MARINE COMMISSION MINUTES
Thursday, May 30, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall, Vero Beach, Florida

PRESENT: Chairman, Robert Snyder, Members: Brian Cunningham, Clinton Lanier, William Walker, Alternate Member #1, Bill Johnson, and Alternate Member #2, Ben Trautman
Also Present: Marina Director, Sean Collins and Senior Administrative Assistant, Rita Hawkins

Excused Absence: Daniel Thomas

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Snyder called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) May 6, 2019

Mr. Cunningham made a motion to approve the May 4, 2019 Marine Commission minutes. Mr. Walker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A) Chairman

Mr. Snyder announced that he is stepping down as a permanent member of the Marine Commission to become an alternate member.

Mrs. Tammy Bursick, City Clerk, explained that Mr. Snyder has stepped down to become alternate #2, Mr. Trautman has been moved up to alternate #1, and Mr. Johnson is now a full member. She stated that alternates cannot be Chairs or Vice Chairs.

Mr. Snyder made a motion to nominate Mr. Bill Johnson as Chairman.

Mr. Johnson said that he has served on this Commission for the last five (5) years and he would be honored to serve as the Chairman.

Mr. Walker said Mr. Johnson has missed quite a few meetings in the past, so he would like to be assured that he will be at the meetings. Mr. Johnson stated that he does not believe he has missed that many meetings, and when he could not make it, he would call the City Clerk’s office asking to be excused. He was an alternate member, but being a full member has a different responsibility. He lives in both Park City, Utah and in Vero Beach, so he travels back and forth quite often. He serves on several Boards of private and public companies, so his time is thin. He accepts the responsibility and he will try not to miss any meetings, because he adds value to the Marine Commission. As a Commission, he feels they have not had much of an impact in the past and he would like to improve that. He assured the Commission that he would fly in on a moment’s notice for a meeting.
Mr. Walker stated that if Mr. Johnson feels comfortable becoming the Chairman then he accepts that nomination.

Mr. Johnson stated that Mr. Walker would also be a great Chairman because of his years of experience. He said that he will need the City’s help and the Commission members help to make sure they represent the community. They need to make sure they are heard, because honestly he does not feel like they have had a voice. The Commission has done a lot of work, they attend the meetings, and all this information and history has been provided to them. Mr. Walker said he agrees that the City Council has ignored the Marine Commission for about a year. He said he does not want to waste his time if they are not even going to be considered as valuable input.

Mr. Cunningham stated that for as long as he has been on the Marine Commission, during the last two (2) consecutive City Councils they have receive the least amount of support out of all of the Commissions. He said he believes the Marine Commission has better depth and knowledge than they have ever had over the years. They need to get someone to listen, because all of the work that has been done. They all spend time on the waterfront and if they can pull together maybe they will be heard. He said that Mr. Johnson has his vote for Chairman.

Mr. Snyder explained that he is stepping down to an alternate member due to the growth of Vero Beach Rowing Club. He has become more active with the Rowing Club and he is being pulled in two (2) different directions right now.

The Commission asked to take a roll call vote for the nomination of Mr. Bill Johnson as Chairman. The Secretary performed the roll call. Mr. Johnson voted yes, Mr. Walker voted yes, Mr. Lanier voted yes, Mr. Cunningham voted yes, and Mr. Snyder voted yes. Mr. Johnson was unanimously appointed as Chairman of the Marine Commission.

B) Vice Chairman

Mr. Snyder asked if any of the Commission members wanted to step into the position of Vice Chairman. Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Lanier both stated that they would volunteer to take that position.

Mrs. Bursick recommended that two (2) motions be made since there are (2) nominees. The Secretary will then call the vote on the first motion and then the second motion.

Mr. Snyder made a motion to nominate Mr. Brian Cunningham for Vice Chairman. Mr. Lanier seconded the motion.

