

MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday, March 13, 2020
MRRI Auditorium, Ft. Johnson
Charleston, SC

MAC Members Present: D. Swygert, E. Holder, C. Day, B. Rose, R. Dukes, B. Bailey, P. Brown

MAC Members Absent: F. Rourk, J. Massey

DNR Staff Present: P. Maier, M. Bell, M. Perkinson, M. Denson, E. Weeks, T. Darden, B. Keppler, G. Sundin, C. McDonough, J. Brunson, PKS, A. Brown, H. DaVega, D. Sanger, M. Kendrick, S. Johnson, J. Ballenger, J. Yost, A. Tweel, M. Jamison, M. Reichert

Guests: Chaplain Jeff Shealy

1. Call Meeting to Order – Chairman Swygert:

Chairman Swygert called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

2. Invocation:

Chaplain Jeff Shealy led the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance – Vice-Chairman Bailey:

Vice-Chairman Bailey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Minutes- Chairman Swygert:

Chairman Swygert asked for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes (December 2019). B. Rose made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. E. Holder 2nd. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Introduction of Guests- E. Weeks: N/A

6. Genetics 101: Tools & Techniques - Dr. Tanya Darden:

Dr. Darden's presentation focused on an overview of population genetic tools and techniques and how they apply to stock structures. She reviewed new applications of these tools and how they allow for greater responsible stewardship of fisheries resources.

7. Use of UAV's in Marine Research – Gary Sundin:

Gary showed the Committee various applications that the use of UAV's are currently being used at MRD. They have developed guidelines for use within the Agency from mapping oyster grounds, to shorebird nesting counts and Agency outreach efforts.

8. Flounder Survey Results: Matt Perkinson:

Matt reviewed the recent Flounder survey results conducted from Mid-December through January 30, 2020. There were 2095 responses received from recreational flounder fishermen. The survey concluded that the Public recognizes Flounder are in trouble and are very interested in rebuilding the stock with the majority supporting management options.

Discussion amongst the Committee resulted in asking for recommendation(s) be brought forth at the June meeting to address the issue in a timely manner.

9. Deputy Director Comments – Phil Maier:

D.D. Maier reported that former Marine Division Deputy Director Boyles was confirmed by the S.C. Senate as new SCDNR Agency Director.

He gave a brief Legislative Update

He noted his appreciation of the Committee taking the MAC Survey and hope to implement some field trips in the future for the Committee.

10. Date, Place & Time of Next Meeting – Chairman Swygert:

The next scheduled meeting of the Marine Advisory Committee is Friday, June 26th at the Marine Division.

11. Adjourn – Chairman Swygert:

Chairman Swygert adjourned the meeting at 11:37 AM.