



Lake Norman
Marine Commission

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Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2021

In Person Meeting
Charles Mack Citizens Center
The Merchant Room
 Mooresville, NC

Attendees

Chairman Dennis Eddinger, Dave Scott (Catawba County), Rick Howard (Iredell County), Chris Uzzolina (Lincoln County), Robby Maschhaupt (Mecklenburg County), and Morris Sample (Executive Director)

1. Meeting was convened at 7:01PM
2. Motion to approve the September meeting minutes was made by Com. Scott, seconded by Com, Howard. Motion passed.
3. Reports
 - a. Lake Norman Marine Commission – Executive Director – Morris Sample
 - The current lake level is 97 ft which has increased over the last few days. Please be aware that as we move into winter months, the lake level will likely decrease and some areas that were navigable before may be dangerous at the lower lake level. Please be aware that shoal markers do not cover all the areas that should be avoided at lower lake levels.
 - Please continue to report any surface observations on Lake Norman. We have received some reports of algae on the surface and Duke will investigate those findings. You can report to aquaticplants@duke-energy.com or visit our website at lnmc.org and click on Useful Links, Duke Energy Lake Services. As we get into the cooler weather and the lake temperature decreases, the Chara that has been widely reported this summer should disappear.
 - NC State is completing their survey of the lake for aquatic weed growth. Will share the findings when they are available.

- Our plan is for future meetings to be in person pending any changes to COVID restrictions at Charles Mack. The next meeting will be Nov 8th and we usually don't meet in December.

b. Enforcement

- Cornelius Police Department – Sgt. Matt Figaro
See Attachment A
- Iredell County Sheriff – Dep Jarid Church
 - Participated in several events around the lake including Wake Safe
 - For September,
 - 95 calls for service
 - 48 vessel stops
 - 1092 security checks
 - 11 community events
 - 49 vessel inspections
 - 5 boater assistance calls
 - 1 boat fire
 - 2 sunk PCs
 - Successful search for a missing individual
- Catawba County Lake Patrol — No report
- Lincoln County Lake Patrol – John Isaacs – Officers are off the water
- N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission — Ron Robertson
 - Josh Hudson is a new Sgt in the area
 - Provided an update to the roster of NCWRC for the area
 - Buoy removal process
 - Approximately 25 illegal buoys addressed so far
 - Process will be slow but steady – demands for hunting season will impact progress
 - Will make 3 attempts to contact owner before removal
 - NCWRC contact for buoys is 704-263-0975
 - Hunting
 - Dove season started in September
 - Short period for archery season for deer
 - Duck season opens in a couple of weeks

c. Lake Issues

- Duke Energy — No report

- Coast Guard Auxiliary - Division 26 – Steve Riggan

Representing the three CG Auxiliary units operating on Lake Norman:
Flotilla 26-01 Lake Norman, Flotilla 26-03 Davidson, Flotilla
26-04 West Lake Norman

Activity Summary:

The three units operating on Lake Norman were involved in the combined activities listed below.

On-water activities are typically conducted on Lake Norman from April 1 – October 30 each year. On-water activities are generally scheduled in 1-2 weeks in advance; emergency callout procedures can be invoked if needed.

USCG Auxiliary Lake Norman Flotilla Activities 2021	
Activity	YTD As Of 10/7/2021
On-Water Patrols Count	57
On-Water Patrols Hours	159.53
Public Education Classes	4
Public Education Enrollees	74
Vessel Safety Checks Completed	268

1. Additional CG Auxiliary on-water training and qualification events were conducted during September.
2. A public education class was conducted in person on September 18, 2021 with 14 students passing.

Upcoming Events and Items of Note:

1. The CG Auxiliary has been requested to and will provide a safety zone patrol for the Dragon Boat Races at Ramsey Creek Park scheduled for October 23, 2021.