Mr. Johnson said he agrees with the nomination for Mr. Cunningham. Since Mr. Cunningham runs a business that is on the water and he is involved with the environment every day is very helpful. He assumes that the Commission members do not feel there is a conflict of interest with Mr. Cunningham running a commercial entity and serving on the Marine Commission.

Mr. Walker stated that he would support Mr. Cunningham as Vice Chairman. He thinks Mr. Cunningham’s experience is invaluable and he has a hand on the Marine community.
Mr. Trautman asked if both Mr. Johnson and Mr. Cunningham are full time City residents. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Cunningham both replied yes.

The secretary stated that they need to make a motion nominating Mr. Lanier for Vice Chairman.

Mr. Lanier said that even though he is interested, he believes that Mr. Cunningham will do a fine job as Vice Chairman. Mr. Snyder said that at the end of the day they are all supporting each other.

**The secretary performed the roll call for the nomination of Mr. Brian Cunningham as Vice Chairman. Mr. Johnson voted yes, Mr. Walker voted yes, Mr. Lanier voted yes, Mr. Cunningham voted yes, and Mr. Snyder, voted yes. Mr. Cunningham was unanimously appointed as Vice Chairman of the Marine Commission.**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Snyder asked for any comments from the public.

At this point Mr. Johnson took over as Chairman for the remainder of the meeting.

Mr. Johnson said that he is not familiar with most of the people he sees in the audience, so he would like them to introduce themselves and state why they attended the meeting.

Mrs. Karen Walsh stated that she is with Coastal Tech and she attended the meeting to offer support.

Mrs. Joy Todd said that she has a vested interest in the Marina, because Mr. Collins is her husband.

Mr. Don Dexter, Public Work’s Manager, stated that he does not attend the Marine Commission meeting very often, but he came because he is involved with the Marina Master Plan.

Mr. Mike Walther, Coastal Tech, said he is also here for the Marina Master Plan.

Ms. Frances Tomlinson, Laurel Agency Real Estate, stated that her boss, Mr. Peter Robinson asked her to attend.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Snyder said at their last meeting they discussed the derelict vessels in the City limits. He explained that Mr. Sean Collins, Marina Director, contacted the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation (FWC) and the officers did inspections on many of the vessels. Mr. Collins reported that of the seven (7) vessels that are close to the Marina, six (6) have violations and the majority of the violations were for expired registrations.

Mr. Snyder said that they are not breaking the law by anchoring there. He talked with a couple of the FWC officers, they are pursuing it, and they will start writing tickets for the expired
registrations. The one (1) officer said that he would come to a Marine Commission meeting and brief them on the process.

Mr. Cunningham asked if they FWC officers inspected for pump outs. Mr. Snyder stated that the officers did not mention that, but they do ask if the boat can move and if it has a motor and a prop.

Mr. Cunningham asked what are the regulations for anchoring outside of the channel within the City limits. Mr. Trautman said it is legal, but several municipalities up and down the coast are addressing that issue. Vero Beach is one (1) of the few areas that is still lax and it is known.

Mr. Walker said that he worries about what will happen to those vessels if a hurricane hits. His other concern is the illegal dumping.

Mr. Collins reported that the FWC has a detail coming up in the near future where they will be targeting the marine sanitation devices (MSD’s), so there is some enforcement in the works.

Mr. Walker suggested that they pass on their concerns to the FWC.

Mr. Cunningham asked if the FWC has a full time slip at the Marina. Mr. Collins replied that they have a spot available for the FWC when they want their boat there, which is quite often.

Mr. Trautman stated that maybe having the increased presence by the FWC and the Sheriff Department might be enough to move the undesirable vessels out of the area. Based on his experience during the hurricane season, they can expect those boats to be up on the beach or in the mangroves.

