

MANCHESTER WATERWAY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

N E W S L E T T E R



ONGOING SHOALING - PROGRESS?



Proposed On-Call Dredging for areas outside old Lock region

An MSBU meeting was held on 9/30/10, where Public Works Director Bob Halfhill's proposal was adopted to retain a dredging contractor that we can direct as required to keep on top of persistent shoaling areas. This will be affordable since we won't be paying for additional surveys which raise the costs substantially - Public Works will sort the permit and contract the services.

We're looking for an initial maintenance dredge of the Manchester System twice a year if required, but at the very least, before the coming season of low tides and North winds.

We'll need an immediate maintenance dredge under this program to address the current low spots not touched as part of the lock removal to keep our 5-ft channel depth maintained (along with the accompanying property values). Public Works staff will now attempt to proceed through the Purchasing Dept. toward full implementation.

Patrick Randall, MWCA President

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT:

Patrick Randall 240-2747

VICE PRESIDENT:

Ray Rabil 627-6224

TREASURER:

George Musco 629-1467

SECRETARY:

Cheri Bauer 743-5140

DIRECTORS:

Al Augustine 255-0822

Al Lange 629-5603

PAST PRESIDENT:

Jim Goulette 625-0614

QTRLY MEETINGS

2nd Tuesday at 7:30

October 12

January 11, 2011

March 8

May 10

PORT CHARLOTTE YACHT CLUB

22445 Glass Lane
Charlotte Harbor, FL
(Go east on Edgewater,
right on Bayshore,
left on Glass, to building
on right at end of street).

Please bring a snack
to share with our coffee
after the meeting.

MANCHESTER WATERWAY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
5083 CRAWFORDSVILLE DRIVE
PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33948

Minutes of the 5/11/10 General Meeting

President Patrick Randall called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 18 members present, representing 15 memberships, including 7 Board members. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer George Musco reported a current balance of \$3,412.29, with 121 membership paid for 2010 to date. Motion was passed to accept the report. The check register and expense log are available at all meetings for viewing. **Secretary's Report:** The minutes of the last meeting were printed in the newsletter that was mailed to all members. Motion was passed to accept the minutes as printed.

OLD BUSINESS: Dredging Status: Patrick Randall recapped the dredging status "post-lock removal". The contractor is responsible for several areas of silting outside the work area, and should be back within the month to address these. Tara M of PW has filed a petition with the Coast Guard for an additional green marker at the S-bend to further define the channel and minimize groundings. Approval may take months or years, unknown ETA. **Member Q:** Who determined that 5-ft is max dredge depth? **P. Randall:** FL DEP mandates the level. PGI is the only local area with allowed depth over 5 ft. State owns the canals, depending on how platted by developers. County has easement rights to maintain canals, except privately owned. **Member Q:** How do we maintain our depth? **P. Randall:** Manchester MSBU will notify County of our needs, and we are budgeting \$80K/yr toward maintenance dredges.

Member Q: How does someone get on the MSBU Board? **Patrick R:** The Manchester MSBU Advisory Board had 2 positions up for re-appointment this year, and they were re-appointed without consideration of new applicants. **NEW BUSINESS: Member Q:** What is the cost of dredging? **P. Randall:**

Contact your MSBU Board member, and areas will be brought to the County's attention. Current bids are running \$19 per cu yd to dredge. **Member Q:** Why can't spoils be put on vacant lands? **P. Randall:** Per County, you cannot raise the current level of any lot without an open building permit to put fill on the land. **Member Q:** Can we have more "No wake" signs erected to slow the boat traffic? **A. Lange:** The Marine Advisory Committee handles this, and all markers are paid from boat registration fees. Officials seem to want less markers these days, not more. **Member Q:** Do we have to pay for dredge if a hurricane shifts the channel? **Patrick R:** FEMA will reimburse for dredging if hurricane reduces depths, but only with a recent survey to prove previous depths. MSBU should budget for an annual survey in April of each year for this reason. We have a current survey now. **Member Q:** There is still some debris from past storms in canals. How is this handled? **Patrick R:** There is an ongoing debris removal fund, so contact Tara at PW to inform her of specific needs. **Member Q:** There were some large boats fishing in residential channel. Why is this? **Patrick R:** Commercial fishing is allowed in all County-maintained channels. Get boat numbers and notify authorities if larger vessels are causing any damage or problems.

The meeting adjourned for coffee and desserts provided by the membership at 8:35.

Respectfully submitted, Cheri Bauer, Secretary MWCA 5/12/10

2011 ANNUAL DUES: **\$6**

Please mail payment to:
George Musco,
 MWCA Treasurer
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