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LNMC MINUTES

December 13, 2021
Charles Mack
Mooreville, NC

Lake Norman Marine Commissioners:

Dennis Eddinger	Chairman
David Scott	Catawba County
Rick Howard	Iredell County
Christopher Uzzolina	Lincoln County
Robby Maschhaupt	Mecklenburg County

Staff:

Morris Sample	Executive Director
John Gerke	Asst. Ex. Director
Angela Palmer	Administrator

Call to Order

A quorum was declared and the meeting was called to order by Chairman Eddinger at 7:00 pm. All in attendance rose to salute the flag and repeat together the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

After a review of the minutes from the November 8, 2021 meeting, there was a motion to approve by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Uzzolina. Approval of the minutes as presented were passed unanimously.

Special Presentation

Rick Howard introduced Senator Vickie Sawyer and thanked her for her support of the marine commission. She presented us with a \$100,000 of grant money from the State of NC.

Presentation of FY 20-21 Audit – Belinda Johnson

Postponed until January meeting

Public Hearing on No Wake Buoy Permit Application

Rick Howard thanked Billy Wilson for his commitment to the No Wake Buoy Committee over the past year and introduced him to present the new No Wake Buoy Permit Application. 10-12 volunteers were part of the committee which consisted of a lot of research, contact with multiple agencies and community input. Commissioners were given a copy of the recommended application. The committee recommends and requests the following...

- 1) Repeal current No Wake Buoy Application
- 2) Adopt a new No Wake Buoy Application (attached). Billy Wilson reviewed the application line by line to further clarify for the commission and the public.
 - a. Line 5 recommends a Buoy Review Committee consisting of the Commissioner who is assigned to the No Wake Buoy Committee as chair and 2 additional individuals.
 - b. Line 8 would require that an approved buoy be entered into the NC Administrative Code

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NO WAKE BUOY PERMIT APPLICATION

- Ron Shultz thanked the committee and the commission for their efforts. He recommended the following...
Line 1 Add contact information including phone number and email address
Line 2 Include GPS coordinates for placement of buoy
Line 5 needs affirmation from the LNMC
Line 8 define time frame as to how long before WRC adds No Wake Zone to Admin Code
Line 9 Need specifications of the buoy on the application
- Commission received 6 emails – 5 supported and 1 opposed
- Becky Fox reminded everyone that this has been discussed for 15 years and thanked the commission and the committee for their efforts. Glad to see more about education and focusing on safety.

Commissioner Scott made a motion to accept the new application, Commissioner Maschhaupt seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Scott made a motion to repeal the old ordinance, Commissioner Maschhaupt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:**Executive Director**

John Gerke reported for Morris Sample...

- The current lake level is 95.8 ft and will likely continue to decrease over the next couple of months. The Catawba Wateree Water Management Group has indicated that they will likely move into Phase 0 of the drought monitoring program in the near future. This calls for increased public awareness of potential drought conditions and recommends water saving activities. Mandatory water restrictions begin at Phase 2. This determination is based on lake level, stream water flow monitors and precipitation forecasts.
- Please be aware that as we move into winter months, some areas that were navigable in the summer may be dangerous at the lower lake level. Shoal markers do not cover all the areas that should be avoided at lower lake levels.
- As we begin to have colder temperatures, the lake water temperature will decrease significantly with current surface temperatures in the mid-50's. Survival in colder temperature below mid-50's is difficult without cold weather survival gear. Hypothermia is a real danger to anyone that is submerged in this colder water for any length of time. Anyone on the water in winter months should be accompanied by another boater.
- Our plan is for future meetings to be in person pending any changes to COVID restrictions at Charles Mack.
- Catawba Wateree virtual class begins in January 2022 and is very informative. Assistant Director John Gerke has further information if you are interested. jgerke@lnmc.org

ATON Committee

John Gerke reported for Morris Sample the following since last meeting:

The following navigational aids are currently on the repair lists:

- Marker 21 – Light Out
- Marker R5- Sign missing
- Shoal 303 – Light Out
- Shoal 375 North of S3, marker knocked down
- Shoal 376, near Skipper's Landing, marker knocked down

We have received some bigger high intensity lights that we will be installing on some ATON's in the Mountain Creek area to evaluate their performance.

To date we have received one bid for the ATON Maintenance from Mozeley Construction Co, our current contractor. Bids are due by Dec 31, 2021.

Officers responded to 9 calls for service during the month of November. These calls for service were on the lake only. The most calls for service were received on Monday. Calls for service were most often reported between the hours of **12:00pm-06:00pm**. Lake Officers conducted 3 vessel stops with 1 State Citation and 2 written warnings issued. The average response time to calls for service was **4.55 minutes**. Officers self initiated 568 zone checks.

November Highlights:

Lake Corporal Mutarelli trained and certified in drone use. This will add an additional capabilities to Lake Patrol.

Cub Scout Den 72 did a tour of the boat house/boats. A short patrol was conducted with the scouts including a demonstration of vessel performance. Various safety topics were discussed during the experience.

Attended Lake Norman Marine Commission Meeting.

Environmental Committee

No Report

Boater Education/Communication

Commissioner Scott reported last meeting was Thursday, December 9th. Focusing on rental companies. Starting merchandising for Love Where You Lake. Would like more volunteers for the committee. Next meeting is January 13th at 7:00pm via Zoom.

Charter Boat Committee

Commissioner Uzzolina – No report

No Wake Buoys

Commissioner Howard – see above

Rafting Committee

Commissioner Maschhaupt – No report

Applications

- None

Variances

- None

PERMITS

- None

FERC Applications

- None

Administrative Matters

- Budget Ordinance for FY 2022-2023 – Commissioner Scott made a motion to approve, Seconded by Commissioner Howard. The motion passed unanimously.
- February 10-13, 2022 the boat show in Charlotte. Please look ahead a prepare to sign up to work the booth.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm.

Our next meeting will be January 10, 2022