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1 MARI NE ADVI SORY BOARD
 2 April 7, 2005 - 7:00 P. M.
 3 CITY HALL
 4 CITY COMMI SSION CONFERENCE ROOM - EIGHTH FLOOR
 5 100 North Andrews Avenue
 6 Fort Lauderdale, Florida

	Present	Cumulative from 5/1/04	
6 Board Members	Absent	(P)	(A)
7 Randolph Adams	P	P-2	A-0
John Baker	P	P-7	A-0
8 Ryan Campbell	P	P-9	A-1
Richard Duncan	P	P-8	A-2
9 Barry Flanagan, Chair	P	P-10	A-0
Joseph Hessmann	P	P-10	A-0
10 Roger McKee	P	P-9	A-1
Norbert McLaughlin, Vice Chair	P	P-9	A-1
11 Robert Sadowski	A	P-7	A-3
Rick Schulze	A	P-7	A-3
12 John Terrell	P	P-10	A-0
Stephen Tilbrook	P	P-7	A-2
13 Dr. Geraldine Udell	A	P-8	A-2
Eugene Zorovich	P	P-8	A-2

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15 Staff

16 Jamie Hart, Supervisor of Marine Facilities
 17 Bruce Larkin, Director of Business Enterprises
 18 Sgt. Mike O'Connor, Fort Lauderdale Marine Police Unit

19 Visitors

20 Mr. Tom Tapp, Former Director of Parks and Recreation
 21 Bob Ross, President Harbor Beach Home Owners Association
 22 Bill Ciani
 23 Carlos Rodriguez
 24 Michael Gagne
 25 Joan Brochu
 Dean Spidle
 Chuck Bortell
 Scott Strawbridge, Riverwalk Trust

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1 I. Call to Order/Roll Call

2 The Marine Advisory Board meeting was
 3 called to order by Chairman Barry Flanagan at
 7:17 P.M. A quorum was present with eleven

members. Roll call was taken, results above.

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II. Approval of Minutes - March 3, 2005

Mr. Adams informed the Board of an error to last month's minutes. In Section III, New Members, Mr. Adams advised the Board he had worked for Nance and Underwood. The minutes reflect a misspelling of the company name as Nassau Underwood. The minutes shall reflect this correction.

In addition, Mr. Adams reported that on page 24 Mr. Hart spoke of cleats needing to be installed for day dockage of smaller craft. Mr. Adams noted that the Broward County Marine Advisory Committee did secure funding from the city for the Marshall Point project for that purpose. At this time the city is in the process of finalizing the appropriation.

A motion was made by Mr. Duncan to accept the MAB minutes, as revised, from March 3, 2005, and seconded by Mr. Campbell. All present were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Waterway Crime & Boating Safety Report
Mike O'Connor, Fort Lauderdale Marine Police Unit

Officer O'Connor was pleased to report a slow crime month:

* Two boating accidents relating to engine malfunction, no injuries.

* A grounding at the entrance of Port Everglades, also a mechanical failure.

* Four burglaries:
1. One off of Las Olas.
2. Three at Cable Marina on the same date.

* Additionally, a theft reported by Marine Max of a 54' Hatteras. The vessel was located and recovered with no damage or loss within six hours.

Officer O'Connor advised that a fireboat training schedule is in the process of being organized. There is still interest in this project and it will be accomplished this year.

He also advised that two officers from his unit have been promoted to the rank of seargent in the last six months; Bill Stewart and Robbie Blish.

IV. Sylvan Lake Waterskiing Ban
Jamie Hart

8 The residents and boat owners on Sylvan
9 Lake have brought their concerns to the City
10 Commission with regard to possible elimination
of water skiing on the lake. They cited vessel
11 and dock damage due to the wake produced by this
activity. This issue has been referred by the
12 District Commissioner to the Marine Advisory
Board for input. Mr. Hart noted that there are
13 only four areas in addition to the Middle River
at present that accommodate water skiers: Sylvan
Lake, Sunrise Bay, Rio Barcelona Canal, and on a
14 limited basis Mills Pond Park.

