



CONNECTICUT BOATING ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES 15 January 2014 BAC MEETING

ANTIQUE
OUTBOARD MOTOR
CLUB

COALITION OF
CONNECTICUT
SPORTSMEN

CONNECTICUT
B.A.S.S.
NATION

CONNECTICUT
MARINE TRADES
ASSOCIATION

FAIRFIELD COUNTY
COMMODORES
ASSOCIATION

PADDLERS
NETWORK

U.S. COAST
GUARD AUXILIARY

U.S. POWER
SQUADRONS

ATTENDEES:

Eleanor Mariani Boating Division DEEP, Mike Payton Boating Division DEEP, John Annino Boating Division DEEP, Eric Lundin CT EnCon Police, Sandy McDonald FCCA, George Hallenbeck USPS, Bob Zipps Antique Outboard Motor Club, Grant Westerson, Chair CMTA, Gaeton Andretta Paddle Network, Dean Rustic CT Bass Nation, Steven Biro, Dept. of Homeland Security, US Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Meeting called to order 1900 15 Jan 2015; Minutes of 20 November meeting approved

Congratulations to John Annino on his imminent retirement

OLD BUSINESS

Grant Westerson brought up duplicity of being stopped. He noted that it was brought up at a national meeting that he attended. He opined that New London used to send officers to the Connecticut River and that it is still happening. He suggested that it should only be done for cause. He said that the USCG conducts training and that stops can be 40 minutes.

Eleanor Mariani said she was not aware of boaters complaining recently and noted that she did hear the complaint years ago.

Eleanor Mariani discussed her intention to reorganize the Boating Division so that all education – boating safety and environmental – would be under one umbrella. She indicated this would make the unit more efficient and effective. She will be requesting to refill John Annino's position when he leaves in February.

LAW ENFORCEMENT:

Grant Westerson reported about the meeting of LI Assembly (made up 3 Councils) . The LI Assembly issued report asking more money for environmental police (currently has upper 40s officers) to try to increase to 100 officers.

General discussion: if the number of the officers cannot be increased, then towns should appoint part time patrol officers (Commissioner DEEP must approve the nature of jurisdiction and authority of the non-POST certified officers to non-custodian violations, life jackets AFTER TRAINING only). But there are Lake Patrol officers with 50 hours training who may use pepper spray and enforce life jackets laws and regulations in accordance with Article 15 of Penal Code, but still cannot make BUI and custodial arrests) CT General Statutes §7-151b. Steven Biro enquired whether there are no legal limits on area of jurisdiction that Commissioner can designate, but opposition of police and police union organizations is likely to forestall Commissioner DEEP from making such appointments. Eleanor Mariani promised to take issue up with DEEP and the Deputy Commissioner.

Grant Westerson also asked for DEEP to train harbormasters. Eleanor Mariani said that DEEP has offered training in the past especially with regard to responsibilities because of harbor management plans. She indicated that she offered training for harbormasters to Mike Griffin, spokesperson for the harbormasters, but he never took her up on it. DEEP would have to work with DOT for any training.

UNIFORM TITLING LEGISLATION:

In the past, universal titling legislation fell through the cracks. It appears that now there is a favorable opportunity for passage with reduced fees. It would be applicable only to new boats 2016 or later. Titles from other states are not to be recognized by CT. Title legislation would protect owner and dealer. VA and other states passed uniform title registration act.

REGULATION REFORM:

State Agencies putting together recommendations for streamlining regulations that are more than 4 years old.
EG, safety boat can oversee not 3 but 6 boats if enough life jackets.

LEGISLATION:

Short session Feb-May – mostly budget. Long sessions are fro Jan-June/

Westerson: Model Titling bill fell through the cracks, no opposition, only boats 2016 and later and documented – out of state titles not be recognized. Titling bill protects owners and dealers. Has good chance of passing. Will be considered this session (for 3rd time) -- no opposition.

PERSONNEL:

There will be new DEEP Commissioner appointed (Commissioner Esty leaving beginning 3 February from current DEEP.

REPORTS:

Dean Rustic reported that CT BASS invites people to train to teach others to teach people how to fish. 8 FEB. Cabelas, E. Hartford on Silver Lane –near UCONN football field. Will certify instructors. Time spent teaching by certified instructors gets into DEEP database and is counted for matching funds purposes and Federal grant purposes. Background checks required for attendees. US CG AUX background checks not recognized.

