

FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL
Hyatt Place 1996 Overseas Highway Marathon, FL 33050
Tuesday, February 20, 2018
MEETING SUMMARY

The following serves as a summary of the February 20, 2018 FKNMS Advisory Council Meeting. This summary does not constitute official minutes of the meeting. Draft meeting minutes will be distributed in advance of the April 16, 2018 Advisory Council Meeting for approval by the council.

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries Leadership Remarks

John Armor, ONMS Director provided brief remarks. He provided highlights from the final updated ONMS Strategic Plan, shared updates about this Administration's selection for NOAA leadership, and outlined the Administration's budget request for Fiscal Year 2018. He introduced Matt Brookhart who has been selected to serve as Acting Director of the ONMS Eastern Region, which includes Sanctuaries from the Northeast and Southeast including two potentially new National Marine Sanctuaries.

Advisory Council Chair & MPA Federal Advisory Council Summit

Bruce Popham, advisory council chair, provided highlights from the recent Advisory Council Chairs Summit. This meeting included a day and a half joint meeting with the Marine Protected Area Federal Advisory Committee where the two bodies discussed potential areas for greater collaboration. The Sanctuary Advisory Council Chairs then discussed issues, lessons learned and opportunities around a few key topics: efforts to engage with the recreational fishing sector, mechanisms to promote and manage recreation and tourism, and managing National Marine Sanctuaries in light of changing conditions.

Fishery Management in South Florida and the Florida Keys

Roy Crabtree, Director of the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Office, and Jessica McCawley, Director of the FWC Division of Marine Fisheries Management presented and took questions from the council. They both shared their agency's respective jurisdiction, authorities, how they interact, and highlighted a few current and upcoming issues and priorities relevant to South Florida and the Florida Keys.

Concept Proposal: Licensing for Guides

Doug Kirkpatrick, Lower Keys Guides Association, and Steve Friedman, Islamorada Guides Association, shared information on an effort they are leading to create a Monroe County license for guiding operations in the Florida Keys.

Advisory Council Comments: Draft Proposed Program for the 2019-2024 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program

John Armor provided background on Executive Order 13795, Implementing an America First Offshore Energy Strategy (April 28, 2017), and the resulting Bureau of Ocean Energy Management public comment period. Caroline McLaughlin introduced a draft motion that several advisory council members had prepared for full council consideration. Following brief discussion and minor edits to the resolution specifying the need to host public comment

opportunities in the Florida Keys, the motion was put forward for council vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Advisory Council Business: Charter Renewal

Beth Dieveney, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, provided background on the efforts to date to revise the FKNMS advisory council charter. The revised charter was put before the council for endorsement, a vote was taken and all advisory council members present voted to endorse the revised charter. The charter is now routed for ONMS Director's signature.

Public Comment

Public comment was heard from 7 individuals:

- Douglas Hattendorf, Mama Ocean
- Kama Cannon, Science Teacher
- Debbie James, Governor State University
- Bill Kelly, Florida Keys Commercial Fisherman's Association
- Barry Wray, Florida Keys Environmental Coalition
- Sargeant Frank, retired Law Enforcement Officer
- Alison Johnson, Oceana