



PUBLIC WATER ACCESS ADVISORY BOARD  
MAY 20, 2019 MEETING MINUTES  
N.H. MARINE PATROL HQ, 31 DOCK ROAD, GILFORD, NH

Members Present: Thomas Quarles, Esq., Chairman (general public); Timothy Dunleavy, DOS; Tracie Sales (Jim Gallagher’s designee) DES; Kelly Buchanan, NH Lakes; Rep. Roger Dontonville; Rebecca Martin DOT; Ken Gallager, OSI; Bill Gegas, DNCR; Garret Graaskamp, NHFG; Gene Porter (power boat interests); Dick Smith (fishing interests); Michele Tremblay (river interests).

Members Absent: Senator Thomas Sherman; Senator Ruth Ward; Glenn Normandeau, NHFG; Gary Clark (general public); Jim Gallagher, DES; David Bryan (coastal interests); R. Andrew Robertson (non-motorized boating interests); Paul Van Blarigan, GCD;.

Guests: Timothy Buzinski, NHFG

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**MEETING CONVENED**

Chairman Quarles welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Chairman Quarles thanked Captain Dunleavy for hosting the meeting and for offering to take the board on a tour of access sites on Lake Winnepesaukee.

He welcomed Tim Buzinski, Chief, of the Facilities & Lands Division, NHFG. He reported that Tim has replaced Rick Fink, former PWAAB member.

Tim reported that he grew up in Dover, NH, and is a professional engineer. He came to NHFG from DOT approximately a month ago and his responsibilities include managing the boat access program and maintaining all department owned facilities.

In addition, Chairman Quarles welcomed back Rebecca Martin back from a short absence and congratulated her on having a baby.

**1. AGENDA ITEMS – [Note: Text in bold denotes action items or motions.]**

**Approval of PWAAB Meeting Minutes – March 18, 2019**

**Michele Tremblay made a motion to approve the March 18, 2019 minutes and Gene Porter seconded. The board unanimously approved.**

**2. Joe Goodnough tribute.**

Chairman Quarles distributed a copy of a page from the NH Lakes Association Newsletter, a memoriam relative to Joe Goodnough. He stated, "It's a nice tribute by the NH Lakes Association." He reported that the board recognized his passing at the March PWAAB meeting.

**3. N.H. Wildlife Journal May/June edition: articles on Great Bay access and urban fishing.**

Chairman Quarles reported that all PWAAB members should be receiving a free copy of the Wildlife Journal. Please let Tanya know if you are not receiving them and provide her with your mailing address.

He reported that there was an article in the May/June Wildlife Journal relative to Garret Graaskamp, Boat Access Coordinator, including a detailed description of his job responsibilities.

He further reported that there were additional interesting articles in the journal, such as recreational opportunities on Great Bay, and an article about urban fishing.

**4. Pending Legislation**

\*HB-1810 – Study Commission & HB 645-DES Dock registration bill. Tracie Sales reported that the Study Commission was extended until 2020.

\*HB-645 – Dock registration bill. Kelly Buchanan reported that this bill passed in the Senate last week.

\*SB-160 – Swimming at 5 test F&G car-top sites. Chairman Quarles reported that this was found ITL (Inexpedient to Legislate).

\*SB-201 – Requiring DOT & F&G to develop a boat ramp, dock & parking at Great Bay, Hilton Park, Dover, NH. Chairman Quarles reported that this was found ITL.

\*HB-727 – Funding for DNCR to add parking & improve the boat ramp at Sunapee State Park. Bill Gegas reported that this was retained in the House. He further reported that DNCR is taking a neutral stance, expressing concerns, however, remain open to discussion.

\*HB-137- Wake boats – Kelly Buchanan reported that this bill passed both the House & Senate. She reported that the Study Commission would be meeting this summer.

\*HB-188 – Definition of no wake zone – Chairman Quarles reported that this passed both in the House & Senate.

