

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

Selden Hannah
Chairman
Mark Petrozzi
Member
Robert Hoyt
Member
Stanley Judge
Member

9-15-2016 NEW HAMPSHIRE PASSENGER
TRAMWAY SAFETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
{DRAFT}

Present:

Members: Selden Hannah
Mark Petrozzi
Stanley Judge

Industry:

Chris Hanrahan US Forest Service
Wallace Weaver Waterville Valley
Ryan Frost Waterville Valley
Rich Combs Skytrans
John Pendleton Skytrans
Dan Pendleton Skytrans
Matt Harvey Pat's Peak
Gerd Reiss Whaleback
Doug Holler Dartmouth Skiway

NH DOS:

Nancy Ettelson
Scott Woolfenden
Briggs Lockwood

Selden called the meeting to order at 9:27. The Board reviewed the minutes from the 8-17-2016 meeting.

Mark suggested some changes: Add Gerd Reiss's last name, and identify Whaleback on page 3; and identify 'Highland Mt. Bike Park' in the last paragraph of that discussion. Briggs agreed.

Motion to accept the minutes with the changes: Stan Judge.

Second: Mark Petrozzi.

Approved unanimously.

The Board reviewed the Application for Construction from Whaleback for a re-

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located T-Bar. Gerd Reiss from Whaleback indicated that they are asking for concrete only at this time, and the return terminal is not included at this time, only the drive terminal and towers. Selden pointed out that the plans indicate that it is a J-Bar; Gerd explained that the lift is a Hall Model 300, which can use either J-Bar towing units or T-Bar towing units. The foundations are the same either way. Nancy asked about the condition of the towers. Gerd explained that they are in good shape, with little rust.

**Motion by Stanley Judge:** To approve the application for construction for concrete only for the towers and drive terminal.

**Second:** Mark Petrozzi.

The Board clarified that the approval is conditional upon testing soil as shown on the submitted drawings.

Approved unanimously.

The Board moved on to the update from Skytrans regarding the relocation of the triple chairlift at Waterville Valley. Rich Combs from Skytrans updated the Board on the progress there.

Rich explained that the lift design has evolved and the current profile plan now has 16 towers, where originally there were plans for 18. Skytrans submitted a new profile plan and data. John Pendleton from Skytrans explained some of the running changes that they are considering to help at the depress tower, and with possible wind issues. Also, the drive terminal was moved downhill which helps with the loading at the portal tower. There was some more discussion.

No action taken: Informational only.

The Board discussed the bulletin from Doppelmayr regarding NDT of bullwheels. Briggs explained that it seems prudent to allow some time to complete the requirements of the bulletin. The visual component of the required inspection could be completed, and then some time could be allowed to do the magnetic particle examination, which would allow the industry providers time to schedule the inspections. Additionally, the areas would be able to budget some time and some money to conduct these inspections.

Doug Holler from Dartmouth Skiway concurred that it would be reasonable to allow some time to get this done.

Matt Harvey from Pat's Peak explained how the bulletin would affect them.

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**Mark Petrozzi asked if we are looking at a specific type of bullwheel. Doug Holler indicated that recent industry discussions point to some issues that have been found on all types of lifts, including lifts that are not under the Doppelmayr umbrella; they can be seen visually. There was more discussion. Stan Judge pointed out that for years the industry has urged the manufacturers to provide this type of guidance through service bulletins, and it would be a reversal of that logic to dismiss or delay these instructions without consent from the manufacturer.**

**Selden suggested that lift operators attempt to appeal to Doppelmayr and get a firm start date. Mark followed up by suggesting that operators negotiate a phase-in for this inspection plan that is acceptable to Doppelmayr and the operators.**

**The Board takes no action at this time and suggests that the operators work it out with the manufacturer.**

**The Board reviewed tower and terminal foundations on chairlifts. Briggs explained how the research has progressed with terminals; there are very few affected terminals.**

**Briggs explained that tower footings pose a larger challenge, as there are more of them, and the records that would show whether they are pinned are more difficult to find.**

**The Board agreed to allow the State inspectors time to do the assessment for the towers.**

**The Board set the date for the next meeting for Wednesday, October 12, at 9:00 AM, at 110 Smokey Bear Boulevard.**

**Motion to adjourn: Mark Petrozzi**

**Second: Stanley Judge**

**Approved unanimously.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**W. Briggs Lockwood**