

MINUTES OF THE BOATING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
HEBER CITY UTAH
Jordanelle State Park
3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

July 6, 2011

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pam Berger	Present
Lucy Minahan	Present
Paulette Welch	Present
Troy Mann	Present
Guy Taylor	Present
Hank Cobb	Present
Tim Gaylord	Present
Ray Schelble	Present

DIVISION OF UTAH STATE PARKS AND RECREATION PERSONNEL

Dave Harris	Boating Program Manager
Fred Hayes	Deputy Director of Operations
Laurie Backus	Jordanelle State Park Manager

Pam called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 2011 MINUTES

Ray made the motion to accept the minutes are presented. Guy seconded the motion. All were in favor.

ADVOCACIES/DIVISION UPDATE

Utah State Parks took a \$3 million general fund budget cut this year but we have been cut 60% over the last several years.

So our budget is \$28 million this fiscal year which is down from \$31 million. We had to cut 25 positions, only 7 of those positions actually had someone in that position, the rest were vacant positions. We also have put in affect a zero base budget for all of the parks.

The last days of the legislative session they made \$2.8 million of our ongoing money to one time money. We will have to ask for this money next fiscal year. If we do not get that one time money we will go from 43 parks to 25 parks. We just wouldn't be able to function if we lost that one time money.

Hank asked how much of the boat registration fee comes back to State Parks. The entire \$25 registration fee comes back to Parks. Hank had a thought about having an option when someone registers their boat to have the option to buy a State Park annual pass at a discounted price. Both Dave and Fred thought this was a good idea. Dave will talk to Kevin Parks with MVED and get his take on this idea.

With all of the turmoil with the budget cut and the unknown of where Utah State Parks goes from here, Parks has come up with an advocacy plan. We need citizens to speak up to the legislature to let them know how valuable State Parks is to the public and their families. Dave will have Stacy email the advocacy information to the Council members.

Ray is on the Friends of Utah State Parks board. The Friends group is now a membership organization. Ray will send the membership form to Stacy and have her email it to the Council members.

Fred thanked the Council for all they do and their support.

CARRYING PASSENGERS FOR HIRE STUDY GUIDE

Brody Young and Robin with USU have been working on redoing the study guide. Dave handed out a copy to each of the members. Please send any suggestions to Stacy within the next week. From this, they will be redoing the guide tests from the new study guide. Ray asked if we could send the study guide to Steve Christensen for his input. Dave will have Stacy email it to Steve.

LEGISLATION/RULES UPDATE

We are working on legislation for next year. We have some things that we want to get on the interim study committee. This committee will already have approved or not approved the language; this makes it easier for a bill once it gets to the legislature.

The two bills we will submit is a bill cleaning up the language on riding on the exterior of boats and to totally eliminate bow riding above a wakeless speed. The other is to add vessels to the uninsured motorist database. This way when an officer stops a vessel they will be able to tell if they have insurance on the vessel or not. This third party company will send a notice to the person that their vessel is uninsured. On the third notice, if the registered owner does not comply a notice will go to the DMV and the registration will be revoked.

BOATING PROGRAM UPDATE

This year we have had four fatal accidents. Last year we had a total of ten. Eleven injuries and twenty eight total accidents. Total accidents are low since the officers have thirty days to report the accident.

We have 81 outfitters register, 320 guides register and 37 liveries register.

We have had to readjust where our boats are located with the reduction in staffing due to the budget cuts.

We are working on a grant with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary to help us provide boating education since our position for the Boating Education Specialist was cut.

Operation Drywater took place over June 25 weekend and was very successful.

Starting to work on the Motorboat Access

Over 300 individuals have taken the online boating course.

2010 US Coast Guard accident stats:

National fatality rate is 5.4 deaths per 100,000 registered boats

Utah fatality rate is 14.22 deaths per 100,000 register boats

¾ of fatals were drownings and 80% of those were not wearing a life jacket

84% of fatals did not have any boater education

48% of fatals were on open motorboats

29% of fatals were on canoes/kayaks/inflatables

6% of fatals were on PWCs

Anyone can go to www.uscgboating.org, and then click on statistics to get more information.

NEW BUSINESS

Ray asked about the vacant paddlesport position. Dave has not received any applications and we have announced it numerous times.

The Education and the Motorboat positions will be vacant this fall/winter.

Right now the bylaws states that a person can only serve two terms on the Council. After the next meeting we will have three positions vacant. Dave would like to revise the bylaws to keep a person in their position until we can fill that position. Guy motioned to change the bylaws to state that 'a member can stay after two terms until the position is filled.' Ray seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Guy asked about a Council outing, just a little get together. Ray asked about Lake Powell since that has been brought up before. Troy said between Paulette and his boat they should have enough room for everyone. Dave will have Stacy email Paulette and Troy to make sure of houseboat availability on September 16 through the 19th or September 23 through 26. If we cannot do a Lake Powell trip maybe look at an overnight trip to Starvation to see the new campground.

JORDANELLE STATE PARK INFORMATION

Laurie Backus, manager of Jordanelle, handed out an information sheet on Jordanelle (flyer on file):

- Reservoir is full and staff is getting geared up in case of flooding.
- Jordanelle is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation but State Parks manages the recreational areas.
- There is seven full time staff.
- There are around 300 parking stalls for boats.
- They have 80 boat slips.
- MBA projects; CXTs, ramps, docks, pump out facilities, two indoor boat storage facilities, lighted buoy system, parking lot striped and asphalt.
- They work with many companies who provide different services/activities at the park.

Hank asked how the budget cut has affected them. They lost one full time employee with the budget cuts. This position was over the Rockcliff area so they've had to quit managing that area.

Guy made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Tim seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.