

Lake Wylie Marine Commission



**February 27, 2006
7:00 p.m.**

**Red Fez Club
16,600 Red Fez Club Road
Charlotte, NC**

Minutes

Commissioners Present: Chairman Joe Stowe (Gaston County), Commissioner Don Cloninger (York County), Secretary/Treasurer Sandy DuPuy (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Bo Ibach (Mecklenburg County), Vice Chairman Ron Montgomery (York County)

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Dave Cully (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Billy McLean (Gaston County)

LWMC Staff Present: Mike McLaurin, Chris Clark, Annette Lawing

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Welcome & Introductions	Chairman Joe Stowe called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.	
Approve Minutes – January 23, 2006	The minutes from the January 23, 2006 meeting were approved	A motion was made by Ibach to approve 1/23/06 meeting minutes. Seconded by Cloninger. The motion was approved.
Public Comments	No public comments	

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County Reports	<p>Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Dept and SPLASH Report – Officer Everhart reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPLASH robot will not be at the Southern Spring Show in Charlotte due to concerns expressed by the show organizers that the expected crowds and narrow isles would create a safety hazard. • Charlotte Mecklenburg Police is back to full staff • Still working on trailer for SPLASH. <p>Gaston County Police Department – The officer reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Police Department is not currently on the water unless there is an emergency. <p>York County Sheriff’s Office – No Report N.C. Wildlife Resources – No Report Tega Cay Police Department – No Report S.C. Dept of Natural Resources – Sergeant Todd Campbell reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That they are getting ready for the upcoming boating season • One DNR officer has been hired and assigned to York County and they are currently two (2) officers short. • Little Allison – SC DNR has studied this matter and determined that no additional action is necessary. <p>Mecklenburg County Land Use Environmental Service – David Buetow reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new data • Invites the Commission to the Mountain Island Lake Symposium on March 16, 2006 from 10:00am to 2:30 pm at the Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens, Belmont <p>Duke Power – Eric Smith reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifteen (15) piers, four (4) stabilizations have been approved. <p>Lake Wylie Lakekeepers – Steve Johnson reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have eleven (11) people in training for Lakekeepers <p>Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation – Woody Woodward reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woody introduced Renee Hunter – an intern from ASU who will be working with the Mecklenburg Parks and Recreation Department. 	Chairman Stowe has offered to help on SPLASH trailer.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five (5) staff members are going to James Island, SC to be certified in canoe/kayaking. • Duke Power has part of the Catawba/Wateree Relicensing has allotted \$2500.00 to implement a Canoe/Kayak trail. • Peak season will begin in March and will run through October 31, 2006 	
Presentation of the FY 2004-2005 Audit	<p>Presentation of the FY 2004-2005 Audit – Pete Teague with Dixon Hughes reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund Balance grew in FY 2004-2005 and is currently approximately \$37,000 • Pete Teague explained the various attachments and schedules in the audit. We noted that because the LWMC has a very limited staff, segregation of duties is very difficult in handling fiscal matters. Mr. Teague said that there was no evidence of fraud or other mismanagement. . • Sales Tax Refund Report needs to be filed so the Commission can get a reimbursement. This report can be done semi-annually. • One (1) purchase did not have a Purchase Order number and the problem was resolved. • Mike McLaurin asked if the Marine Commission was financially stable? Pete’s response was that he felt that the Marine Commission is very stable when comparing the budget and small staff. • Bo Ibach asked how the Marine Commission funds were invested. Mike explained that the State regulates how funds can be invested. Currently they are in a Savings Account.. 	<p>Mike to report to the Commission next month (March) on investment options for any excess funds.</p>
Request to Purchase Safety Stickers and Magnets for The SPLASH Program	<p>Executive Director Mike McLaurin reported for Commissioner Dave Cully</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike handed out photocopies of the proposed SPLASH magnet and safety stickers. There are three (3) options with various color schemes and various prices. After the Commission reviewed the options a consensus was made. 	<p>A motion was made by Clonger to order a quantity of 2,500 magnets with Blue/Red Color Scheme at a cost of 30 cents each for a total of \$ 750.00. Seconded by Ibach. The motion was approved.</p>

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<p>Consideration of Funding Registration for Officer Everhart in the Amount of \$300 to Attend the International Boating and Water Safety Conference From April 30th – May 3rd, 2006</p>	<p>Executive Director Mike McLaurin reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike recommended that the Lake Wylie Marine Commission fund the registration costs to send Officer Everhart in appreciation of his work with the SPLASH program • Discussion was made to also fund hotel costs as well as registration fees. 	<p>A motion was made by Montgomery that the LWMC fund the registration and hotel costs for Officer Everhart to attend the International Boating and Water Safety Conference in April, with hotel costs not to exceed \$125. Seconded by DuPuy. The motion was approved.</p>
<p>Review of the Marine Commission Goals Worksheet and Discussion of Any Revisions Needed</p>	<p>Chairman Joe Stowe reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairman Stowe opened the discussion asking the Commission what additions or changes need to be made to the LWMC Goals that were generated during their workshop. • Secretary/Treasurer Sandy DuPuy suggested that the Marine Commission conduct a survey of its natural partners to determine the various issues and needs that Marine Commission should tackle. She said that she would be willing to take this project on after May. • Vice-Chairman Montgomery feels like that different groups i.e. York County CoveKeepers all have different issues. • Vice Chairman Montgomery said that the Commission should discuss and decide if it wishes to authorize the signing of the Agreement in Principle. This should be done at the March meeting. He said that Lake Wylie receives a number of 	<p>Secretary/Treasurer DuPuy to submit a proposal to the Commission in May.</p>