Mr. Johnson stated that the boat south of the 17th Street Bridge has not moved since it anchored there. If the boat is not moving, it is not being pumped out, then most likely they are in violation. Mr. Cunningham stated that there are people living on board that boat overnight. Mr. Johnson said that the boat he mentioned is still in the City limits even though it is not part of the Marina mooring field. It effects the City of Vero Beach and they have jurisdiction over the entire City of Vero Beach relating to marine matters. Mr. Lanier said at the present time, they do not have the right to tell anyone what to do if they are outside of the mooring field. If people are living aboard their boat due to financial straits chances are they are not doing proper pump outs, but it is hard for officers to catch illegally dumping.

Mr. Trautman asked for an update on the safety issues of the Rowing Club. Mr. Snyder reported that the Rowing Club has a Safety Committee and he provided them with a book called *The Rules of the Road*, which is a Coast Guard book. They are going to start conducting safety classes with all their members. Mr. Trautman offered his assistance, because he has a professional background in this area.

Mr. Walker stated that a few months ago the Youth Sailing Foundation had some issues with big boats flying through the area while they were having a race and they capsized some of the boats.

Mr. Cunningham reported that he spends a lot of time traveling up and down the intercostal waterway. The bridges in Indian River County are the only ones from Palm Beach County all
the way to north Florida that do not have a slow speed under bridge, or safe boating zone buffer for 300 feet on each side of the bridge. In the maritime rules, it states that boats are to run at a slow speed under every bridge they encounter. The original signs that were there went missing after a hurricane and they were never replaced. Mr. Trautman replied that the Coast Guard is responsible for those signs and they should be informed. Mr. Walker said if the signs state slow speed for 300 feet from the bridge, it would keep the boats at a slower speed when they come out from under the 17th Street Bridge. If they see boats in the Youth Sailing area then they would be more likely to keep it at a low speed.

Mr. Lanier said he would volunteer to contact the Coast Guard to see if the missing signage was just an oversight. Mr. Johnson said another sign that needs to be addressed is the red channel marker 150, which was broken off by a barge. During high tide it is barely noticeable, so if a boat is not familiar with that area they could run into it and damage their haul. Mr. Trautman said that most likely the Coast Guard does not know about it, but if they are contacted they should have a temporary buoy out there within 24 hours. He suggested that they contact the Coast Guard’s district office in Miami. He said the Department of Waterway Management at the Coast Guard’s district office handles the bridges and they should send them an email about the missing signage.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A) Presentation and Commission Briefing on the First Task – Goals and Objectives - Coastal Technology Corporation

Mr. Collins said this is going to be some exciting times with finding out what the City, the Marine Commission, and the community wants to do with the entire Marian area. He welcomed Mr. Tem Fontaine with Coastal Tech to give his presentation.

Mr. Tem Fontaine, Coastal Tech, said that he grew up in Panama City across from the Yacht Club and he has been on the water most of his life. His wife is from Vero Beach and they moved back here in 2008. He thanked the Marine Commission for volunteering their time to help keep Vero Beach special. He is very excited to help shape the future of the Marina and he appreciates the opportunity to work with the City. He explained that he will be presenting their first task today, which are the goals and objectives. It includes a literature review, a site visit assessing the existing dock facilities, and identifying potential improvements to be included into three (3) concepts. After the presentation it would be appropriate for the Marine Commission to recommend three (3) conceptual alternatives to the City Council. They should also invite the public to speak or ask questions after the presentation. Mr. Fontaine proceeded to go through the prepared Power Point presentation (on file in the City Clerk’s office).