15 Statistics from law enforcement indicate
that since November 2002 to the present there
16 have been zero accidents, zero injuries, four
citations (none for water skiing), seven
17 warnings, and 157 documented area checks. The
State of Florida requires a vessel that is
18 damaged by wake to be listed as an accident.
Officer O'Connor noted that none were reported
in Sylvan Lake. He also added that of the
19 tickets written for marine violations, very few,
probably less than 5%, were issued to water
skiers.

20 There are posted signs in the area that
define the limitations of the activity and the
21 size of the boats permitted. It was also noted
that this location is not a manatee area.

22 Public input:

23 * Anthony Armao - Mr. Armao has been
24 spearheading the effort to eliminate water
skiing from the lake for the past six months.
25 He presented the Chairman with several e-mails
from supporters, and a display of pictures of

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1 the lake. He noted that Lake Sylvan is the only
2 area marina without a no wake area. Mr. Armao's
main concerns are damage from the wake, noise
3 level, safety issues, and the effect of this
activity on their property values.

4 * Bob Ross - President of Harbor Beach
Home Owners Association. Mr. Ross reported that
5 his association backs Mr. Armao's request,
citing safety as the main concern and vessel
6 damage as a secondary issue. He noted that the
lake is getting more crowded each year. He did
7 concede that the problem stems from just a few
individuals who act in an abrasive, boisterous
8 manner, and that jet skiers add to the problem.
As a compromise he suggested water skiing be
9 limited to a certain number of hours each day.

10 * Bill Ciani - Mr. Ciani noted that
circling water skiers restrict other uses of the
11 water. He also feels that if Lake Sylvan is

12 successful in prohibiting this activity, the
13 other three areas where it is allowed will
14 become problem sites, adding that if Lake Sylvan
15 is closed to water skiers, then the other areas
16 should be closed to that activity also. Mr.
17 Ciani stressed that the police should have more
18 supervision in these areas, and that they take
19 too long to respond to complaints.

16 * Carlos Rodriguez - Mr. Rodriguez noted
17 that vessels traversing the Intracoastal
18 Waterway and boats from Coral Ridge Yacht Club
19 cause wake problems at Sunrise Bay. If one area
20 is shut down for water skiing, all the other
21 areas should be included as well. He noted that
22 most boaters do not want or like water skiing,
23 and the residents in this area support Mr.
24 Armao's efforts.

21 * Michael Gagne - Mr. Gagne lives on
22 Middle River in a water skiing area; however,
23 his experience has been that it is only busy on
24 weekends. He feels water skiing is a great
25 family recreational sport and is only one of the
many water activities found in the area. He
stressed that the water is for all activities,
not just boat owners. He noted that tide
movement damages sea walls, not boat wakes, and
that all waterways experience wakes.

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1 * Joan Brochu - Ms. Brochu lives on
2 Sunrise Bay and is on the Board of Governors for
3 the Coral Ridge Association. Ms. Brochu built
4 her home before water skiing came to her area.
5 She reflected that she would not have built in
6 the area had she known waterskiing would be
7 permitted. She informed the Board that she is
unable to enjoy her dock on weekends, and that
her boat has been damaged by water skiing wake
from skiers that circle. She added that foul
language is common, as well as discourteous
behavior.

8 * Dean Spiddle - Mr. Spiddle has worked on
9 Lake Sylvan for 17 years. His complaint is that
10 every other waterway in the city has a no wake
11 requirement but Lake Sylvan.

11 * Chuck Bortell - Mr. Bortell reminded the
12 Board at last month's meeting there had been a
13 discussion about supporting legislation where
14 the key words were "public access" and the
15 "importance of boating access". Water skiing is
an activity that needs a designated spot. He
noted that everyone has inconveniences in our
respective neighborhoods wherever we may live,
adding that it is important to accommodate
everyone's interests. Although there may be

16 some department problems, there are no safety
17 issues at this time, and in his opinion there is
18 no valid reason to discontinue water skiing.

