

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Passenger Tramway Safety Board



Office: c/o N.H. State Fire Marshal's Office
110 Smokey Bear Blvd., Concord, NH
Mailing Address: 33 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03305
603-223-4289, FAX 603-223-4294

Table with 3 columns and 2 rows of names: Mark Petrozzi, Stanley Judge, Kris Blomback, Steve Howell

NEW HAMPSHIRE PASSENGER TRAMWAY SAFETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

4/29/2021

Location: King Pine Base Lodge (Final)

Attendees:

Board Members: Mark Petrozzi, Chairman
Stan Judge
Kris Blomback
Steve Howell

NH DOS: Briggs Lockwood Chief inspector
Scot Woolfenden Inspector
Nancy Ettelson Inspector
Max Shultz Deputy Fire Marshal, Assistant Director of the Division of Fire Safety

Industry: Shawn Taylor King Pine Ski Area
Derek Schott Wildcat Ski Area
Deidre Riley Attitash Ski Area
Joe Goey Attitash Ski Area

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Chairman Petrozzi asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Bob Hoyt, a long standing member of the board and a principle in the development of King Pine ski area.

Chairman Petrozzi called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

Chairman Petrozzi turned the floor over to Briggs Lockwood for a presentation.

Briggs Lockwood introduced Max Shultz, Deputy Fire Marshal, Assistant Director of the Division of Fire Safety to present Stan Judge with a letter of commendation from the commissioner of the Department of Safety for his 50+ years of service on the Tramway Board and to the ski industry in the state of NH. Max Shultz read the commendation to all present. It expounded on Stan Judge and his unfailing devotion to public safety and the ski industry as a whole. All present rose to the occasion as Max Shultz presented the commendation to Stan Judge.

Stan Judge gratefully accepted the commendation and spoke briefly on his many years of service. He went on to thank all those he has had the pleasure of serving with and working with throughout these many years.

Chairman Petrozzi put this accomplishment into perspective by explaining that Stan Judge began working in the ski industry the same year Chairman Petrozzi was born. He went on to thank Stan for his service but reminded him that this was not a sendoff but a continuation.

Agenda item #1: Review minutes from the 11-9-2020 meeting.

Motion: To accept the minutes from the 11-9-2020 meeting.

Moved: Stan Judge

Second: Kris Blomback

No Discussion.

Motion Passed. Vote was unanimous.

Agenda item #2: Application for construction, King Pine. New drive for Black Bear lift, TRM 16.

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Shawn Taylor presented the board with a packet containing the application, Certificate of design and drawings.

Nancy Ettelson pointed out the design certificate listed the lift as Powder Bear not Black Bear. Shawn Taylor explained, the exact same drive configuration was installed in the Powder Bear lift and the design engineer felt the documentation was all the same.

Stan Judge inquired as to who would be installing the new drive and would any of the lift parameters change. Shawn Taylor informed the board that he and Andy Pierce would be doing the installation and that no lift parameters would change.

Motion: To approve the application for construction for a new drive on King Pine ski areas Black Bear lift, TRM 16.

Moved: Steve Howell

Second: Kris Blomback

No further discussion.

Motion passed. Vote was unanimous.

Agenda item # 3: Administrative rules. Rules need to be re-adopted with some consideration for changes.

Briggs Lockwood explained to the board the administrative rules package would need to be re-adopted before next year. He felt it would be good to start the process now to give the board time to consider any changes they may want. He did make some recommendation as to issues that may want to be considered:

1. Torque proving for EVAC drives.

2

2. Funicular standard.

3. Pas 303.02, construction certificate for fiber rope tows.

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Chairman Petrozzi felt this was a good idea and recommended scheduling a work session for the next board meeting to start addressing these issues.

Max Shultz explained to the board his role in the rules adoption process and that the biggest hurdle is the cost that may be associated with any rule change. Chairman Petrozzi feels that on the surface it does not appear that cost would be an issue with the changes that may be incorporated, but the board should keep this in mind going forward.

Max Shultz discussed the need to incorporate the forms the board requires into the rules. This would make changing the forms easier in the future if the need arises. He recommended discussing the procedure for this with council.

Briggs Lockwood brought the issue of an operator with a portable rope tow to the board. He has been in contact with this operator and informed them that the units must be registered and inspected prior to use for the public. He further explained to the operator there is a pre-approval process in the rules that would allow them to use a unit as a demo for promotional purposes. This would require an application and approval from the board.

Agenda item # 4: Discussion: Upcoming application for new MND/Bartholet 6-passenger bubble chairlift at Waterville Valley.

Briggs Lockwood gave the board an overview of the proposed new lift at Waterville Valley. The new lift would replace the current White Peaks quad. It would be a 6 pack bubble chair built by Bartholet. This would be the first lift built by this manufacturer in the U.S. The construction would take two years. Year one would concentrate on tower footings and parking/work area. Year two would include removal of the quad lift, terminals and line construction. Waterville Valley plans on attending the May board meeting to make a presentation on the project. They anticipate an application and documentation to be presented at the June meeting.

3

Chairman Petrozzi asked the board and all present for any further discussion.

Max Shultz spoke to the states plans for re-opening in the near future. He thanked the

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inspectors for their understanding and assistance with all the changes brought about by the pandemic. He feels there is a great relationship between the Fire Marshal's office and the Tramway Board and he offered any assistance that he could provide.

Chairman Petrozzi thanked all the inspectors for their hard work and diligence in keeping the skiing public safe. He asked Max Shultz about office space for the inspectors. Max Shultz explained that space is a constant issue. Currently there are no plans to move the inspectors from their location. Although, space is a very dynamic situation and the current status could change.

Scot Woolfenden brought the issue of notification of use of the EVAC engine to evacuate a lift. He explained it is not currently required for a ski area to notify the board if they evacuate public with the EVAC system. This information could be pertinent if it is caused by a mechanical malfunction or if it takes an extraordinary length of time.

Chairman Petrozzi discussed the new Aerial Evacuation Resource Guide produced by NSAA. He felt ski area owners should be actively utilizing this great resource. It offers an in depth look at aerial evacuation and where ski areas should be focusing their efforts.

A brief discussion of rope evacuation was conducted. Nancy Ettelson stated that in NH the rules are that rope evacuation training needs to be conducted at the worst possible location on the lift line.

Chairman Petrozzi discussed the new Lift Maintenance Resource Guide produced by NSAA. This is a great resource for ski areas to help train and prepare lift maintenance staff. All ski areas should avail themselves of this resource.

Kris Blomback wanted to inform the board that Ski NH was planning a celebration of life for Bob Hoyt in July. He will provide more information as it becomes available. He also had a question concerning what constitutes public record. Is all the information the board collects available to the public? Max Shultz briefly explained the 91-A rule (right to know law) that governs all public agencies.

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The board set the next meeting date for Tuesday May 25, 2021, 10:00 am at the Stockade lodge, Gunstock ski area.

Chairman Petrozzi wished to thank King Pine for hosting the Tramway Board meeting.

Motion: to adjourn

Moved: Kris Blomback

Second: Steve Howell

No discussion.

Motion passed. Vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 11:18 am

Respectfully submitted,

Scot Woolfenden

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