Mr. Fontaine said their goal is to identify what structures are in good working condition and which structure they could demolish and rebuild. In their search of permits and plans they found four (4) concepts that were never constructed. They did not find recent submerged aquatic resources on where there could be sea grass or oyster beds, so this could affect the ability to obtain permits for proposed structures. He continued with the Power Point presentation by giving a brief report on the condition of each of the existing facilities. He reported that the Lagoon dock is a wooden fixed dock and is in poor condition. It would be more cost effective to demolish it and rebuild it. The dinghy docks are aluminum floating docks and they are in great condition. The mooring balls are inspected annually by the City, so
they have been well maintained and are in good shape. The north dock is a very old wooden dock with structure issues and it would be more cost effective to rebuild it. The center dock is another old structure, but it has been properly maintained and it does not have any safety or structural concerns. The south dock is in better condition than the others are. It has some minor maintenance work that needs to be done, but it still has several good years left. The “B” dock needs some serious maintenance, or they could tear it down and rebuild it. The floating concrete dock in general is in good condition, so it would be more cost effective to repair this dock. The dry storage building is getting towards the end of its life. The concrete slab is thin and it cannot be repaired. It would be more cost effective to tear down the dry storage building and have it rebuilt. The office space is in good condition and can be rented out now, but the City is holding off until they decide what they are going to do. He said the City has been talking about expanding the Marina since the 1970’s. He reviewed pictures of some old plans from the 1970’s that show how they could expand the docks, add more parking, more dry storage, etc. He said the most recent site plan included more dockage in the Lagoon, an extended “T” dock, and a pedestrian bridge that would connect the Marina with Riverside Park. He said the overall challenge that Mr. Collins faces is that it is an older Marina and the water depth and the configuration of the docks do not allow for today’s larger boats. In looking forward at the vision of the Marina they want to expand for the size of boats they can accommodate. He continued by going through the potential improvements from the Power Point presentation. He explained that he wanted to offer three (3) potential concepts for the Marine Commission to look at. Next, they will develop an opinion of probable construction costs (OPC) and they will look at the permit feasibility. They plan on taking these concepts to the regulatory agency and holding a meeting with them, so they will have a good idea on what their ability is for obtaining permits. He recommended they take the maximum improvements that they can envision to the regulatory agency, so they know what their upper limit is on what they could permit. He went through the three (3) proposed concepts from the Power Point presentation.

Mr. Collins stated that there are many options and they could go in a number of different directions. A lot of time, effort, and money went into those plans from the 1970’s and for whatever reason it was all put on a shelf.

Mr. Cunningham said they need to find out what the upper limit is, so they can work backwards from there. He thinks they should also take into account what might be happening with the Power Plant land. One option for the use of the Power Plant land included an expansion annex of the City Marina with more docks. If that ever came into play he does not know if that would negate the need for the southern docks expansion at the Marina.

Mr. Fontaine said his scope was to focus on the existing City Marina. He believes the existing City Marina is a great spot with access to so much in Vero Beach.

Mr. Trautman said that Mr. Cunningham’s question would be more for Mr. Collins. That is more of a usage question and Mr. Collins would need to determine if there are enough customers to handle the expansion at the Marina and the annex at the Power Plant site.

Mr. Johnson stated that the natural area for expansion and protection for a slow boat area is at the existing Marina. He thanked Mr. Fontaine for all the time and effort he put into pulling out all these old projects, which were tossed away. It would be great to have some budgets attached to all these improvements, because what people get most upset about is what the
taxpayer’s money is being spent on. He stated that they lost a great piece of land to the Dog Park, but this could still be a wonderful opportunity to combine them both. He asked Mr. Fontaine how do they put this into motion especially since it has been a complete failure since the 1970’s.

Mr. Fontaine stated that if they look at Riverside Park, there has been planning and development of that area for quite some time. He said that is part of the process to revision the City, so recreating these different concepts is not a total waste of time and money. He believes it is important that a good community continue to plan and grow for the future. Mr. Johnson said he does not want this to be just another example in 10 years.

Mr. Fontaine stated that the Marina has working capital now, so they can move forward with projects.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Collins if he knows what the Marina’s budget is. Mr. Collins explained that a lot of that will be determined after this initial session to kick off this process and by gathering comments from the public. Once they see where they want to go they can determine their best course of action.