ANNUAL ACCIDENT REPORT:

John Annino announced Conn. had only 1 reportable boating fatality in 2013: person on an unpowered inflatable boat on the Farmington River after lots of rain; alcohol was involved.

BOAT SHOW:

Connecticut Marine Trades Boat show at Hartford Convention Center.: John Annino announced 2014 Boating Guides will be available and on 25th it will have paddle educational seminar upstairs of the show.

PRESENTATION:

Mike Payton DEEP - Navigation Safety presented power point presentation on construction of boating access facilities (Boat launch projects). It was a tutorial on boat ramp construction and techniques. He discussed 2014 projects.

OTHER NEWS:

George Hallenbeck stated that US Power Squadrons WILL start on-water training this Spring.

***Adjourned 2100
NEXT MEETING 12 MARCH 2014***



CONNECTICUT BOATING ADVISORY COUNCIL

BAC Meeting Called to Order 1900 12 March 2014 at the New Haven Water Authority

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In attendance: Chair Grant Westerson; Steven Biro; Gaeton Andretta; Robert Zipps; Thomas Reynolds; John McDonald. Absent: Sandra Pierog; DEEP staff: Eleanor Mariani

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The minutes of the 15 January 2014 CBAC meeting were approved.

LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS:

The following items were discussed:

CONNECTICUT
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Directly Entered Bills:

CONNECTICUT
MARINE TRADES
ASSOCIATION

Bill
Number Title

HB-5049 AN ACT ELIMINATING UNNECESSARY GOVERNMENT REGULATION.
To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

Date	Action Taken
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2/27/2014	Public Hearing 03/03
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2/7/2014	Referred to Joint Committee on Government Administration and Elections
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HB-5120 AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR THE LAKES GRANT PROGRAM.
To assist in funding remediation efforts that improve the quality of lakes.

Date	Action Taken
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2/13/2014	Referred to Joint Committee on Environment
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HB-5216 AN ACT ADOPTING THE UNIFORM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE FOR VESSELS ACT.
To adopt the Uniform Certificate of Title for Vessels Act in this state.

Date	Action Taken
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2/20/2014	Public Hearing 02/24
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2/18/2014	Referred to Joint Committee on Judiciary
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[HB-5289](#) AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT PORT AUTHORITY.
To establish a statewide port authority.

Date	Action Taken
2/21/2014	Public Hearing 02/28
2/20/2014	Referred to Joint Committee on Transportation

[HB-5309](#) AN ACT CONCERNING ABANDONED BOATS.
To update Connecticut's abandoned vessels statute in order to facilitate the disposition of such property.

Date	Action Taken
3/10/2014 (LCO)	Filed with Legislative Commissioners' Office
3/7/2014 (ENV)	Joint Favorable Substitute
2/24/2014	Public Hearing 02/28
2/21/2014	Referred to Joint Committee on Environment

[HB-5423](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE SPEED OF VESSELS ALONG CERTAIN PORTIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT RIVER.
To create parity between the restrictions for vessels travelling on lakes and those travelling on rivers in this state.

Date	Action Taken
3/3/2014	Public Hearing 03/07
2/27/2014	Referred to Joint Committee on Environment

[SB-41](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PURCHASE OF ADVERTISING SPACE ON CONNECTICUT RIVER FERRY PREMISES.
To generate revenue from advertising sales on Connecticut River ferry premises.

2/7/2014	Referred to Joint Committee on Transportation
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Chairman Westerson explained the CT procedure in dealing with proposed legislation.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The following was announced:

- There is nothing planned by DEEP for Fairfield Country
- If municipal boat ramp owners willing to open up ramp for public use, DEEP might fund repairs.
- There is SANDY money to repair any Sandy damaged boat ramp, even if not public use.
- Robert Klee is the new DEEP Commissioner. He has a BA Princeton Geology, PhD Waste management, JD Law. Will speak at 24 March L I Sound Assembly at New Haven Water Authority (members appointed by Mayors), which is composed of 3 Councils (East West and Central).

- On 19 March, DEEP will conduct Education Forum for private providers at Old Lyme. Sue Simonds is in charge.
- Pump out Boat workshop on 25 March
- April recertification of boating instructors.
- Suggested changes to Boaters Guide should go to Monique Powe. Gwendolyn Flynn in charge of boating safety segment of Boaters Guide. Call Eleanor Mariani or Tim DelGado for suggestions.
- Bob Zipps: Antique Outboard Boat Gathering VFW Rocky Hill last Sat in March. Starts @ 0700, ends 1300
- 2 June Stamford West Beach 1800 open to public – flares demonstration by USPS. USPS needs expired flares.
- Hallenbeck – MSI number. Coast Guard will show time differential to get resource there (e.g. helicopter)

(There were no motions or votes other than relating to the minutes and adjournment)

The next meeting will be held 14 May 1900 at the New Haven Water Authority.

