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LNMC MINUTES

April 10, 2023
Charles Mack Center
 Mooresville, NC

Lake Norman Marine Commissioners:

David Scott	Chairman
Rick Howard	Iredell County
Christopher Uzzolina	Lincoln County (Absent)
John Johnson	Mecklenburg County
Kevin Frank	Catawba 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 Scott 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 March 13, 2023 meeting, there was a motion to approve by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Howard. Approval of the minutes as presented were passed unanimously.

Reports – LNMC Executive Director

Executive Director Morris Sample – Report Attached

REPORTS - ENFORCEMENT

Cornelius Police Department

Office Vanzant - Report Attached

Iredell County Sheriff

Deputy Withers reported 41 calls for service. 287 hours on water with 18 training hours. 5 boat inspections and 2 pwc inspections. 3 vessel assists

Catawba County Lake Patrol

Lt Boger – No Report

Lincoln County Lake Patrol

Sgt Calhoun – No Report

N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

Officer Billings – No Report

Reports – Lake Issues**Duke Energy**

Joe Klutz reported the lake level has come up and is currently 97.4. Target is 97.1. Catawba Queen and Lady of the Lake have been unsuccessful in finding a marina that has mooring capacity. Currently anchored off shore until they are successful in finding a location.

Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 26

Steve Riggins – Report Attached

Mecklenburg County Parks and Rec.

Gregory Clemmer reported partnership with Cornelius PD working on rental boat agreement. This is first steps in having safe boating. Ensuring proper insurance and safety when operating. Boater Education at Blythe Landing substation. Working with everyone to educate and get in compliance.

Catawba Riverkeepers

Brandon Jones – No Report

Water Quality/Erosion/Buffers/Illegal Discharge**Mecklenburg County Water Quality**

Dave Ferguson – No report

NC Wildlife Federation

Billy Wilson – No Report

Comments from the Public:

- Trish Oldenwald – Spoke at March meeting regarding transient rentals. Still concerned and want follow-up from the commission. 500+ rentals in Mooresville. Requesting schedule of what is being done and when. Need answers.
- Barbara Canter – Attended Iredell County Commission meeting to discuss water quality and other concerns with short-term rentals. Concerned with recent drug and weapon arrests at a short-term rental. Requesting owners obtain a license to operate a short-term rental. Documents have been provided to the Marine Commission as well as the Iredell County Commission.
- Richard Poucher – Summer 2011 boat rented to someone with no experience which resulted in a passenger losing an arm and a breast. Although the commission has formed a Boater Education committee there will not be any guidelines put in place this boating season. Meeting with Sheriff Campbell last month who stated almost all deaths and accidents on the lake involve short-term rentals.
- Boots Beasley – Relocating the US Coast Guard Auxiliary to Blythe Landing. Need \$10000 to erect a new tower. Requesting donations from all to assist the USCGA in raising these funds.
- Jack Benyan – Live at Beaten Path Rd in Mooresville. Looking for regulations for short-term rentals on the lake. There are 15 located on Beaten Path. Who is liable if a boat renter isn't educated and results in an accident? Would like to be on the rental boat committee.

- Frank Johnson – Safety is first priority. Concerned with short-term rentals on the lake. Started Lake Norman Bike Trail. Requesting help to achieve safety.
- Carl Buford – Have jet skied the whole lake before and raised money for markers. Want to jet ski the lake again to raise money for the tornado victims in the Midwest.
- Mike Joy – Life long resident of Lake Norman behind Lake Norman High School. Concerned with all the change due to short-term rentals in the area. Looking to enforce regulations. Concerned about rain runoff from the developments that are causing silt in the water.

Committee Reports:

ATON Committee

Executive Director Morris Sample – Report Attached

Environmental/Hydrilla Committee

Executive Director Morris Sample reported stocking of 750 grass carp in late April or early May. Actual date to be determined.

