

# Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission



**Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities  
5100 Brookshire Blvd  
Charlotte, NC**

## August 2, 2006 Minutes

**Commissioners Present:** Chairman Jerry Campbell (Gaston County), Vice Chairman Dan DuVall (Mecklenburg County), Secretary/Treasurer Alice Battle (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Pam Beck (Gaston County), Commissioner Chris Watson (Lincoln County), Commissioner Greg Shelton (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Ann Danzi (Gaston County)

**MILMC Staff Present:** Mike McLaurin, Executive Director, Chris Clark, Legal Counsel, Annette Lawing, Clerk

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion Summary</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	Chairman Jerry Campbell called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.	
<b>Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag</b>	Chairman Campbell asked everyone present to join in to Pledge Allegiance to the Flag	
<b>Approval of the August 2, 2006 Agenda</b>	The August 2, 2006 agenda was approved as presented	The August 2, 2006 agenda was approved on motions by Commissioners Beck and Danzi.
<b>Statement of Purpose</b>	Legal Counsel, Chris Clark read the Statement of Purpose into the record.	
<b>Public Comments</b>	Tom Blomquist, the President of the Overlook Homeowners Association asked the Commission if he could wait to present his public comment when the No-Wake Zone in Nance Cove is discussed (Item #X). The Commission concurred to the request.	

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion Summary</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>Approval of the July 5, 2006 Meeting Minutes</b>	Revisions to the July 5, 2006 Meeting Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Pg. 3, Gaston County Police Report – These areas have been of extreme interest for the Clean Lake Management Committee <i>for</i> two years.</li> <li>✓ Pg. 3, Gaston County Police Report – Correct spelling of <i>Commendation</i></li> </ul>	The meeting minutes, as amended, were approved on motions by Commissioners Danzi and Battle.
<b>Consent Agenda</b>	None	
<b>Public Safety Reports</b>	<p><b>Charlotte – Mecklenburg Police Department</b> Officer Howard reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 28 boat checks, 11 citations</li> <li>▶ 16 calls for service</li> </ul> <p><b>Gaston County Police Department</b> Officer Steven Brandon reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 69 inspections, 25 boater assists</li> <li>▶ 20 calls for service</li> <li>▶ 40 trespassing violations</li> </ul> <p>Vice-Chairman DuVall asked if the reporting officers could provide any details on the recent drowning of a man near the dam? Officer Brandon did not want to elaborate on the report due to he did not have all the information regarding the accident.</p> <p><b>Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ No report</li> </ul> <p><b>N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ No report</li> </ul> <p><b>Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation</b> Woody Woodward reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Mountain Island Challenge is scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup></li> <li>▶ Canoe-O is also scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup></li> <li>▶ 110 kids participated in water-based programs/3 camps</li> <li>▶ Canoe access area will benefit from the FERC process</li> </ul>	

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
<b>Public Safety Reports (continued)</b>	<b>Duke Energy of the Carolinas</b> Ronnie Lawson reported <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Lake level is at 96.8</li> <li>▶ Approved 0 pier applications, 1 shoreline stabilization</li> </ul>	
<b>Environmental Reports</b>	<b>Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ No Report</li> </ul> <b>Charlotte Engineering and Property Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ No Report</li> </ul> <b>Lakekeepers Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ No Report</li> </ul>	
<b>Consideration of Extending the No-Wake Zone in Nance Cove</b>	<b>Consideration of Extending the No-Wake Zone in Nance Cove</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Tom Blomquist, President of Overlook Homeowners Association gave his support of extending the No-Wake Zone in Nance Cove. Mr. Blomquist stated that the cove is approximately 300' wide, excluding Overlook access area. It's very common to see boaters going at a high rate of speed in this cove therefore, safety should be a main concern when considering Nance Cove as a No-Wake Zone.</li> <li>▶ Chairman Campbell thanked Mr. Blomquist for his remarks and extended the opportunity for discussion to the Commissioners.</li> <li>▶ Commissioner Danzi wasn't clear on what is being proposed in Nance Cove and asked for clarification.</li> <li>▶ Executive Director, Mike McLaurin stated that the Commission is proposing Nance Cove as a No-Wake zone separately from the 150' No-Wake proposal.</li> <li>▶ Commissioner Shelton added that the Commission needed to decide on the proposed 150' No-Wake proposal before addressing Nance Cove.</li> <li>▶ Secretary/Treasurer Battle suggested possibly reducing Nance Cove to a 100' No Wake buffer.</li> <li>▶ Commissioner Beck replied that the No-Wake buffers needed to be consistent as a 150' No-Wake. Having several different limitations would only confuse boaters.</li> </ul>	

