



Punta Gorda Boaters Alliance

Minutes

January 19, 2017

9:00am Vice President; Ed Benson called the meeting to order. Present: 2 Officers, 16 Directors and 5 Advisors.

A moment of silence to honor our President, Jay Buckley was called by Vice President, Ed Benson.

Election of Officers: Chuck Millburg

Chuck presented the Slate of Officers for the vote for approval:

President - John Welsh

Vice President - Ed Benson

Secretary - Mary Dorey

Treasurer - Chuck Millburg

The motion was called to accept the Slate of Officers, seconded and passed without discussion.

Minutes: The October 20, 2016 minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Membership invoices for dues will be issued February, 2017. Financial details will be reported at the February meeting, to be voted on for approval.

January, 2017 - MAC Grant (Weather Station) check was received. Payback of bridge loan to the Punta Gorda Sailing Club was made. The cost to the PGBA of the weather station was minimal. (Financial statement for this project is available to members upon request.)

Weather Station: Ron Jones, Project Manager

Ron gave an update of the project and has been out on the water testing. He showed us the actual station that will be mounted on Marker 4. The weather station should be up and working within the next two weeks.

We had an anonymous donor order all the necessary equipment to install a weather station on Marker 2. The equipment has been ordered. Not necessary to complete the paper work for a MAC Grant. Should be installed by spring. Should get Coast Guard approval next week.

Power Squadron will maintain equipment and data.

Strategic Planning Session

The rest of the meeting was spent on Strategic Planning which was presented by incoming President, John Welsh.

John noted all the responses on a white board in the front of the room noting **focus for 2017** and **future focus**.

John involved all members by asking specific questions:

Who are our customers?

Responses:

- Boating Residents
- Cruisers coming to our area
- City of Punta Gorda
- Marine Businesses
- Members of the Alliance

Suggestions:

Change mission statement - Charlotte Harbor Boaters Alliance - Name Change of Alliance?

2017

County/City working together
 Pump Out Boat (exist)
 Weather Station (exist)
 Alligator Creek Access (exist)
 Environment Issues
 Coordinating/Calibrating with Team GPA
 By-laws
 Recruit Members
 Review government regulations
 Promote services
 Position Paper
 CHNEP - get to meetings - environment issues
 The Commentator - check on whether we can write articles
 Increase visibility - local newspaper
 Weather visibility - websites
 Legislature information to public
 Waterlife and Waterline - Editor
 Waterfront Plan

Future

County Focus - Charlotte Harbor
 Day Docks
 On shore access for boaters
 Mooring Field

There was discussion regarding the Gilchrist Park Activity Center (Formerly known as Waterfront Activity Center). No funding right now from City and this may be a project in the far future.

Hans Wilson of SWFMIA gave input regarding the fact that we have a strong voice within our community and county. His organization is involved in all legislatures in the State. There is brand recognition in having a name like Charlotte County Boaters Alliance.

John stated strongly that this organization cannot be viable unless all the members make a commitment to get involved with the Alliance and take back to their clubs and organizations issues that require their attention. Plus get the word out that the Alliance is there to help with boating and waterfront issues in our community. We need each member to contribute to achieve our 2017 goals and future goals noted here today.

Ron Ludwig (Mac Representative) wants members to go to the County Website and give him feedback on the MAC grant applications.

Next Meeting: February 16, 2017, 9AM in the PGCA meeting room.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:39 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Carol Geiger (Outgoing Treasurer)