

Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission



**Mount Holly City Hall
131 South Main Street
Mount Holly, NC**

September 6, 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 Greg Shelton (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Ann Danzi (Gaston County)

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Chris Watson (Lincoln County)

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

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Welcome & Introductions	Chairman Jerry Campbell called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.	
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag	Chairman Campbell asked everyone present to join in to Pledge Allegiance to the Flag	
Approval of the September 6, 2006 Agenda	Request to move Item #XI up to Item #X. With this change, the September 6, 2006 agenda was approved.	The Sept. 6, 2006 agenda, as amended, was approved on motions by Vice Chairman DuVall and Commissioner Shelton
Statement of Purpose	Legal Counsel, Chris Clark read the Statement of Purpose into the record.	

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Public Comments	<p>James Lee of Mount Holly commented on the No Wake Zone proposal in Nance Cove. Mr. Lee has lived on the lake since 1945 and would like to see the entire lake considered for a No Wake Zone instead of just Nance Cove. Mr. Lee stated that people that live in protected coves come out into the main channel and cause havoc. Nance Cove is a special interest but the Commission needs to consider the entire lake.</p> <p>Commissioner Shelton asked Mr. Lee if he wants a “paddle lake” for Mountain Island? Mr. Lee responded in saying no, just control over speeding boats.</p>	
Approval of the August 2, 2006 Meeting Minutes	<p>The meeting minutes from the August 2, 2006 MILMC business meeting were approved.</p>	<p>The August 2, 2006 meeting minutes were approved on motions by Commissioners Danzi and Battle.</p>
Consent Agenda	<p>None</p>	
Public Safety Reports	<p>Charlotte – Mecklenburg Police Department Officer Howard reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 20 Inspections ▶ 8 Citations, 5 Warnings ▶ 9 Safety Checks ▶ 14 calls for service <p>Gaston County Police Department Officer Hord reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 22 Safety Inspections ▶ 1 Citation, 2 Warnings ▶ 6 Trespassing Violations on Big Island ▶ 4 Special Checks <p>The Commission congratulated Officer Hord for receiving July’s Officer of the Month, presented by Gaston County Police Department.</p> <p>Commissioner Beck wanted to give thanks to the lake enforcement officers for being on the lake over the Labor Day holiday.</p>	

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<p>Public Safety Reports (continued)</p>	<p>Lincoln County Sheriff's Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ No report <p>N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ No report <p>Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation</p> <p>Woody Woodward reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Mountain Island Challenge is scheduled for September 30th ▶ Canoe-O is also scheduled for September 30th ▶ Recently, the <i>Gaston Gazette</i> presented an article highlighting the Canoe/Kayak Trail. ▶ Canoe access area will benefit from the FERC process ▶ Woody's position at the Meck. Co Parks and Rec has been restructured and he will not be the reporting person to the marine commissions beginning in October. The new contact persons will be Jeff Presson and Marshall McGean. ▶ Secretary/Treasurer Battle thanked Woody on behalf of the Commission for all of the hard work he does for Mountain Island Lake and his contribution at the recent Bi-State meeting. Battle also thanked Jeff Presson for his continuous work at the Haymarket Street property. <p>Duke Energy of the Carolinas</p> <p>Ronnie Lawson reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Lake level is 3.3 feet below full pond ▶ Approved 0 pier applications <p>Commissioner Danzi informed the Commission and the Gaston County Law Enforcement that one pontoon boat was stolen and two others were vandalized at the Stonewater community dock. This incident was reported to the Mt. Holly Police as well.</p> <p>Executive Director reported that the No-Wake Zone buoy at Whispering Cove has broken loose and is on a resident's dock. Jeff Presson of Mecklenburg County Park and Rec will follow up on this.</p>	