Meeting was adjourned at 2100

Very respectfully submitted,
Steven G. M. Biro



CONNECTICUT BOATING ADVISORY COUNCIL

May 14, 2014 Minutes
New Haven Region Water Authority
90 Sargent Drive, New Haven

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The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm. Present were Grant Westerson (Connecticut Marine Trades Association), Sandy McDonald (Fairfield County Commodores Association), George Hallenbeck (United States Power Squadron), Sandra Pierog (United States Power Squadron), Bob Zipps (Antique Outboard Motor Club), Bob Crook (Coalition of Connecticut Sportsmen), Tom Reynolds (CT B.A.S.S. Nation), James Crook (Coalition of Connecticut Sportsmen), Eleanor Mariani (CT/DEEP Boating Division) and Sgt. Eric Lundin (CT/DEEP En-Con Police). The minutes of the March 12, 2014 meeting were approved with the following amendments: George Hallenbeck attended and the comment attributed to George was corrected to the "MMSI" number.

Legislation. Bob Crook reported discussed the following: **SB 241** An Act Concerning Youth Hunting Licenses— proposes to reduce fish and hunting licenses for youth under certain circumstances and allows DEEP to occasionally offer reduced fees for hunting and fishing and allow for designation of up to 2 days for free licenses, allows for implementation of regulations for fishing or hunting guide requirements and requires guides to register annually with DEEP and pay \$100. **HB 5309** – Abandoned Boats passed, assigned **PA 14-57**. Streamlines ability to take ownership of an abandoned boat and provides for processing of boats in a severe weather event. **SB71** Online Education is on the foot of the calendar in the Senate, which is generally used as a strike all for bills. **HB 5417** (passed the House) is about Glass Eels and would set fishing season for them and a poundage limit. In Maine and South Carolina, young of the year Glass Eels (if alive) are worth \$2400 per pound. This bill allows a season for the Glass Eels. The Eels spawn in tidal rivers in late January through May. **HB 5597** Section 248 is the implementer bill and it was passed and signed by the Governor June 13, 2014 and provides for an aquatic invasive species management grant and prevention and education program. **SB 446** Invasive Species Management and Prevention and Education bill passed and will establish the program. **SB 70** discusses the transfer of small properties owned by the Dept of Agriculture and DEEP and the establishment of a public use and benefit land registry. It allows DEEP Commissioner to designate lands owned by DEEP for public use and benefit. Often such properties are conveyed to towns or conservation trust funds. Mr. Zipps wanted to know if we can get a list of the property. According to the bill DEEP shall make such public use and benefit land registry available on the internet by January 1, 2015. In Newtown, the Dept. of Agriculture is a preserve for walking with 100 acres. **HB 5289** is a bill that would establish a statewide Port Authority for Bridgeport, New London and New Haven.

On June 2 at 5:30pm at West Beach, there will be a fire extinguisher and flare demonstration. The Darien Fire Department had a Flare Day and 160 people attended. In Old Lyme, DEEP will have flare demonstrations on June 20th. USPS will hold events for Ready Set Wear It at West Marine in Stamford and Greenwich Town Hall. West Marine will have seminars from 12 to 2pm.

Eleanor Mariani will follow up on HB 5049, An act eliminating unnecessary government regulation. Bob Zipps wanted to know if the speed zone in the Hartford area was going to stay the same. Eleanor stated yes. Grant noted that this issue has been brought up several times and that the Council agrees with the zones as they exist.

Upcoming Events – May 19th – Public Hearing on Inland Fisheries Regulations at 6:30pm in Hartford. May 24th there will be Fishway Tours from Branford, Old Saybrook and East Lyme. Hunting and Fishing Day was in Burlington and 1200 people attended. On Saturday from, 8am-1pm, on the Quaddick Reservoir there will be an Antique Outboard event. Sandy McDonald mentioned the two paddlesport events.

Tom Reynolds wants public access to Connecticut Yankee where it has been boomed across the canal and it was suggested to mention it to Pete Aarestad, Director of Inland Fisheries.