Mr. Lanier asked Mr. Collins if he would have any problems filling all the new slips they are proposing. Mr. Collins replied not at all. He said there are different options based on which way they choose to go. If the docks along the south do not work out they will focus on the Lagoon area. They could have 30 to 50 more slips in the Lagoon depending on the layout. There are boats on the center and south docks that could move into the Lagoon area and that will allow them to move some finger piers around and reconfigure the center and souths docks to accommodate larger boats.

Mr. Fontaine explained that they are looking to develop the three concepts. Moving forward with the three (3) concepts they will develop OPC’s, which will break down each of the improvements, so they can determine how much the construction costs will be. That information can be used as a planning tool by the City to look at the costs along with the potential revenue they feel it should bring in. The City can use this plan for the future to identify and prioritize the projects based on these concepts. Mr. Walker said that he would rather not know the money figures, because there are other elements that can come into this, such as grants, lower interest rate loans, etc. Mr. Fontaine said that they have a woman with Planning Solutions on their team and her job is to find grant money for municipalities. She will identify different grant sources as a planning tool for the City. The City can start applying for these grants once they narrow the concepts down to one (1) that they want to move forward with.

Mr. Walker said it looks like they will be losing 14 mooring balls in the south field if they develop a dock there. Mr. Collins replied that is correct. If that were an option on the table then he would recommend developing the long straight dock along the mangroves. As that project is paid down and the demand increases, they could add a T-dock later. That dock will be the main spine and everything will expand off of it. Mr. Walker asked if the new south docks would be for both transient and permanent boaters. Mr. Collins replied yes, they would be for both. Mr. Walker said he is not sure if the proposed parking will be enough. Mr. Fontaine explained that there are more than enough parking stalls for the current Marina based
on the City Code. If they do this build out they will need about 30 additional parking stalls, and this plan would provide much more than that.

Mr. Trautman thanked Mr. Fontaine for the great presentation. He is concerned about the surveys for the aquatic resources. He asked Mr. Fontaine to explain that further. Mr. Fontaine stated that there has not been any recent field work and the majority of resources are not for this area. The Manatee Protection Plan is working in their favor and the aquatic preserve areas are north and south of this area. Mr. Trautman asked if the area will need to be resurveyed before they can even consider any of this work. Mr. Fontaine said he anticipates them having to perform a bathymetric survey and a submerged aquatic resource survey before they submit for permit applications. He said his expectations is that there is not going to be a large amount of seagrass in this area. He said they probed and took hand measurements of the water depth during their site visit, which gives them an estimate on how much dredging would be ideal and the cost.

Mr. Trautman asked if the Lagoon area will need dredging. Mr. Fontaine said he will do the same type of hand measurements to give them an idea of what is necessary. Mr. Lanier stated that he did some depth soundings last week and the Lagoon area is about three and a half feet deep, so it is good for smaller boats.

Mr. Trautman said he did not hear anything mentioned about the seawall where all the electrical boxes are leaning. He asked if that is from the seawall deteriorating. Mr. Collins replied that there are a lot of crabs that dig holes down in there and they have made the meter sheds shift a bit.

Mr. Trautman said that he really likes the concept of the long dock running along the river and connecting it to Riverside Park. He said he did not know the City had such a large easement along the Dog Park that would allow for parking.

Mr. Walker said with developing the southern area they could accommodate the larger boats that they currently have to turn away. Mr. Collins explained that the Inter Coastal Waterway (ICW) would not allow extremely large boats to come into the Marina. However, he has received several calls from boats in the 55 to 70 foot range that want to be here long term, but they currently do not have the space for them.

Mr. Cunningham asked what is the next step to make this happen. Mr. Fontaine replied that your next step is to create three (3) concepts that they can move forward with. The Marine Commission’s recommendations on those three (3) alternatives will go to the City Council for them to review and accept, or they might tweak them. From there, they will develop the OPC’s, to do more formal site plans for each of the alternatives, and then set up a pre-application meeting. After that, the City will select one (1) alternative to move forward with and set the vision for the future of the Marina.