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<p>Environmental Reports</p>	<p>Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services Rusty Rozzelle reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Distributed the Water Quality Conditions report as well as the Bacteriological results from June, July and August 2006 ▶ All water quality readings were good and have made little change from this time a year ago. However, at McDowell Creek Cove there was a significant difference in water quality results from June 2005 to June 2006. This is due to the Chlorophyll elevation. This is common in the summer months. Readings for June 2006 is at 75 (Good/Excellent) ▶ In July, samples were taken for MTEB. The test results were negative. This test is done annually. ▶ Commissioner Beck asked Rusty if MTEB was tested at the multi-purpose docks. Rusty replied that the areas that were tested are the eight standard sites that are shown on the Water Quality report. ▶ Commissioner Shelton asked Rusty to clarify what is the violation of Chlorophyll A. Rusty stated that if someone is caught dumping the substance into the water, they could be cited. <p>Charlotte Engineering and Property Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ No Report <p>Lakekeepers Report Pam Beck reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ In 2001, a rezoning was approved on Old Rozelle’s Ferry Road for a gas station on the condition that a buffer of trees along Highway 16 would remain. Beck said that she was traveling along Highway 16 one day and noticed that the trees were begin removed. She notified Mecklenburg County who placed a stop work order on the activity. NCDOT is being contacted to see if permission was given for this timbering. ▶ Pam also reported that she is witnessing an excessive amount of Grass Carp in the lake. These Carp are growing into very large fish. The fear is that once the vegetation is gone, the Carp will begin to feed on the smaller aquatic life, such as Brim. ▶ Vice Chairman DuVall has seen such Carp and suggests that the Commission contact a NC Wildlife biologist to give feedback on a solution. DuVall has 	

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Environmental Reports (continued)	noticed a huge amount of Carp in the Duck Cove area. Executive Director Mike McLaurin to contact Ken Manual with Duke Energy to request he make a presentation at the October MILMC business meeting to address issues such as; status of population of Grass Carp in the lake, studies that can be done on what community of fish there are, and how can these studies be done?	
Discussion of the Interbasin Transfer Request by Concord/Kannapolis	<p>Executive Director, Mike McLaurin updated the Commission on the upcoming public comment meetings that are scheduled to discuss the IBT request by Concord and Kannapolis.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 7 in Valdese, NC beginning at 5:00pm at Old Rock School. 2. Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 18th in Charlotte, NC beginning at 5:00pm. Location TBD. <p>Public comment period ends September 30th, therefore the Commission are encouraged to attend this meeting.</p> <p>Vice Chairman DuVall encouraged the Commission to listen to the broadcast of the Mike Collin's show on WFAE concerning the IBT.</p>	
Public Hearing on Consideration of a No-Wake Zone in Nance Cove	<p>Public Hearing on Consideration of a No-Wake Zone in Nance Cove</p> <p>Executive Director, Mike McLaurin addressed the Commission and the public regarding the guidelines for the Public Hearing. McLaurin also clarified the request for the No-Wake Zone as being for the entire Nance Cove. McLaurin said that following the public hearing the Marine Commission has several options which include: 1) take no action; 2) deny the request; 3) approve a local regulation, i.e. no wake zone for some or all of the cove; 4) request that the N.C. Wildlife Resources adopt regulations pertaining to the cove or 5) approve a local regulation, i.e. no wake zone for some and request that the N.C. Wildlife Resources adopt regulations pertaining to the cove.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Lee, 110 The Loop Road, Mt. Holly, opposed to the No-Wake Zone being only in Nance Cove. Mr. Lee proposes that the entire Mountain Island Lake be No Wake. • Barbara Shoaf, 3024 Nance Cove Road, Charlotte, opposed to the No Wake Zone in Nance Cove due to the short staff of Law Enforcement to enforce and monitor cove for violators. Mrs. Shoaf would consider being in favor of this proposal only if the number of 	A motion was made by Vice Chairman DuVall to have the Commission go into Public Hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Beck. The motion was approved.

