



LEILANI CRAFTS ULRICH
Chairwoman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

Draft Minutes
State Lands Committee
August 2015 Agency Meeting

**MINUTES OF THE STATE LANDS COMMITTEE MEETING
August 13, 2015**

The State Lands Committee convened at approximately 9:30 a.m.

State Land Committee Members Present

Richard Booth, Sherman Craig, William Thomas, Robert Stegemann.

Other Members and Designees Present

Karen Feldman, Arthur Lussi, Daniel Wilt, Dierdre Scozzafava, Bradley Austin, Lani Ulrich.

Local Government Review Board

Fred Monroe.

Agency Staff Present

Terry Martino, James Townsend, Kevin Prickett, Kathy Regan.

Approval of the July Committee Minutes

A motion to approve the draft committee minutes was made by Robert Stegemann and was seconded by William Thomas. All were in favor.

Planning Division Report (Kathy Regan)

Kathy Regan reviewed the division report. She discussed direct and indirect costs to towns for consultants, an engineer and attorney for Towns developing local land use plans. She also noted the wetlands workshop the Agency is hosting for DEC staff to be held later in the month.

Lake Champlain Islands UMP (Dan Levy, DEC)

This item was for informational purposes only. Ms. Regan stated this is a public draft of the UMP. A public hearing has been scheduled. DEC is accepting public comment until September 20.

Dan Levy reviewed the various areas that make up the complex. He also noted the three boat launches within the unit.

Mr. Booth asked when the dock was built near the Seton house. Discussion continued regarding maintenance of the Seton house. Mr. Levy stated the Department will not be maintaining the structure and noted that no organizations have come forward that are willing to assist in maintaining the structure.

Mr. Craig expressed concern that without picnic tables on the site, the impact to the island flora might increase. Fred Monroe concurred with Mr. Craig and noted Local Government feels there should be a balance between resource protection and the economy. He added that a Primitive classification should be revisited. Mr. Stegemann responded the Department and the Agency had similar discussions and have concluded the area needs to be classified as Primitive.

Ms. Feldman asked if Department staff will be removing all picnic tables, would they also be removing all fireplaces. Mr. Levy responded the Department will be allowing the cement fireplaces to degrade and then replacing them with fire rings.

Ms. Feldman asked if the memorial would be maintained as it is located within a Primitive area. Mr. Levy responded that it won't be maintained as it is considered to be non-compliant with the Master Plan and stated it will be allowed to naturally degrade.

Mr. Booth noted that the summary of the UMP should contain information regarding the gun boat Philadelphia which was raised from Lake Champlain and currently resides in the Smithsonian Museum in Washington D.C. He suggested that a note in the summary be added about this very important fact of history.

Old Business

Mr. Lussi voiced concern that he might be absent for the discussion of the Essex Chain UMP if it is brought before the Board in September. He stated his primary concern is the motor vehicle access to the Iron Bridge from the east as it relates to public access. He stated he did not feel there has been public access to that area and does not believe he can support a UMP with language suggesting there has been public use. Chairwoman Ulrich responded that staff will continue with deliberations and hopes the Final Draft will be back before the Board in September. The Final Draft would then go out for public comment for the Agency and come back again before the Board in November. Therefore, Mr. Lussi would have opportunity to join in Board discussion.

New Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:10 a.m.

Video and MP3 audio recordings of the proceedings are available in their entirety via webcast at http://nysapa.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2