Mr. Johnson stated that there seems to be a disconnect between the Marine Commission’s recommendations and the City Council. The City Council has not responded to anything other than to put band-aids on things. Mr. Walker stated that he tried to find out what killed these projects back in the 1970’s after spending a half a million dollars on them. He was told that it was the City Council and people in the community who thought it would create too much growth and change the whole complexion of the City.
Mr. Monte Falls, City Manager, said that they have a great opportunity for the first time to make this happen. The City is still reaping the benefits of the sale of the electric utility. They took some of those funds and retired the debt of the dry storage building that the City purchased. The City had a mortgage on the property that they had to pay every year and that took all of the working capital from the Marina. Now they have paid off that debt and freed the capital up, which they can help leverage with grants and pick what projects they want to tackle. The Marina was well run for what it had to work with. He said Mr. Fontaine has done a great job putting this all together, and the City hired Mr. Collins, who has been through this process before. He sees this as an opportunity to pick what they want to do. All the concepts have similar parts, but they need to decide how they want the existing Marina to look and develop one (1) concept that works for them. Everyone is excited about the future with possibly expanding to the south and adding the boardwalk, but that could be phase II. He can see a five (5) year plan of getting all the work done on the existing Marina buildings and docks and then moving onto the second phase of creating the spine down to the south in the deeper water. He hopes they can get this laid out, so future City Councils can see how this plan can work and that it will be beneficial to the City.

Mr. Johnson said if they do not act now the money will be reallocated to something else. Mr. Falls said the City Council has made a commitment by asking Coastal Tech to put this proposal together. Mr. Johnson asked if they have a commitment from the City that the money allocated for this project be locked in for a set amount of time, before they could even look at reallocating it. Mr. Falls replied that the budget is controlled by the City Council and they made a conscious decision to pay off the dept. He explained that the Marina is an Enterprise Fund and the funds it generates are for the benefit of the Marina, except for the contribution it makes to the General Fund. The remaining capital that will be freed up will be used to improve the Marina. Mr. Johnson asked if there is a definitive number on the amount of capital that will be freed up. Mr. Falls said that figure is in the ballpark of $300,000 and they can take that money and leverage it with grants or combine it with borrowed money. Once the Marine Commission decides what they want to do and make their recommendation to the City Council they can provide them with a plan for moving forward and give them something they can support.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Fontaine how quickly can they expect to have numbers attached to the concepts. Mr. Fontaine replied that it is part of the next phase and it depends on how quickly they select or create the concepts they want to move forward with. He explained that their next phase of work is expected to take about 42 days, which is to come up with the formal site plans, the opinion of probable construction costs, and to hold the pre-application meeting with the regulatory agency.

Mr. Trautman said what he hears from Mr. Falls is that there is a good possibility of funding if they can come up with a good vision of what they would like the Marina to look like. They need a plan to capture the Marina heritage and culture of Vero Beach. It is going to be hard to set a figure to it, but they need to do it in phases and be realistic about it. Mr. Johnson stated that the Marina is an amenity that is needed in Vero Beach. It attracts people to visit, stay, and it adds value without building high rises. By making the Marina a better place, it increases the value to Vero Beach and the wealth of the community. Mr. Cunningham said that has been proven up and down the coast where other communities have developed and are centered around a Marina. Vero Beach is already well known and is on the map, so now is the time to get this done. He stated they have three (3) concepts that were presented to them and a lot of
work and energy went into them. The Marine Commission now has the opportunity to look at them and discuss if there are things they do not like or if they want to change them and they need to do this rather quickly. Mr. Fontaine stated that is correct and they should invite the public to give their input. Mr. Falls stated that now is the time that the Marine Commission needs to speak up and add items they do not see listed, or point out things they need done now. Once they have their ultimate plan they will give those ideas to Mr. Fontaine to develop the costs and then they will submit it to the City Council. Mr. Cunningham said he believes they need to focus on building the best plan for an ultimate Marina and work backwards from there, because there will always be something that will not get approved or is shot down. He said he could see concept three (3) being done in three (3) phases. They need to look at concept three (3) and decide what they would like to scratch, add, or change with it. Concept one (1) is obviously going to be the least expensive, but it is also the least effective for their long-term goal.

