

N E W H A M P S H I R E BOAT MUSEUM

Media Contact: Martha Cummings at 603.569.4554 or martha@nhbm.org

For Immediate Release

NHBM Board Expands

Wolfeboro, NH—October 1, 2020—In support of its Capital Campaign to construct a new facility, the New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM) recently expanded its Board to include Nancy Black, longtime volunteer and member.

Originally from New Jersey, Black and her husband Brian, a retired police chief in the area, have been local to the Lakes region for 40 years.

“It is just a natural fit,” she explained. “My husband and I have met many people over the years connected to the boating industry. Plus, we have boated together since we were teenagers and we both love history.”

According to NHBM Executive Director Martha Cummings, Black brings a wealth of experience to her new role.

“She has been involved with other non-profits and educational institutions in the area,” she said. “Not only does she understand how non-profits should run, she also knows a lot of people in our surrounding communities. We enticed her with our Capital Campaign project, and, I think, have ignited a new passion working on our museum collections and exhibitions.”

Black agrees and said part of her focus will be to assist the Board and staff in attracting a broader audience.

“Whether it be steamboats, the ecology of the lakes, wooden boats or other related areas, the museum has a lot to offer appealing to different interests,” she said.

Enhancing the education programs, she said, will be key.

“There is a need for more people in the marine industry,” she said. “Boat technicians are hard to find and the trade schools are not filling.”

Cummings added, “We are forging strong partnerships with area marinas and the Marine Technology program at Lakes Region Community College on ways we can promote the boating industry as a whole...The museum is in the middle of the tourist and boating industries, both of which are vital to our state.”

In looking ahead, Cummings said both staff and the Board are thinking long-term, but also focused on the pragmatic reality of a world still in the grips of Covid-19.

“We are balancing our focus on experiential, hands-on learning with the need to introduce digital experiences into our offerings,” she said. “With incredible volunteers and a committed Board, I think the future is bright for the New Hampshire Boat Museum.

In addition to presenting sponsor Eastern Propane, Gas and Oil, NHBM's 2020 exhibit season is sponsored by Meredith Village Savings Bank, Goodhue Boat Company, Stark Creative and Bank of New Hampshire.

Founded in 1992 by antique and classic boating enthusiasts, NHBM is committed to inspire people of all ages with an understanding of, and appreciation for, the boating heritage of New Hampshire's fresh waterways.

To learn more, visit nhbm.org.

-the end-