remaining zones beginning with N1

- a. N1: Spring Bayou Area
 - i. Bill Allbright commented that none of his contacts have any objection to N1 or N2 as proposed
 - ii. Elizabeth Fleming asked Scott Calleson why Whitcomb Bayou was only proposed for cold season regulation. Scott responded that Spring Bayou to the northeast is an aggregation point and manatees go out the river from that area.
 - iii. Katie Tripp expressed support for Option 2 but adding in Whitcomb.
 - iv. Mark LaPrade expressed support for leaving Whitcomb unregulated in the warm season. Terri Skapik agreed.
 - v. Bill Allbright made a phone call and returned to the group saying none of his contacts know of any recreational watersports activity in Whitcomb.
 - vi. A motion was made to accept N1 Option 2 as proposed by FWC. 5 voted in favor, 4 were opposed. Those who opposed supported Option 2 but wanted Whitcomb included for warm season regulation. This was a final vote.
 - b. N2: Anclote River Mouth
 - i. The committee voted unanimously to support as proposed by FWC. The LRRC recognizes the need for a speed zone in the Pinellas portion and understands FWC won't just regulate up to the County line as this would result in vessels coming on and off plane repeatedly. Therefore, the LRRC believes it should be a local and FWC priority to address this issue in Pasco County in order to achieve protections on the waterway.
 - c. N3: Memorial Causeway (North)
 - i. There was discussion of the information provided by Bill Morris from the City of Clearwater. Terri called Bill to confirm his position and reported to the LRRC that Bill supports the zone as proposed for year-round protection, including the area of overlap. Terri noted that the only area of ICW included in FWC's proposal is already regulated.
 - ii. The committee voted in unanimous support of this zone as proposed. This was a final vote.
 - d. N4- committee discussions will begin here at 6/4 meeting
8. Public Comment
- a. Representative Kathleen Peters from the Pasadena area shared concerns with several of the zones including N4, S1, S2, S6 (southern portion), S7, S9, S10, S11, and S13. She believes FWC's proposal is over-reaching. She asked whether the fact that Pinellas is an Aquatic Preserver would factor into this process at all. Scott Calleson responded that being an Aquatic Preserve results in extra scrutiny from DEP but doesn't lessen any requirements for speed zones. Scott Calleson also mentioned that FWC has reached out to all the local governments where zones are being considered and asked for their input/involvement.
 - b. Norm Schulz expressed agreement with Rep. Peters' comments. He has read all of our meeting minutes and admires the work we are doing. He said it is important to strike a balance and senses that is what we are trying to do. He is a St. Petersburg resident and

boats in Pinellas. He also writes for Soundings Trade Only magazine. His concerns are particularly with N4, S9, S11, S13, S14, and S16.

9. A motion to adjourn was made by Terri Skapik, and seconded by Elizabeth Fleming. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 3:28 PM.