	<p>amenities under the current agreement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairman Stowe reported that the IBT Advisory Committee is working to resolve differences in the NC and SC laws as it relates to water quantity issues. • Environmental Issues – Chairman Stowe - Need volunteers to head this and create a Sub-Committee. • Law Enforcement Facility – Chairman Stowe – The land lease has been finalized. As soon as their attorneys review the document, it will be forwarded to the Marine Commission for action. At this point, the Commission will start working toward zoning changes, fundraising, etc. • Commissioner Cully has agreed to research information in order to LWMC Calendar • Website Photo – Commissioner Montgomery suggested that the Marine Commission have a contest with area photographers to see who can submit the best photo of the Lake for the Lake Wylie Marine Commission website. • Commissioner Cloninger asked what the timeframe is on the IBT? Chairman Stowe responded by saying that 10 – 15 resolutions have been submitted and his feeling is that this IBT proposal will probably be tabled until Duke Power completes it's Environmental Impact Study. 	<p>Commissioner Ibach to work on the synopsis safety regulations (need detailed sheet showing NC & SC laws.</p>
Finance Report	<p>Executive Director Mike McLaurin reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mecklenburg County has paid dues through February 2006 • Sandy DuPuy is working with Parks Helms on resolving difference in funding support. Mike suggests that we revised the budget to reflect the difference in the Mecklenburg County funding. • Format of the financial reporting – will continue to adjust until a format acceptable to all of the commissioners is found 	
Other Business	<p>Chairman's Report – Chairman Stowe reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with the Mecklenburg County Natural Resources Committee. This Committee consist of several Mecklenburg County Commissioners and is a subcommittee of the Mecklenburg County Commission. Donna Lisenby made an excellent presentation. Both Chairmen from LWMC and MILMC also gave a presentation to the Commission. • Bass Masters Tournament – Had a meeting with local Law Enforcement Lake Enforcement Units on February 22 to discussion the upcoming Bass Master Tournament in July. The Tournament organizers divide the Lake into seven (7) zones during this tournament. There will be 51 pro fishermen and 51 professional 	

	<p>spectators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Norman will have a Ladies fishing tournament the same weekend • Chairman Stowe announced to the Commission that LWMC Legal Counsel, Chris Clark has left the firm of Shumaker, Loop and Kendrick to work for the firm of Tillman Wright. Joe asked Chris if he wanted to make any comments. • Chris began by stating that is was a very tough decision to leave SL & K but he is excited about working with the Tillman Wright firm. He also welcomed the opportunity to continue working for the LWMC as their legal counsel. Chris explained that he did indeed ask the TW firm if the Legal fees could remain the same for now and they concurred. • After Chris' comments, he was asked to leave the room so the Commission could discuss the options on keeping Chris as the LWMC legal counsel. • Chairman Stowe reminded everyone that the LWMC has a letter of content (no contract) for legal counsel. Therefore, can dismiss counsel at any time. • Legal fees are of importance as well as the youth of the Tillman Wright firm. Joe feels as if Shumaker, Loop and Kendrick had seasoned veterans that know persons around the Counties and State. That was a plus. • It was suggested that a committee be formed to research the Tillman Wright firm as well as explore new firms. • Commissioner Ibach suggested that the Commission continue Chris as legal counsel through the fiscal year then make a firm decision • Chris returned to meeting and was informed of the motion. <p>Executive Director's Report – Mike McLaurin reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety regulations have been updated on website • 2206-2007 Budget – To review with Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer early next week. • Discussion of changing meeting location from McDowell Park to the Red Fez Club 	<p>A motion was made by Ibach to continue Chris Clark as legal counsel at least until the end of the fiscal year. In addition, form a committee to explore other legal firms up until the fiscal year ends. A seconded by DuPuy. The motion was approved.</p> <p>A motion was made by Montgomery to change meeting location from McDowell Park to Red Fez Club. Seconded by Ibach. The motion was approved.</p>
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Commission Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner DuPuy wanted it noted that she and Legal Counsel Chris Clark did create the LWMC IBT Resolution and forwarded it on to the State. • Commissioner Ibach requests that each Commissioner receive a subscription to the Lake Wylie Pilot. Chairman Stowe feels as if each individual person can provide that subscription for himself or herself. 	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 7: 30 p.m.	A motion was made by Ibach to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Montgomery. The motion was approved.
Next Business Meeting Date and Location	The next LWMC business meeting will be held on March 27, 2006 at 7:00 pm at Belmont City Hall, 115 North Main Street, Belmont, NC.	

Annette Lawing, Marine Commission Clerk

Date