19 * Tom Tapp - Mr. Tapp advised that as a
20 government we try to do the best we can for the
21 most people, adding that this is not an easy
22 issue. The compromise, wherein water skiing is
23 allowed in four areas, seems to be working. The
24 waterways are for all the people, not just
25 property owners along the water. It is Mr.
Tapp's opinion that water skiing should continue
in these areas.

Chairman Flanigan closed the public portion
of the meeting. It is his belief that the
Commissioners are not interested in eliminating
water skiing in any one area. The old Florida
Marine Patrol, currently Florida Fish and
Wildlife Commission, enacted the Uniform
Regulatory Marker Act of 2003. In the statute

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1 that is referred to in the Act, the city does
2 not currently have the ability to reduce speeds
in any water area.

3 After discussions, the Board felt that
4 there was no safety issue at the present time.
5 It was suggested that enhancing the presence of
6 law enforcement may curb the poor behavior that
7 appears to be the cause of most of the problems.
8 It was also recommended that weekend volunteers
9 police their own areas to discourage
10 irresponsible actions and to assist the Marine
11 Patrol officers.

12 Chairman Flanigan would like to see that
13 consideration be given to aid the residents in
14 the four areas with assistance in their policing
15 activities. Mr. Larkin noted that he understood
16 the direction of the Board; that through police
17 and marine facilities the areas affected be
18 assisted with their endeavor to monitor the
19 persons responsible.

The Board also suggested that during peak
holiday times, such as July 4th, certain water
activities may be limited for safety reasons at
the discretion of local authorities. Sergeant
O'Connor agreed that that could be a possibility
if the situation warranted such action.

15 After discussion by the Board a motion was
16 made by Mr. Adams, and seconded by Mr. Hessmann
17 that the Marine Advisory Board forward to the
18 City Commission the recommendation that no
change be made to existing regulations. A vote
was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

19 V. New River Floating Dock Plan

Jami e Hart

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Mr. Hart presented the Board with a map of areas being considered for this plan. Mr. Larkin advised that \$50,000 has been set aside to facilitate this project, therefore the sites need to be ranked in the order needed for study and implementation. Each location will cost approximately \$11,000. Once the Board has prioritized the locations, staff will work through the funding and work through the list in the order they were ranked. After discussion of the pros and cons on each location, the sites were prioritized in the following order:

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1. Performing Arts Center - west
2. Marine Facilities Office
3. S.E. 3rd Avenue Bridge - east side
4. Riverhouse
5. Stranahan House

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Scott Strawbridge advised the Board that Riverwalk Trust is extremely interested and supports this project, stating it is not only a recreation boating opportunity but an economic generator. Mr. Strawbridge felt funds currently slotted for CIP design guidelines at the Parks and Recreation Department could be reallocated (through the proper channels and committee approval) to help facilitate this project. Mr. Strawbridge noted that this district may be identified in the future not just as Riverwalk, but as Riverwalk Park and Marina.

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A motion was made by Mr. Terrell and seconded by Mr. Campbell that the Marine Advisory Board recommend that the City Commission expand the existing floating dock pilot program to include five additional locations, and retain the services of the City's engineering consultant, Keith and Schnars, for the duties associated in creating a site plan, including the design, permitting, all documents and drawings for construction of floating docks, and documents required for an RFP. It is recommended that the floating dock sites be located, in order of preference: 1) Performing Arts Center on the west side; 2) in front of the Marine Facilities Office; 3) east side of the S.E. 3rd Avenue bridge; 4) Riverhouse; and 5) east of the Stranahan House. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Flanigan was asked by the Board to consider remaining on this project even though his tenure as Chairman has ended. Mr. Larkin agreed.

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A motion was made by Mr. Hessmann, and
Page 6

24 seconded by Mr. Zorovich that Mr. Flanigan
remain active on the Floating Dock Project. A
25 vote was taken, and passed unanimously.

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1 Mr. Flanigan agreed to continue his work
2 on this item.

