

## Marine Sanctuary Meeting Minutes - February 25, 2009

1. Introductions
2. Current Status
  - a. Sanctuary Inclusion in Park Master Plan
    - i. The committee has a written Plan (Version 2) that was distributed earlier this year to the Marine Advisory Committee and Commissioner Goodin
    - ii. The plan includes groupings of pilings & observation pier on gulf side w/ low profile reefs on sound side.
    - iii. A Friends of Park Group will initiated by Gordon Goodin to help distill ideas for the park and generate Park Master Plan
    - iv. There is a possibility that we may be able to meet with Sec of FL Dept of Env Protection to garner support for the park via ideas like inclusion of the park on a state snorkeling trail, and to mine for potential funding sources.
    - v. One of the committee's goals is to gain County Commission approval of a Master Plan for the park that includes the sanctuary as a core component.
  - b. Permitting
    - i. We will need ACOE and FL DEP permits for sound and gulf side.
    - ii. This is a long process and needs to begin ASAP. Robert Turpin suggested that this be done in phases with the committee requesting matching funds from the County to perform the required up front work needed to submit complete permit applications.
    - iii. The current plan will be adjusted to incorporate Phases as follows:
      - Phase I – Gulf Side Reefs
      - Phase II – Sound Side Reefs
      - Phase III – Observation Pier and Platforms
    - iv. Santa Rosa County needs to officially apply for and hold the required permits
    - v. We have hard and digital copies of previous sanctuary plans provided by the state Department of Parks & Recreation to be used as an initial input into the design/permitting process.
    - vi. To minimize cost and reduce the schedule, permit applications should follow current Escambia county applications as template
    - vii. Robert Turpin will coordinate the committee's efforts with regard to permitting.
  - c. Funding
    - i. Current Estimate (\$2,335,000) based on prior bids for work in state park plus approx deployment of approx 100 sound side reef structures. The large bulk of this estimate is associated with the Phase III Observation Pier and Platforms
    - ii. We will begin an immediate short term fundraising effort to raise between \$2,500 and \$5,000. The money will go toward the work of putting together the required permit applications and for creating a logo and generating an artist's rendering of the gulf side reef to be used in promoting the sanctuary to the public. The minimum amount necessary is \$2,500 with a stretch goal of \$5,000. If the stretch goal is met, the additional monies will be used as a risk reduction measure through full funding by the committee (without county fund matching) of the initial permit preparation fees. The intent is to reduce roadblocks to the county's agreement to submit and own the federal and state permits and to expedite this critical path item.
    - iii. Tax Deductible donations may be made via check made payable to:
      - Navarre COC Foundation Account and including Marine Sanctuary in the memo.
      - Checks can be mailed to the following address
      - Navarre Area Chamber of Commerce

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PO Drawer 5430  
Navarre, FL 32566

Checks can be delivered in person to the Chamber at the Visitor Center on 98 by the bridge.

- iv. Everyone is encouraged to solicit donations from civic organizations they may be involved in or know of (Optimist, Rotary, etc).
  - v. Current Marine Sanctuary account balance is \$25.00
  - vi. Jeff Marker of Santa Rosa County Marine Advisory Committee has been lobbying for wider use of Boater Improvement Funds – hopefully another potential funding source.
  - vii. NHS construction students assisting in building reefs via their construction training program should defer some costs for Phase II of the project (sound side reefs).
- d. Marketing
- i. Currently the only public visibility is the committee listing on Navarre Chamber Website
  - ii. Kenny Wilder owns the domain name for the Navarre Beach Marine Sanctuary and has graciously offered to host a website for the committee where we can post various documents and information about our plans and progress. Look for more information on the address of the site as those plans develop and come to fruition. The revised sanctuary plan will be published on the site.
- e. Timeline – The revised plan targets completion dates for the project phases as follows:
- Phase I - Gulf Side Reef. Completion between June 2011 and February 2012.
  - Phase II - Sound Side Reef. Completion between August 2011 and February 2012.
  - Phase III - Observation Pier and Platforms. Completion between November 2012 and July 2013
3. Committee Organization - We were able to fill the following committee positions:
- a. Vice Chairman – Robert Turpin  
Assist in providing strategic direction. Acts as chairman in his/her absence. Coordinate permitting efforts
  - b. Treasurer – Cinnamon Holderman  
Liaison with Chamber controller to manage reporting, disbursement and collection of funds and financial affairs.
  - c. Friends of Park Liaison - Dave Barker (Kayak Dave)  
Sanctuary Committee's voice on the county's Friends of the Park (or similar group) created by county to guide the park use and development
4. Committee Organization - We still need to fill the following committee positions. Please contact [mark.griffith@myzenyx.com](mailto:mark.griffith@myzenyx.com) or 850.677.1875 if you have an interest in providing your leadership, expertise and time in these areas:
- a. Secretary – Maintain committee membership rolls and contact information. Record and publish meeting notices, notes and other official committee documentation.
  - b. Public Affairs Officer – Main marketing and media contact for broadcast news and information concerning the marine sanctuary and/or the committee.
5. Next Steps:
- a. Meet with Commissioner Goodin regarding the possibility of meeting with the FL Secy DEP. Possible topics of discussion are:

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- i. Help in streamlining the permitting process - can prior issued permits be used/amended to reflect current planned components of sanctuary?
  - ii. Promotion of sanctuary as part of a "Snorkeling Trail" or "Marine Ecosystems Trail" program
  - iii. Available grants that may be used.
- b. Meeting Location and Schedule
- i. Confirm potential access to a meeting room in one of the condo towers at the beach for holding monthly committee meetings
  - ii. Set up a monthly meeting schedule (likely to be the last Tuesday of each month at 7 PM)
- c. Publication/Community Awareness of Plan - Coordinate with Kenny Wilder to set up Committee website and organize publication of pertinent documents on the site.
- d. Create Communication Management Plan
- i. Identify all stakeholders and information needs before next meeting
  - ii. Generate comm. plan for use/reference by PAO