Typical on-water patrol season end date is October 31. This could be extended into November at the

- America's Boating Club – No Report
- Mecklenburg County Parks & Rec – No Report

- Island Habitat – No Report
- Riverkeepers – Brandon Jones
 - Riversweep was held in September – 53,000 lbs. of trash collected
 - Released the State of the River Report
 - Lake Norman received a 3.4 rating out of 5

e. Water Quality/Erosion/Buffers/Illegal Discharge

- Mecklenburg County Water Quality – No Report
- NC Wildlife Federation – No Report

4. Comments from the Public:
No Comments from the Public

5. Committee Reports

- ATON – Morris Sample (Markers, Maintenance)
 - Request for Quote for ATON Maintenance draft has been distributed to the Commissioners
 - Motion to approve by Com. Howard, seconded by Com. Uzzolina. Motion passed.
 - Will be sent out to potential vendors soon
 - Marker 21 – Light Out
 - Marker R5- Sign missing
 - Signs that are faded will be replaced as funding is available
- Environmental/Hydrilla – Morris Sample
 - NC State has completed their survey – Report should be received before the November meeting
 - Expect to add 750 sterile grass carp in 2022
 - Will be adding 50 tagged sterile grass carp in 2022 to continue study
- Boater Education – Commissioner Scott
 - Web site has had 8,000 hits in 2021
 - Committee has updated the tri-fold for the Love Where You Lake campaign
 - Additional Love Where You Lake business cards available and distributed
 - The next major effort for the Committee will be to address issues and concerns with rental boats
- Charter Boat – Commissioner Uzzolina

- No new applications
- Rafting – Commissioner Maschhaupt
 - No activity
- Buoy – Commissioner Howard
 - Discussion of Draft of Buoy Ordinance & No Wake Buoy Application
 - Progress being made
 - NCWRC has a matrix they use for other state waters and will try to integrate that into our process – working with Maj Ben Meyer of NCWRC
 - Expect draft to be presented to Commissioners by November meeting

6. Applications
None

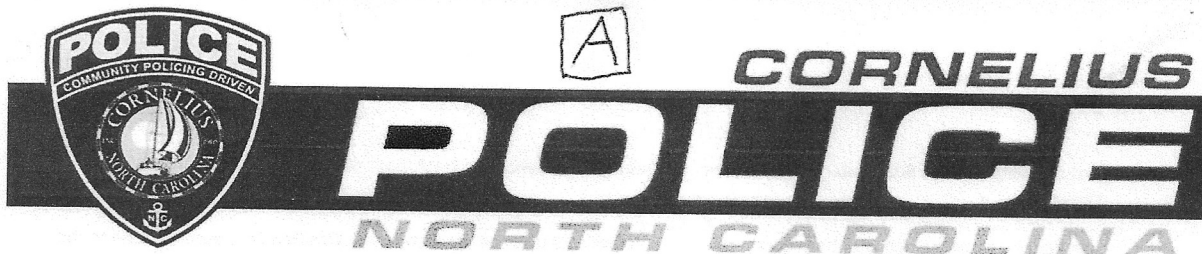
7. Variances
None

8. Permits
None

9. FERC Applications:
None

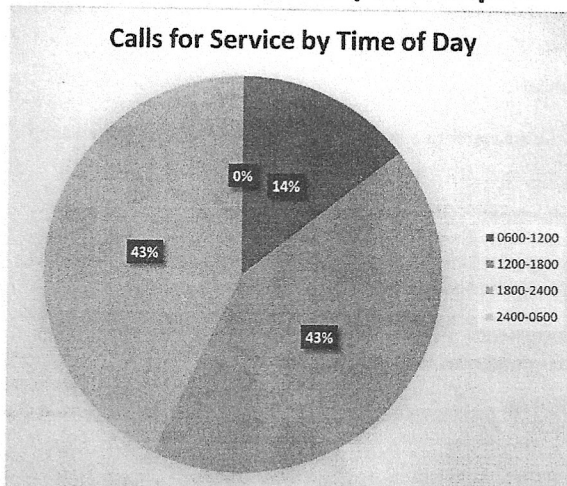
10. Administrative matters
- FY 21-22 First Quarter Finance Report – previously distributed to the commissioners
 - Discuss request received by State Senator staff to draft a request to NCWRC to apply boater education requirements to rental boats.
 - Motion made by Commissioner Howard, seconded by Commissioner Uzzolina to have staff work with Senator Sawyers office to come up with such a document to be presented to NCWRC addressing education for rental boat operations. Motion approved

11. Meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM



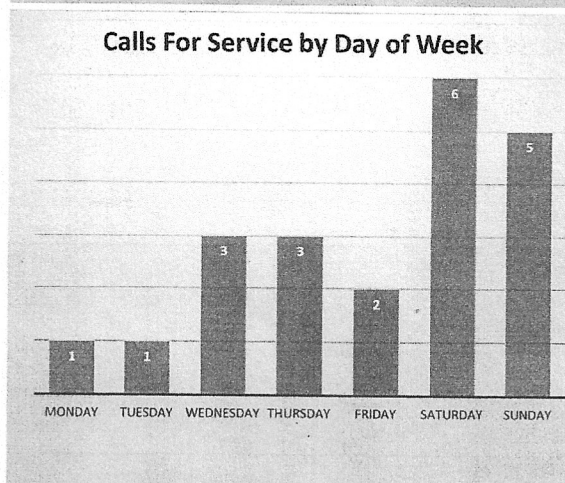
September 2021 Monthly Lake Report

Calls for Service by Time of Day



Officers responded to 21 calls for service during the month of September with 5 Problem Solving activities. These calls for service were on the lake only. The most calls for service were received on Saturday. Calls for service were most often reported between the hours of 12:00pm-06:00pm. Lake officers conducted 11 vessel stops, 4 written warnings as well as 7 citations. The average response time to calls for service was 8.04 minutes. Officers self initiated 412 zone checks.

Calls For Service by Day of Week



Monthly Activity	
Problem Solving	5
Attempt to Locate	3
Meet Complainant	3
Boat Crash PD	2
Found Property	2
Call by Phone	1
Assist LEA	1
Navigational Hazard	1
Report of Death/Drowning	1
Noise Complaint	1
Larceny	1
911 Hang-up	1
Suspicious person	1
Reckless Operator	1
Call by Phone	1
Assist Citizen	1

September Highlights:

- Drowning near marker D6 off of Island Forest Dr. The Captain of vessel "Girl Trouble" observed an operator had fallen off a jet ski and was attempting to swim back to the jet ski. The operator was seen taking off his life jacket, before submerging and not coming back up. The jet operator's body was recovered approx. 3 hours later.

- Boat crash at Freedom Boat Club. Owner advised he does not know when the crash/boat damage occurred, \$2000 estimate damage
- Lake Patrol crossed trained with both Cornelius and Huntersville K9 units on the water. The K9's Handlers were exposed to the boats and deploying from the boats.
- Report of handgun stolen from boat, Boat owner invited unknown subject for social media site, to their boat and a handgun was discovered missing after the visit
- Lake patrol participated in "Operation Wake Surf" photoshoot
- Report of a boat crash at Holiday Marina, both boats left the area prior to officer's arrival, advising a witness there was no damage.
- Lake Patrol Officers participated in the Cornelius Police Department's Citizen Academy
- Civil matter between rental boat owner and renter, a phone had fell into an inaccessible place on a boat. Complainant was advised of how to proceed if nothing could be worked out with the boat owner
- Trespasser's were reported at the Mecklenburg County Water Intake at Blythe Landing. Lake Officers were able to locate 4 subjects and advised them of the restricted area. Subjects moved away from he area
- Multiple officer initiated calls with citizens involving handing out boating safety literature, advising of rental boat laws and general lake safety