3 VI. 2005-06 Marine Facilities Office Lease
Jamie Hart

4 After a short discussion about the lease
5 increase and the new signage, as well as other
6 new conditions presented by Mr. Hart, A motion
7 was made by Mr. Adams and seconded by Mr.
Campbell to approve the lease as presented in
the packet. A vote was taken, and the motion
passed unanimously.

8 VII. Old/New Business
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10 There was no old/new business on the agenda
to be discussed at this meeting.

11 VIII. Reports - Chairman
12 Barry Flanigan

13 Mr. Flanigan advised the Board that during
the past year, not counting tonight, there have
14 been 143 "presents" and 18 "absents", or
approximately 83%. More importantly are the
15 motions, not counting adjournment, made: 29
motions made, 26 of them unanimous. These
16 unanimous votes reflect the strong commitment
and passion of this Board on the issues before
17 it, and they get the attention of the Mayor,
Commissioners, and the City Manager. The Board
18 competes for staff time and resources, as does
all of the other City Advisory Boards. Staff
19 time is directed by the City Manager, through
the department heads, by the Commission.

20 Mr. Flanigan addressed the successes and
dark moments the City faced last year: Not
21 seeking privatization as an alternate course for
the operation of the marine facilities; the
22 alliance formed between Riverwalk and Marine
Advisory Board; the loss of a city manager and
the welcoming of a new City Manager, George
23 Gretsas; Bruce Larkin, Director of Business
Enterprises, became director of marine
24 operations; and the Floating Docks project.

25 Mr. Flanigan would like to see a member of
this Board on a volunteer basis ride with a
Marine Patrol unit on weekends once a month.

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1 He advocated a continued alliance with
2 MIAASF and to not let the mega-yacht week
3 program, as well as the Billfish Tournament,
4 wither. In addition, tour boat locations need
5 to be worked on this year, zoning-wise, to
6 accommodate parking and pedestrians.

7 Mr. Flanigan noted that money has been set
8 aside for advertisement of the Floating Dock
9 project. He suggests a study be done before the
10 docks are complete to familiarize ourselves with
11 the day-to-day running of the dock, which will
12 facilitate a smooth opening and seamless
13 operation.

14 Mr. Flanigan spoke to the Board regarding
15 current boat lift restrictions. Docks of 8-10
16 feet are not uncommon; however the average
17 registered boat in Broward County is 26' long.
18 Under the existing statute, Chapter 8, the boat
19 owner cannot put his boat on a lift, as 12'6" is
20 the maximum length allowed. In addition there
21 is a seawall cap. Legally, a boat is allowed to
22 extend 30% into the canal, which is more
23 restrictive for passing traffic than if the law
24 was updated to reflect realistic figures. Mr.
25 Flanigan supports lobbying to change the current
regulations to accommodate today's marine
market.

Mr. Flanigan spoke of his desire to see a
modern marina facility replace the current Las
Olas Marina. It is his wish to some day see
this marina reconfigured to open it up to
today's vessels. Two proposals were offered for
future consideration. These proposals are not
connected to the city staff at this time and are
just a concept at this point. The parking lot
could be removed (the fill is of value and can
be recycled), and a 2-story enclosed parking
garage could be constructed.

Further enhancement of the facility could
be accomplished by adding between 84-114 slips
that could accommodate modern vessels as well as
mega-yachts. Restaurants and up-scale shops
could be added to complete the renovation. This
could potentially be an eight-million dollar
project; however, the revenue stream has the
potential to generate up to six million dollars
a year.

Mr. Flanigan thanked the Board and members
of staff for their time and passionate efforts.

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2 IX. Adjournment

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As this was Chairman Flanigan's last
meeting, Mr. Hessmann, on behalf of the Board,

4 thanked him for his good work, dedication, and
5 tireless effort as chairman for the year
2004-2005, and presented him with a plaque in
6 gratitude.

7 A motion to adjourn was made by Mr.
Hessmann and seconded by Campbell. The meeting
8 was adjourned at 9:45 P.M. by Chairman Flanagan.

9 Respectfully submitted,
Jody E. Lebel

10 Court Reporter

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