Boater Education/Communication

Commissioner Johnson reported contacted several volunteer groups to work with the commission on Love Where You Lake. Also, looking to contact lake front HOA's. Working with the Float It Forward campaign to progress this movement to have life saving rings on all docks. Excited about the USCGA satellite at Blythe Landing. Would like all law enforcement groups involved in a universal lake reporting. **(Delete sentence on Eddinger health)**

Charter Boat Committee

Commissioner Uzzolina – No Report

Rental Boat Committee

Commissioner Frank reported have legal counsel working on a draft for rental boats based on the feedback that has been received. Hope to have the draft posted before the May meeting.

Rafting Committee

Commissioner Uzzolina - No Report

No Wake Buoys

Commissioner Howard reported no current buoy applications. No update on the removal of illegal buoys by the NC Wildlife.

Applications

No-Wake Buoy Requests

- None

Rafting Applications

- None

Charter Boat Applications

- None

Variances

- None

PERMITS

- PYC – Rafting Application – Commissioner Howard made a motion to approve, Commissioner Frank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Charter Boat Permits – 5 received
 - Carolina Tiki – Previous permit holder - Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve, Commissioner Frank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Carolina Grace – Previous permit holder - Commissioner Frank made a motion to approve, Commissioner Johnson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Ride LKN – New - 2 permits requested – If the boat is replaced, a new permit is required. Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve, Commissioner Scott seconded. The motion passed 3 for and 1 against.
 - Sundaze Charters of Lake Norman – New – Pending – Need to know if they have a functional bathroom and if so where will they pump out.
 - Asmat Yacht – New – The Landings at Slanting Bridge Rd – Commissioner Frank made a motion to approve, Commissioner Johnson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

FERC Applications

- None

Administrative Matters

- USCGA Grant requesting approval – Commissioner Frank made a motion to approve. Commissioner Howard seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- State Approved Auditor renewal contract – The price remained the same as last year. Commissioner Frank made a motion to approve. Commissioner Howard seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.

Our next meeting will be May 8, 2023

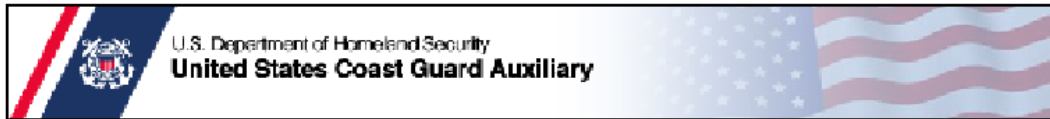
Chairman asked for a closed meeting to discuss business with legal counsel. Closed Session was called to order and Commissioners discussed the lake rental house issue with legal counsel. A draft position paper will be circulated for comments and presented for action at a later date.

April 19, 2023 Meeting

- Sad note, Lake Norman lost one of the icons of the Lake. Gus Gustafson passed away last week. Gus was involved in many organizations around the lake, including the Marine Commission. He will be greatly missed.
- Duke is working on an update to the Shoreline Management Plan and the Marine Commission will be participating in that review.
- Please report any issues with lake markers to the Marine Commission at lnmc.org. For shoal markers, please include the label number on each pole just below the sign. This helps in making sure we have the correct marker. There are currently 192 markers, buoys that we maintain.

ATON Report April 2023

- Hwy 150 Main Channel, Buoy missing from south side
- Hwy 150 Bridge at Mountain Creek Marina, buoy missing
- New No Wake buoys to be installed at Mt. Pleasant Rd. Bridge
- Williamson Rd Bridge, Buoy #135 – Light Out
- Slanting Bridge Buoys out of position



Report from USCG Auxiliary for Lake Norman Marine Commission April 10, 2023

Submitted by: Steve Riggan, USCG Auxiliary
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 Mobile: 734-634-4511
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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 2023	
Activity	YTD As Of 04/03/2023
On-Water Patrols Count	1
On-Water Patrols Hours	3
Public Education Classes	1
Public Education Enrollees	25
Vessel Safety Checks Completed	3

