

LAKE NORMAN MARINE COMMISSION



MINUTES FEBRUARY 9, 2004 MOORESVILLE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Lake Norman Marine Commissioners Attending

Terry Davis
Earl Kiser
Rob Digh
Mark Lancaster

Mecklenburg County
Catawba County
Lincoln County
Iredell County

Staff Present

Blair Israel

Centralina Council of Governments

Minutes

Motion to approve the Jan. 12, 2004 minutes. Kiser seconded the motion. Passed.

Reports

Charlotte Mecklenburg Lake Patrol – Doug Lambert reported 34 calls for service, 0 boats inspected, 0 boats assisted, 14 citations issued, 0 boaters warned, 2 navigational hazard removed, 2 crime prevention programs, 0 land arrest, 48 training hours and 0 medical emergencies

Town of Cornelius – Reported no calls for assistance.

Iredell County Sheriff – Phil Jones stated nothing to report

Catawba County Sheriff – Earl Kiser reported 222 hours patrolled by land, 18 hours patrolled by water, 240 man hours, 0 training hours, 168 property checks, 27 community contacts, 2 boats inspected, 0 PWCs inspected, 4 warning citations, 2 hard citations 1 vessel assisted, 0 navigational hazards removed and 152 total calls for service.

Lincoln County Sheriff – No report

N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission – Sgt. Mehl reported 111.5 hours on lake, 10 citations, 1 BWI arrests and 0 accidents.

Duke Power – Ann Duncan reported 54 pier applications were approved. Lake level was 95.5.

Power Squadron – Clyde Starr reported 12 vessel safety examinations performed in January with the help of two new safety examiners. A Safe Boating Class will be offered at Davidson College on Feb. 19. A two-day course will also be offered some time this spring in the Denver area.

Coast Guard Auxiliary – No patrols since last meeting.

Mecklenburg Lake Patrol – No report.

Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation – Isaac Applewhite introduced new Park Watch Coordinator Jennifer Battaglia.

Mecklenburg County Water Quality – Dave Caldwell sent an email saying no report for this month.

Lake Norman Lakekeepers – No report on Adopt-An-Island.

Hydrilla – Bob Elliot, Chairman of the LNMC Hydrilla Committee. The completed Hydrilla Management Plan has been posted on the Lake Norman website. North Carolina Wildlife Resources is presently processing the permit for the introduction of sterile grass carp into Lake Norman. A letter requesting 50/50 matching funds for the Plan's implementation has been sent to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Aquatic Weed Council in time for approval at their February 18, 2004 meeting. The Committee is requesting the balance of the funds from Duke Power, county water utilities and Lake area businesses. Holiday Marina has already contributed \$1000.00.

Comments from the Public - none

Committee Reports

Preservation & Safety Committee - Bob Elliot reported that the No Wake Buoy application has been amended with minor changes. Ordinance signs have also been slightly modified to include continually updated statistical information on compliance.

Maintenance – Mark Mozeley reported some Navigational Aids had been fixed. Weather permitting more will be fixed next month.

FERC Comments – No applications submitted this month.

Comm. Davis made a motion to open a public hearing to discuss No Wake Zone rules. Comm. Kiser seconded and the motion passed. Comm. Davis described the current No Wake Zone designation, which applies to all areas within 150' of shoreline or docks. This means coves having a width of less than 300' are de facto "no wake coves". However, some of these coves have small isolated areas of greater than 300' width. Under current ruling, such areas do not fall under no wake zone designation. The LNMC would like to change the rule to allow the LNMC discretion in ruling such areas no wake zones thus allowing coves containing them to be designated completely as "no wake coves". Comm. Lancaster described the traffic problem that can occur if skiers are prohibited from using all coves and confined to the main channels only. Comm. Davis clarified that the LNMC would not close more coves to skiers than necessary. The rule change would only effect coves that are generally less than 300' (measured dock to dock when docks are present) but which contain short, isolated wider portions. Comm. Lancaster observed that there are only a few coves that meet this description.

With no further discussion, the public hearing was closed.

No-Wake Zone Application - none

Administrative Reports – none

Adjournment – There being no further business, Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Digh and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Blair Israel
Lake Norman Marine Commission Administrator