\*HB-244- Eliminates mooring appeals board. Chairman Quarles reported that this bill passed and this board's functions were absorbed within the Department of Safety. Captain Dunleavy confirmed that was correct.

\*HB-324- relative to operation of personal water craft around the marsh lands or flats in the Hampton/Seabrook estuary. Chairman Quarles reported that this passed both in the House & Senate.

\*HB-668-relative to relative to heating, agitating or other devices in public waters. Chairman Quarles reported that this passed both in the House & Senate.

\*SB-234-FN - establishing the position of director of the office of outdoor recreation industry development, in the department of business and economic affairs. Kelly Buchanan reported that the Senate did not like the source of funding and it was essentially found ITL. Representative Dontonville reported that it would take a 2/3 vote to resurrect this bill, which could happen.

#### **5. Ken Gallagher's review of Connecticut River Conservancy site survey.**

Chairman Quarles reported that Kathy Urffer, CT River Conservancy, provided an access survey presentation to the board at a prior meeting, as it relates to the lower part of the CT river in NH.

As a follow-up, Ken Gallagher reviewed the access survey and compared it to the board's maps to see if there were any necessary adjustments. He reported that he visited some of the locations in question, on both sides of the river, and made the following adjustments:

Added - Cartop site at Sumner Falls, Hartland, VT.

Removed – Ottaquechee River, not really a usable site, no parking, etc.

Changed - Mascoma River – West Lebanon, NH, there is a small conservation area back behind a large store (K-Mart/J.C. Penney), with a non-maintained trail, a very long carry in, and no parking, however, it is still considered passive recreation.

He reported that everything else matched the board's records.

#### **6. Road to Public Waters – orphaned sites project – Tom Q., Ken G. and Garret G.**

Ken Gallagher distributed 3 updated spreadsheets.

- Blue chart (Roads to Public Waters – Fish & Game Properties).
- Yellow chart (Roads to Public Waters – Non-Fish & Game Properties).
- Brown chart (Petitioned, potential Roads to Public Water sites never built).

He reported that the pink highlighted items on all 3 charts are sites that require more research.

Michele Tremblay inquired as to whether the files could be scanned and saved electronically. Garret Graaskamp responded that some of the files/plans have been scanned by DOT, not all.

#### 7. **Fish and Game Project Update and Matrix – Garret Graaskamp**

Garret Graaskamp distributed an updated copy of the matrix to the board and reported that there were few changes made. He reported that the priority right now was focusing on getting the Downing's Landing, Alton Bay, boat access project underway. He reported that the coffer dam would be installed starting August 12, 2019, and a new double ramp with a central seasonal dock will be constructed. The completion date is anticipated to be sometime in the middle of October.

#### **New Business**

None at this time.

#### **Old Business**

These items were not discussed due to time constraints and are deferred until next meeting.

- DES Annual Report
- River access review and prioritization
- DES Beach Inventory and OEP Database
- Franklin proposed whitewater park – Winnepesaukee River

#### **Public Comment**

No comments heard.

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn was made at 12:20 p.m., by Kelly Buchanan and seconded by Gary Clark. The Board unanimously approved.**

Following a lunch break, interested board members boarded a Marine Patrol boat and proceeded on a review of some Lake Winnepesaukee boat access sites from the water. The board's first destination was Harilla's Landing where the board disembarked. Chairman Quarles handed out the Fish and Game Dept.'s

conceptual plan for the development of the site into a large trailer boat site, with a section set off to preserve island contractors staging and equipment.

The board next reviewed from the water the beachfront and former boat launch area of Ellacoya State Park. Finally, the board reviewed from the water Weirs Beach and private marinas, beaches and launching sites in that area.

### **Next Meeting**

Chairman Quarles thanked everyone for coming and announced that the board would be taking a field trip on September 19, 2019.

He further reported that the next PWAAB meeting was scheduled for November 4, 2019, at the NH Fish & Game Department, 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301, in the East & West conference rooms at 9:00 a.m.