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<p>Consideration of Extending the No-Wake Zone in Nance Cove (continued)</p>	<p>Law Enforcement is increased.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ron Shoaf, 3024 Nance Cove Road, Charlotte, is neutral in regards to the No Wake Zone proposal. However, he does identify that there is safety issues for skiers on the lake and would like to see that be addressed. • Susan Rivers, 4215 Overlook Cove Rd., Charlotte, is in favor of the No Wake Zone proposal. Ms. Rivers has been a Mountain Island resident for nearly ten years and has noticed a decrease in wildlife due to shoreline erosion in the cove. Nearly 94% of wildlife is born and feed within 30' of the cove. When there is a lot of shoreline erosion and sediment taking place in the cove, this will affect the wildlife. Ms. Rivers added that she would like to see a study done on the effects of such erosion concerning wildlife. • Frances Surgenor, 3512 Mt. Cove, Charlotte, promotes safety, property value and erosion control in Nance Cove, therefore, is in favor of the No Wake Zone request. • Keith Surgenor, 3512 Mt. Cove, Charlotte, feels like it is time to bring this issue to a conclusion. Safety, wildlife, and property value is key issues, therefore, is in favor of the No Wake Zone request. • Tom Blomquist, 3520 Mt. Cove, Charlotte and President of Overlook Homeowners Association gave his support of the No-Wake Zone request in Nance Cove. Public safety is the main concern in this cove. It is not safe for children who are swimming and have skiers and boaters come by at excessive rates of speed. A No Wake Zone will address these safety issues. • John Goins, 3528 Mt. Cove, Charlotte, initially was against the request, but has since become in favor of the No Wake Zone in Nance Cove due safety issues. Mr. Goins has witnessed boaters pulling wake boarders and come within 50' of piers and docks. <p>The public comments section of the public hearing was closed. The floor was opened to the Commission for comments.</p> <p>▶ Commissioner Shelton stated that it is unfortunate that boaters that cannot operate their boats in a safe manner make things bad for all of us</p>	<p>A motion was made by Commissioner Shelton close public comment section of the public hearing. Seconded by Vice Chairman DuVall. The motion was approved.</p>

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	<p>operate their boats in a safe manor make things bad for all of us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Vice-Chairman DuVall emphasized that Mountain Island Lake means a lot to him and his family and would like to see these safety issues addressed. Another important factor is that with extensive activity in a cove is on the rise will only decrease property values. Also, Vice Chair DuVall highlighted that the Commission should always be looking to the Statement of Purpose. As a commission, these are the prime objectives for the MILMC. ▶ Secretary/Treasurer Battle stated that there are 180 boat slips in Nance Cove and that does not include boat access areas or jet skis. Vice Chairman DuVall added to Battle's comment stating that there were only 91 boat slips in Nance Cove in 1999. There is a lot of population growth happening at Mountain Island Lake, which will only add to the safety problems. ▶ Chairman Campbell received a letter from a resident of the lake claiming that it took 2-3 calls for lake enforcement officers to respond to calls for service. ▶ Vice Chairman DuVall and Commission Shelton stated that the commission should work to educate boaters and enforce the rules of the lake. ▶ Executive Director, Mike McLaurin suggested that the Marine Commission partner with the community in an effort to have 70% of the lake users to have completed a safe boating course. A suggestion was made to possibly go to the Homeowners Association leaders to have them help communicate to their residents the importance of taking these safety courses. ▶ Commissioner Beck noted that in the latest issue of the MIL Association newsletter there was a lot of feedback regarding safety issues. Beck feels that it is a must to educate boaters via newsletters and websites. <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Secretary/Treasurer Battle suggests that a buoy be placed at the Shuffletown Access area. ▶ Vice Chairman DuVall projects that approximately ten buoys will be needed to mark the No Wake Zone area. ▶ Officer Hord with the Gaston County Police Department suggested that there should only be buoys at the mouth of the cove, at the private and community docks as well as at the access areas. ▶ Executive Director, Mike McLaurin suggested that the Marine Commission not debate how many markers are needed nor where they should be placed. As 	<p>A motion was made by Vice Chairman DuVall to make Nance Cove a No Wake Zone beginning at the Main Channel extending inward, be marked appropriately and for the Commission to contact NC Wildlife to abolish existing No Wake Zone effective Jan. 1, 2007. Seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Battle. Motion was approved.</p>