Mr. Johnson said that these concepts incorporate everything in the plans from the 1970’s, but it was put into a much better design. He would like to propose that they pursue this. Mr. Cunningham stated as long as they do not have any changes or any dislikes on the three (3) concepts he would be great with that. Mr. Johnson stated he would propose they recommend to the City Council that they move forward with concept three (3). Mr. Cunningham explained that they need three (3) concepts, so they would be approving all of them. Mr. Johnson stated he wants this group to be the Marine Commission that gets something done, so they will approve the entire package and see what they can get moving on. Mr. Fontaine said their first option could be to make a motion to accept the three (3) concepts as they are written and recommend that they be moved forward to the City Council. A second option would be to hold a second meeting to allow the public to attend and speak. Mr. Falls stated that if the Commission is comfortable with the concepts and they want to rearrange the order of how they think they should be ranked, then just let the City Council know. The community will have an opportunity to speak at the advertised City Council meeting, which are well attended by the public. Mr. Johnson said he would like to propose a motion accepting all three (3) concepts and then turn it over to the City where they can get the public input. Mr. Cunningham asked if they want to incorporate the ranking of the concepts and specify that concept three (3) is their first choice.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to move all three concept as one package onto the City Council.

This motion died due to a lack of a second.

Mr. Trautman asked if it will be confusing to move all of them forward. Mr. Johnson replied that they need to think big and move forward. Mr. Cunningham said he believes they need to list the ranking with number three (3) being their first choice. Mr. Fontaine explained that the purpose of developing three (3) concepts is that the regulatory agency might not allow them to expand the Marina to that extent. It also shows the public that they are looking at other alternatives and not just pushing one (1) plan forward. Mr. Falls explained that in concept three (3) it has the entire dry storage building and office space being demolished and only rebuilding the dry storage building on the whole parcel. Option two (2) rebuilds the dry storage building on its original footprint with an office space that can be rented out.
Mr. Walther said the motion that was made enables Coastal Tech and the City to move forward. He recommends that the Marine Commission’s minutes show that their preference is for concept three (3) and that should be a sufficient message to the City Council.

Mr. Johnson made a motion that the Marine Commission embraces and recommends all three (3) of the concepts in their entirety for further development as they were presented. The Marine Commission’s preference is for concept number three (3). Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

7. MARINA DIRECTOR’S MATTERS

Mr. Collins stated that Vero Beach is in the heart of the Treasure Coast and we have a gem in the Marina and on the waterfront. Mr. Johnson said that he knows people who want to come here, but they cannot find slips. If they improve the Marina, it will add value to all homeowners in Vero Beach. Mr. Collins said he agrees. This is a great opportunity for everyone.

8. CHAIRMAN’S MATTERS

None

9. MEMBER’S MATTERS

Mr. Cunningham handed out flyers from the Marine Industries Association of Florida (on file in the City Clerk’s office). He said that he would like to invite Mrs. Michelle Miller, Administrative Director for the Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast, to a future Marine Commission meeting to allow her to speak on the Marine Industries impact on the Treasure Coast. He briefly went over the information, the figures, and the economic impact from the handout. He said the figures are outstanding for the Treasure Coast and it shows the need for expansion at the City Marina. He cannot help but express that they live in a wonderful place to be a boater, because they have the waterfront, access to the community, and even access to the Bahamas.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

   B) Set Date for Next Marine Commission Meeting

The next regular Marine Commission meeting date is set for August 5, 2019 at 9:30 in the City Hall, Council Chambers.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:41a.m. Mr. Lanier seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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