



Lakes Region Planning Commission

Minutes of September 27, 2021

Approved September 26, 2022

6:00 PM

In-Person Attendance

Meredith Community Center, 1 Circle Drive, Meredith NH 03253

Virtual or Telephone-Only Attendance

Zoom Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89046121665> (audio only)

Zoom Telephone: Dial 1-929-205-6099 and enter Meeting ID 890 4612 1665

Commissioners Present

In Person

Mardean Badger, *Ashland*

Mark Hildebrand, *Center Harbor*

Jean Marshall, *Freedom*

Rep. Mark McConkey (Carroll-3), *Freedom*

Robert Snelling, *Holderness*

John Ayer, *Gilford*

Dean Anson, *Laconia*

Cristina Ashjian, *Moultonborough*

Celeste Burns, *Moultonborough*

David Katz, *New Hampton*

Doug Read, *Northfield*

Patricia Farley, *Tamworth*

Steve Wingate, *Tuftsboro*

Roger Murray, *Wolfboro*

Virtual

Rob Mora, *Laconia*

Stacy Soucy, *Laconia*

Lynn Montana, *Meredith*

Bonnie Osler, *Sandwich*

David Rabinowitz, *Sandwich*

Jeanie Forrester, *Alternate, Tilton*

Others Present Included:

In Person

Rep. Suzanne Smith (Grafton-8), *Guest Speaker*

Michelle Davis, NH LAKES, *Guest Speaker*

Bobby Graham, *Special Assistant for Policies & Projects, Senator Hassan's Office*

Virtual

Senator Bob Giuda (District 2)

Bree Rossiter, *Lake Winnepesaukee Association*

Chuck Mitchell, *Tilton Conservation Commission Member*

LRPC Staff Present

Jeff Hayes, *Executive Director*

Jessica Bighinatti, *Assistant Planner*

Tracey Ciriello, *Meeting Recorder*

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by LRPC Chair J. Ayer. Roll call attendance was taken by the Chair to determine whether a quorum was present physically:

Badger (**Ashland**)—present; Hildebrand (**Center Harbor**)—present; Marshall (**Freedom**)—present; McConkey—present; Snelling (**Holderness**)—present; Anson (**Laconia**)—present; Mora—present via Zoom; Soucy—present via Zoom; Ashjian (**Moultonborough**)—present; Burns—present; Katz (**New Hampton**)—present; Read (**Northfield**)—present; Osler—present via Zoom; Rabinowitz—present via Zoom; Farley (**Tamworth**)—present; Forrester, Alternate, present via Zoom; Wingate (**Tuftsboro**)—present; Murray (**Wolfboro**)—present.

The Chair announced a quorum was present at the location. Motion to allow remote participation by Commissioners attending virtually moved by D. Katz. P. Farley seconded the motion. Voice vote taken by those present in the room; motion carried with none opposed. **SO VOTED**

2. Announced at June 28, 2021 Informational-Only Meeting

- a. 50th Anniversary News
J. Hayes recapped the announcement from June that the 50th anniversary celebration has been delayed until the June 2022 Annual Meeting, scheduled to be held in Franklin.
- b. FY22 Meeting Schedule
The FY22 meeting schedule was also distributed in June (and with the materials for this meeting). Topics and locations are being determined based on availability due to COVID and ideas for preferred topics are always welcome.

3. New Business

- a. D. Anson moved to approve the minutes of April 26, 2021. D. Katz seconded the motion. Voice vote taken by those present in the room; motion carried with none opposed. **SO VOTED**
- b. The FY22 budget was reviewed by the Executive Board which recommended it be submitted to the Commission for approval. There were no questions or discussion. D. Katz moved to approve the FY22 Budget as presented. D. Anson seconded the motion. Voice vote taken by those present in the room; motion carried with none opposed. **SO VOTED**
- c. J. Hayes indicated that dues appropriations had remained the same for the past 3 years so the proposed FY23 membership appropriations reflect new Census numbers and a rise in inflation. D. Katz moved to approve the FY23 membership dues appropriations as presented. P. Farley seconded the motion. Voice vote taken by those present in the room; motion carried with none opposed. **SO VOTED**

4. Topic: Wake Boats

Guest Panel: **State Rep. Suzanne Smith**, Grafton – District 8

Wake Boat Study Commission Chair and Member representing NH House of Representatives

