

FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Miami-Dade County, June 13, 2018

The following members were in attendance:

Eric Hellstrom	St. John's County	President
Joe Westerman	Manatee County	VP / West
Joe Peloquin	Palm Beach County	VP / Central
Andy Ritchie	St Lucie County	VP / North
Breck Ballou	Fort Lauderdale	Secretary / Advisor
Luis Andrade	Miami- Dade County	
Brad Beckett	Martin County	
Daniel Lopez	City of Miami	
Gerry Falconer	Miami Beach	USLA / SER President
Bob Maler	Miami-Dade	Retired / Life Member
Rob Caldwell	Lantana	Retired / Life Member
Tom Fogan	Fort Lauderdale	Retired / Life Member
Mike McKenna	Miami Beach	Retire / Life Member

The following guests were in attendance:

Tom Hogan	Town of Palm Beach
Matt Sparling	Miami-Dade County

Members who notified absence in advance:

, Derick Brown, Patrick Brafford, Mike Huck, John Frazier, Phil Wotton, Jo Wagenhals

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 11:09 AM. President Eric Hellstrom thanked Luis Andrade for hosting the meeting.

Guest Speakers

Jose Marcos Castillo	JMC Waveboat Owner
Guillermo Rinash	JMC Waveboat sales manager

There was a video presentation to the group about this new prototype Jet Ski / boat combination. Gerry Falconer invited them to put on a demonstration at the upcoming National USLA Conference being held in Delray on Oct 31st – Nov 3rd.

Approval of Minutes from Flagler Beach meeting

- Bob Maler made a motion to approve the May Flagler Beach minutes, Eric Hellstrom seconded the motion and the minutes passed.

Communications & New Business combined.

- Bob Maler discussed the Flagler Beach Coquina Cup event judged by the FBPCA in May.
- Bob Maler noticed the rip current sign in several tourist brochures and encouraged everyone to reach out to their tourism board to get this information circulated in their community.
- Bob Maler discussed several fund raising possibilities...decals, t-shirts, bags and pens.
- Rob Caldwell circulated several news articles relating to Ocean Rescue topics
- Tom Fogan attended the National Drowning Prevention Alliance (NDPA) and submitted this report:
The curriculum included: The effectiveness of aquatic warning signs and how recent lifeguard arrest represents a possible “game changer”: Elevating negligence to gross negligence in recent cases: The impact of beach nourishment on beach safety: Practices & principles of aquatic laxx: Brain eating ameba with a discussion of liability
- Tom Fogan reported that he will be participating in the upcoming “Crossing for a Cure” Bimini to Florida paddle. Donations for the cause go to the cystic fibrosis foundation.
- Mike McKenna discussed to epidemic of childhood drownings in the sate of Florida. A lively discussion ensued.
- Eric Hellstrom announced that the state would likely not be able to supply free flags and signs anymore. The flags can be purchased at Water Safety Products.
- Joe Westerman discussed the monthly meetings and alternatives such as quarterly meetings and/or targeted months without meetings during certain times of the year.

Officer Reports

Eric Hellstrom - President:

- Eric discussed the national overall unemployment rate dropping to 3.9% and hiring lifeguards is becoming increasingly difficult across the country. Discussion of long-term efforts for hiring were discussed.
- St John’s County Fire Rescue is utilizing the “Crew App” which enables every resource to be notified simultaneously of a rescue call.

- The possibility of FBPCA joining the Florida Fire Chief's Association (FFCA) was discussed at length. The decision to join was tabled for the time being.

Phil Wotton: VP / Central / Treasurer (not in attendance)– Balance: \$4,731.08

Breck Ballou: Secretary / Advisor –

- Memorial Day street festival was cancelled due to constant rain on the Fort Lauderdale Beach.
- Fort Lauderdale is continuing to research new lifeguard tower designs

Joe Peloquin: VP / Central –

- Delray Beach: Spoke with Phil Wotton and he advised that the new lifeguard tower construction is progressing. The new towers are on the beach and nearing completion. Today, Phil is conducting a beach test for full time and part time positions. Delray Beach Ocean Mile Swim held on Saturday, May 19th, had 55 swimmers..
- Spoke with Tom Mahady and assisted with vendors for rescue boards (P2P), RWC and sled, along with a big foot trailer. Tom has been assigned to the tower less frequently and I have invited him to PBC meeting in September.
- Palm Beach County: Infant death at Ocean Inlet Park on June 1, 2018 is under investigation. Snorkeler death at Phil Foster Park, June 3, 2018 outside guarded area. Salary and Compensation survey by Evergreen Solutions in underway for all County employees. Review and revision of semi-annual requalification policy is continuing with regards to the procedure if a employee does not complete the swim within ten minutes. South Inlet Park Tournament is June 13. Ocean Mile Swim has been scheduled for July 21 @ Kreusler Park, Lake Worth.

Andrew Ritchie: VP / North –

- The dredging is completed with fifty yards of beach added.
- The Army Corp of Engineering is continuing to survey the sand for unexploded ordinance that was dumped on the beaches during the dredging.

Joe Westerman: VP / West –

- Sarasota County is replacing lifeguard towers
- Manatee County continues to struggle to hire lifeguards
- Manatee County continues to enjoy the fruits of being named the 2017 Beach Patrol of the Year being recognized in several magazine articles.
- The new lifeguard towers are in the engineering phase.
- If any agency has a logo they would like entered on to the FBPCA web page please send a picture in the JPEG format.

USLA Report

Gerry Falconer: USLA / SER President

- Discussed the 2018 Southeast Regional competition to be held in Flagler Beach....dates are July 25 & 26 for Seniors and July 28 for Juniors.
- USLA Nationals will be held in Virginia Beach or Daytona Beach August 8, 9, 10, & 11.
- The USLA National Meeting will be in Delray Beach on Oct 31 – Nov 3
- The FBPCA can have it's meeting on October 31st at the host hotel...Delray beach Marriott.
- Jo Wagenhals on speaker phone discussed the upcoming Flagler Beach Regionals and Jr Lg Regionals. Judges, tax exemption on room rates at Flagler,and USLA bulk registration among the topics.

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2018 Monthly Schedule

July – Correspond with Regionals
August 15th – Brevard County
September 19th – Palm Beach County
October 17th – Dania Beach * - May change to USLA Meeting
November 14th – Indian River County
December 12th – Deerfield Beach

Meeting Adjournment:

Motion made to adjourn the meeting made by Eric Hellstrom, second by Joe Peloquin.
Meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM.

Next meeting:

Tuesday July 24th, 2018 at 4:00 pm (Coaches meeting at 5:00pm)

Palm Coast And The Flagler Beaches
120 Airport Road, 3rd Floor
Palm Coast, FL 32164