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
<p><b>Consideration of Extending the No-Wake Zone in Nance Cove (continued)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Secretary/Treasurer Battle asked Officer Howard with the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department if they have had any problems enforcing the 150' buffer on Lake Norman? Officer Howard replied that they have had no problems enforcing this buffer and it has significantly decreased the number of boaters coming close to docks.</li> <li>▶ Vice-Chairman DuVall reemphasized that the decision on the No-Wake Zones need to be simple and able for self-enforcement.</li> <li>▶ Commissioner Shelton suggested installing danger buoys in the problem areas in Nance Cove in lieu of buffer.</li> <li>▶ Secretary/Treasurer Battle replied that buoys are not necessary because most boaters will know when they are close to 100' to a dock.</li> <li>▶ The Mountain Island Monitor is a good way to let boaters and residents of the lake know of any new regulations. Beginning in 1999, the Charlotte Observer covered the MIL Marine Commission meetings, but it wasn't until the MI Monitor began coverage that the community became more aware of what the commission is doing, as in the case of the 150' buffer.</li> <li>▶ After motions were made, Secretary/Treasurer Battled stated that a 150' No Wake Zone buffer is from any boat access, pier or bridge.</li> </ul>	<p>A motion was made by Commissioner Shelton to hold a public hearing to consider all of Nance Cove a No-Wake Zone. Seconded by Commissioner Beck. The motion was approved.</p> <p>A second motion was made by Commissioner Shelton to hold a public hearing (on the same day as the above hearing) to consider a 150' No-Wake Zone buffer in Nance Cove. Seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Battle. The motion was not approved.</p>
<p><b>Report on the River Tour to be Conjunction with the Bi-State River Commission</b></p>	<p><b>River Tour Update</b> Chairman Campbell reporting that the River Tour will be in conjunction with the Bi-State River Commission meeting on August 18<sup>th</sup> at the Raptor Center.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Commissioner Danzi asked if the MIL Commissioners would be invited to attend? Chairman Campbell replied that they all are invited to attend the River Tour.</li> <li>▶ Commissioner Beck distributed a tour outline to the Commissioners and asked them to review this draft and give any additions/revisions to her by August 11<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>	

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
<b>River Tour (Continued)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Will have a meeting at Centralina Council of Governments on Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 to make final preparations.</li> </ul>	
<b>Base Operating Plan</b>	<p><b>Base Operating Plan (BOP)</b>  Vice-Chairman DuVall updated activities and projects on the BOP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Project 2, Annual BOP Workshop (BOP Subcommittee) – Pre-meeting in August</li> <li>▶ Project 4, River Tour for Elected Officials (Campbell/Beck) – River Tour will be in conjunction with Bi-State Meeting on August 18<sup>th</sup> at the Raptor Center.</li> <li>▶ Project 6, Law Enforcement Workshop (Danzi) – Tabled. Will not be having a workshop this year.</li> <li>▶ Project 8, Big Sweep (Battle/Watson) – Big Sweep has been tentatively set for September 23<sup>rd</sup>.</li> <li>▶ Project 9, Post Boating Safety Rules (Battle) – Will be meeting with Duke Energy next week.</li> <li>▶ Project 14, FERC/Duke Relicensing (Battle) – Battle signed final agreement on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Completed project</li> <li>▶ Project 17, MILMC Section of Ad Code (Shelton) – Commissioner Shelton to contact General Assembly and Political contacts to discuss publishing MILMC section of Ad Code. Shelton will meet with Counsel Chris Clark and Executive Director Mike McLaurin to bring funding counties up to speed on this project. Commissioner Beck, stressing that she believes that this is the most important project for the Commission, volunteered to assist in making contacts.</li> <li>▶ Project 24, MILMC Signage on Hwy 16 and Hwy 73 (Shelton) – Commissioner Shelton distributed a draft photo of the proposed MILMC sign that he would like to see installed at Hwy 16 and Hwy 73. The signs would be 4’ x 8’ in size and the estimated price for four signs would be \$1,600.00. Executive Director Mike McLaurin will be in charge of contacting DOT to get approval. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Commissioners Beck and Battle were not in favor of purchasing signs to advertise Mountain Island Lake. Commissioner Beck stated that there is enough traffic on the lake and we should not be promoting more boaters to come on the lake. Should use money for buoys and literature to educate boaters.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>A motion was made by Commissioner Shelton to have MILMC authorize Commissioner Shelton to purchase four (4) signs that will be installed at Hwy 16 and Hwy 73 (if approved by DOT). This purchase is not to exceed \$1,600 and the budget will be adjusted accordingly. Seconded by Commissioner Danzi. (2) opposed, (5) in favor. Motion was approved.</p>

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion Summary</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>Base Operating Plan (continued)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Commissioner Danzi stated that the Whitewater Park is set to open in September and these signs would be a great tool to attract canoers and kayakers.</li> <li>▶ Project 28, Clean Lake Management (Battle) – Notified Mt. Holly that trespassers have left Big Island and now have been seen on the Mt. Holly property. Authorities have also been notified. Law Enforcement was also notified of a bon fire on the State Forest property.</li> <li>▶ Project 29, Mountain Island Map Project (McLaurin) – Executive Director Mike McLaurin distributed a draft proposal with the estimated prices and timetable to produce the MI Lake maps. Considering the high cost, the Commission recommends not to take any action at this time. This project is now tabled.</li> <li>▶ Project 30, 150’ No Wake Zone (Battle) – Refer to information on page 3 and 4 of this document.</li> </ul>	
<b>Chairman’s Report</b>	<p>Chairman Campbell reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Suggested to the Commission that we plan for a joint marine commission meeting with Lake Wylie Marine Commission possibly in the fall. This is a good way of networking with other commissions. Craig Wyant, with Carolina Wetlands, will come to this meeting to discuss what developers can do to protect wetlands. This will be a great educational tool.</li> </ul>	
<b>Executive Director’s Report</b>	<p>Executive Director Mike McLaurin reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Dixon Hughes has begun their auditing process and should report to the Commission at the MILMC October business meeting.</li> </ul>	
<b>Commission Counsel Report</b>	No report	
<b>Commissioner’s Comments</b>	None	
<b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm.	A motion was made by Commissioner DuVall and Commissioner Shelton to adjourn meeting. The motion was approved.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion Summary</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>Next Business Meeting Date and Location</b>	The next MILMC business meeting will be held on September 6, 2006 at 6:30 pm at Mount Holly City Hall, 131 South Main Street, Mount Holly, NC	

Annette Lawing, Clerk