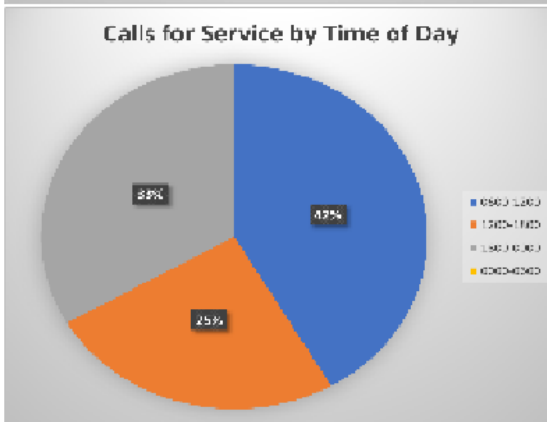
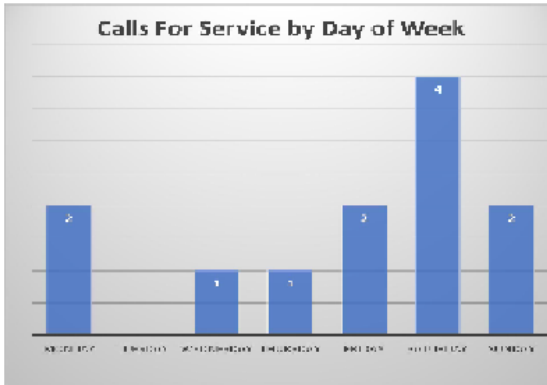
Upcoming Events and Items of Note:

1. Activities continue to install a USCG Auxiliary Fixed Land VHF Marine Radio Station. The existing radio antenna tower has been removed from Midway Marina and is stored at a member's home. New location is Blythe Landing Park with ongoing discussions with Mecklenburg Parks and various funding sources.
2. A boating safety class in-person was held March 25, 2023 at Denver Fire Dept. The class graduated 25 students.
3. Next boating safety class is May 20, 2023 at Denver Fire Dept.
4. Vessel Safety Checks will be conducted at Safe Harbor Kings Point on May 20 as part of a boaters "garage sale" held that day.
5. Upcoming on-water operations:
 - a. Joint Lake Training Days with First Responders and LEO's on May 8-9 and possibly 10-11, 2023. CG Auxiliary is assisting with training incident scenario development.
 - b. Various training patrols including with a Sea Scout ship sponsored by CGAUX Flotilla 26-04 on LKN.

End of report.



March 2023 Monthly Lake Report



Officers responded to 12 calls for service during the month of March. These calls for service were on the lake only. The most calls for service was on Saturdays. Calls for service were most often reported between the hours of 6:00am -12:00pm. The average response time for all calls of service was 5.83 minutes. The average response time to citizen generated calls was 6.80 minutes. Officers conducted 340 zone checks. Officers were also involved in 11 community involvement activities and 1 special events.

Monthly Activity	
Vessel/Lake Related Questions	4
Suspicious Vessel	2
Reckless Vessel	1
Trespass	1
Assist other Agency	1
Suspicious Person	1
Assist Vessel	1
Navigation Hazard	1

March Highlights:

- Lake Officers spoke with a girl scout troop about lake and boating safety, also giving a tour of our lake facilities and boats.
- Lake Officers and Cornelius Fire personnel in conjunction with several local businesses pulled together to remove and dismantle an abandon 28 foot sailboat which was sunk on an island beach near the old sandbar. The boat has been the subject of a multitude of calls for our agency.
- Continued talks with Mecklenburg County Parks in reference to the new Boat Rental Ordinance.
- Work is continuing on operating a Lake Safety Program at Blythe Landing. The program will be operated out of space given by the Parks at Blythe Landing an will focus on lake safety and boater education. The plan also include a coast guard auxiliary station at the site.
- Lake Patrol Officers attended a meeting at Charlotte Fire Headquarters for equipment assessment and readiness for the upcoming FEMA Lake Clearing Exercises