Michelle Davis, NH LAKES Policy & Advocacy Program Manager

Steve Wingate, LRPC Executive Board Commissioner At Large, Tuftonboro

Member of Conservation Commission and Milfoil Committee, Tuftonboro

Guest presenters Rep. Smith and Ms. Davis gave a joint update on wake boats, starting with the Wake Boat Study Commission created by the NH Legislature, who served on the commission, and what the findings were. Rep. Smith was the appointed members representing the NH House, and also chaired the study commission. She described 2021 legislation about wake boats, namely [HB115](#) defining wake surfing and [HB229](#) defining wake boats, and explained the gist of what is meant by wake boats in this context:

a recreational sport where no tow rope is used, personal flotation device (PFD) required, separate observer on deck, person wake surfs (on a board) directly behind boat, and can only wake surf behind a boat designed for that purpose (engine located under instead of behind the boat). Ballast is used to create a wake, the most popular being ballast bags filled with water when ready to start wake surfing, then discharged after. However, a bit of water always remains after emptying the bags or tanks, and discharging into a different area or lake than filled from can spread things like aquatic invasive species (AIS).

The study commission also looked at other positive and negative aspects of wake boat use in addition to AIS, such as relationship to shoreline erosion and private property impact, economic impact of recreational boating, popularity of water sports, and safety for others on the water like swimmers and non-motorized boaters. Balancing the competing uses and interests of NH's (public) waters—held in trust by the state for the reasonable use and enjoyment by the public—was the major challenge the study commission. The study commission did not reach a final overall consensus, reaching a consensus on some issues but not on others.

One of the positive things resulting from the study commission was that the amount of information gathered has helped make the boating industry more aware of issues, and in turn, look for solutions. For example, some in the industry are now looking into a type of fine mesh filter for dealing with AIS in ballast water bags. Relative House legislation proposed for 2022 so far is in the LSR (legislative service request) stage; nothing has been proposed from the Senate as yet. Commissioners asked questions such as whether photos shown

were of NH lakes, whether anecdotal data is discounted or taken into consideration, and whether a specific, unique impact could be attributed solely to wake boats.

S. Wingate gave a talk, accompanied by a photo slideshow, describing a 2021 Boat Wake Study that he, Abby Adams, and Joanne Akie conducted as citizen volunteers from June – September 2021. Assistance with the study was provided from Bob Craycraft, Lakes Monitoring Program Coordinator at the University of New Hampshire Extension; Pat Tarpey, Lake Winnepesaukee Association Executive Director; Andrea LaMoreaux, NH LAKES President; and Warren Muir of Wolfeboro Waters. His interest began because of his vantage point observing the lake over time, having inherited 750 feet of undeveloped waterfront property originally purchased in 1928 by his grandfather at Tuftonboro Neck, Winter Harbor, Lake Winnepesaukee. He presented photos spanning over 50 years, then depicted a graph showing results of their study, which took 25 hours to develop, 100 hours for the water sampling and boat counts, and 60 hours to analyze the data. The graph showed measurements in turbidity, phosphorous levels, high water levels, wind, and wave factors, by date and time of day as morning or afternoon. While more study will be needed, increases phosphorous and turbidity were both found, with higher increases on weekends.

5. Commissioner Roundtable

Due to time constraints, the roundtable was not held. Two Commissioners had announcements:

C. Ashjian announced that Plan NH had two upcoming charettes, as Moultonborough had done previously and Tilton did this past summer: October 22-23 in Wolfeboro and October 29-30 at Castle in the Clouds.

P. Farley announced that Carroll County Broadband is sending a letter to all Carroll County towns requesting that two people be nominated to the committee so it can ramp up its effort to apply for grants and other potential funding.

6. Adjourn

The Chair reminded everyone that the next meeting will be Monday, October 25, and declared the meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Tracey Ciriello
Meeting Recorder*

Motions Summary

Motioned / Seconded / Passed

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Approve remote participation by Commissioners attending virtually | Farley / Katz / unanimous |
| 2. Approve minutes of April 26, 2021 as presented | Anson / Katz / unanimous |
| 3. Approve FY22 Budget as presented | Katz / Anson / unanimous |
| 4. Approve FY23 Member Dues Appropriations as presented | Katz / Farley / unanimous |

Post-Meeting Follow-up Materials

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Wake Boat Update PowerPoint Presentation (Smith, Davis) | To be posted on website after meeting |
| 2. 2021 Boat Wake Study (Wingate) | To be posted on website after meeting |