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	<p>staff, it is his responsibility to work with the lake enforcement officers to determine the correct marking of the no-wake zone and present the information the Marine Commission. He said that the final regulation for the no-wake will be presented at the October for a final vote.</p>	
<p>Base Operating Plan</p> <p>Base Operating Plan (continued)</p>	<p>Base Operating Plan (BOP) Commissioner Shelton updated activities and projects on the BOP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Project 2, Annual BOP Workshop (BOP Subcommittee) –Meeting was completed ▶ Project 3, River Tour for Elected Officials (Campbell/Beck) – Completed ▶ Project 8, Big Sweep (Battle/Watson) – Big Sweep has been scheduled for September 23rd. ▶ Project 7, Post Boating Safety Rules (Battle) (handout) ▶ Project 12, MILMC Signage on Hwy 16 & 73, (Shelton) – wrote NCDOT to get permission to install signs. Waiting for a reply. ▶ Project 15, Clean Lake Management, (Battle) – would like to request that the MILMC donate \$200 to the Catawba Riverkeepers Foundation for all of the work they do for the commission. (Use of boat, gas) ▶ Project 16, 150’ No Wake Zone, (Battle) – Lake Officers have been successful enforcing the 150’ No Wake Zone on Lake Norman. The citation that is usually written for violators is the option to attend a boating safety course and the charges will then be dropped. Judges have shown a lot of support to the Law Enforcement regarding this law. 	
<p>Chairman’s Report</p>	<p>Chairman Campbell reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Builders Workshop – working with Rusty Rozzelle and with Lincoln County to have meeting on September 26th. 	
<p>Executive Director’s Report</p>	<p>Executive Director Mike McLaurin reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Dixon Hughes staff are continuing to work on the annual audit and should report to the Commission at the MILMC October business meeting. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Some of the MILMC financial documents will have to be supplied at a later date due to a small error. Mike to work with finance to come up with a better plan to produce financial info in a timelier manner. 	
Commission Counsel Report	<p>Commission Counsel Chris Clark reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will research to see if the Commission did indeed send the last No Wake Zone information to NC Wildlife. Counsel will report back to the Commission in October. 	
Election of Officers	<p>Commission Counsel officiated the Election of Officers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Chairman</u>: Commissioner Greg Shelton nominated Vice Chairman Dan DuVall for Chairman. With no other nominations, Dan DuVall is the new Chairman for MILMC. 2. <u>Vice Chairman</u>: Commissioner Ann Danzi nominated Commissioner Greg Shelton as Vice Chairman. With no other nominations, Greg Shelton is the new Vice Chairman for MILMC. 	
Election of Officers (continued)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. <u>Secretary/Treasurer</u>: Commissioner Greg Shelton nominated Commissioner Ann Danzi for Secretary/Treasurer. With no other nominations, Ann Danzi is the new Secretary/Treasurer. 	
Commissioner's Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice Chairman DuVall would like to see the Commission adopt of goal of helping the Mountain Island Lake State Park. This park will bring notoriety to the lake and make politicians notice the lake as well. This will in return cause the State to look at the lake. Chairman Campbell will continue talking to senators regarding support for the State Park. • Executive Director, Mike McLaurin recommended that the Commission have a clear objective of how it wishes to help the State Park. 	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 9:14pm.	A motion was made by Commissioner Danzi and Commissioner Shelton to adjourn meeting. The motion was approved.

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Next Business Meeting Date and Location	The next MILMC business meeting will be held on October 4, 2006 at 6:30 pm at East Lincoln High School, 6471 Hwy 73, Lincolnnton, NC	

Annette Lawing, Clerk