Bob Crook – Proposing bill asked for 5 new CO's per year until 2016, then 75 should be the established standard. He believes DEEP should get out of providing law enforcement for Parks. As of now, we have a total of 47 officers.

Sgt. Lundin spoke of training, Port Service grants, teaching defensive ops, basic crew and BUI NASBLA. Twenty-three officers are involved. Operation Drywater was mentioned and well as the boater's guide.

Grant mentioned that he was placed on the Board of the Connecticut Marine Trades Association in 1983 and has worked for CMTA since then. He also noted that he has been a member of the Connecticut Boating Advisory Council since 1987, reflecting on how he helped to shape and mold Connecticut's safe boating program. With that, he said he was retiring at the end of the month. Everyone thanked Grant for all the great work he has done for CBAC, CMTA and boating in Connecticut. Sandy Pierog was voted in as Chair.

The next meeting is September 10, 2014 at 7:30pm in New Haven at the Water Authority.



CONNECTICUT BOATING ADVISORY COUNCIL

September 10, 2014 Minutes
New Haven Region Water Authority
90 Sargent Drive, New Haven

The meeting was called to order. The minutes of the May 14 meeting were approved with one correction. The Darien Sail and Power Squadron held a Flare Day.

In attendance were: John Craine, Gaeton Andretta, Dean Rustic, Bob Zipps, Bob Crook, Sandy Pierog, new Bureau Chief Mike Lambert and Eleanor Mariani.

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Legislation. Eleanor discussed HB 5049, An Act Eliminating Unnecessary Government Regulation. Bob Z. says the DEEP is against small power boats and 6mph is meant for narrow channels. His example was the hearing held in 2004 for the proposed regulation to combine two slow-no-wake zones in East Hartford/Hartford, Connecticut River, was held in Cromwell and the regulations are biased because of it. Bob Crook stated to send any regulations out through him. Eleanor agreed to have the Council review current boating regulations even though the opportunity by the Governor closed. She will provide instructions. Bob C. gave an update on the laws that passed. SB 241, signed into law by the Governor on June 12th, allows for certain hunting and fishing license fees for person sixteen and seventeen year of age, reduces certain fishing fees and establishes a registration requirement for persons who conduct hunting or fishing guide services. Sixteen and seventeen-year-olds can get a free license for up to two days and the fee for a guide will be \$100. Selling of Glass Eels (HB 5417) was vetoed by the Governor on May 30th. Species Management (SB446) passed. Bob Crook doesn't have any fishing bills for this session. He will go with the same bill which is requesting 5 more Conservation Officers per year until 2017. The mandatory standard should be 75 officers. He also suggested that the officer's duties be updated to include education and training. He uses this to help others understand the job of a Conservation Officer. The Atlantic States Fisheries Management Council's annual meeting will be held in Mystic October 26th through October 30th. The regulation review package for Fisheries is at Sportsman Caucus. State Rep. Melissa Zibrion would like a list of the events for women and children.

Boating Accidents. Eleanor discussed the boating accidents that occurred to date in 2014.

Old Business. Bob Zipps would like everyone to wear life jackets. John Craine – Discussed rowing sculls and Stand Up Paddleboards and conflicts in channels. He suggested that safety information should be delivered to yacht clubs, marina and stores and there should be PSA's on YouTube. Gaeton noted that there was a beach toy mentality for paddlesports. It was recommended that shops do training. Gaeton stated that DEEP provides boating safety events for paddlers, training, signs and education. Dean suggested maybe register paddle craft or require education. He noted that Ohio and Michigan register paddle craft.

New Business Eleanor introduced Mike Lambert, DEEP's new Bureau Chief. Mike related his background. Eleanor noted that Kate Brown from Office of Long Island Sound Programs had joined the Boating Division and that the infrastructure component of the Clean Vessel Act Program was coming into the Division. This program is responsible for keeping boat sewage out of the waters of Connecticut and educating boaters about proper use of pumpouts.

Sandy Pierog wanted everyone to know that the DOT comment period is over this week regarding proposed regulations on stormwater runoff noting a requirement for sand and salt in parking lots to be swept twice a year. She will forward to members. How does this affect Clean Marina? Does this mean they have to capture the storm water? The Council of Governments commented that the catch basins must be cleaned twice a year and they must be tested.

Bob Zipps wants to know how often the council should meet. No changes to schedule were offered.

REPLY: C/O BOATING DIVISION, PO BOX 280, OLD LYME, CT 06371-0280
TELEPHONE: 860.434.8638 FAX: 860.434.3501