

From: Porter, Louis [Louis.Porter@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 12:04 PM
To: Gingras, Jessica
Subject: RE:

Spot on.

This is almost exactly what I told her – that I thought the Governor, or any Governor, does and should consider any knowledgeable applicant who wanted to help making hunting, trapping and fishing regulations work, as that is the charge of the Board as directed by the Legislature. I also said that I did not think the Board was the right place to have a debate about whether hunting or trapping should be legal, as it is implementing rules around what the Legislature deems should be legal activities.

I added that my belief from reading the application letters was that the most recent round of applicants all held licenses, but since that is not a test of the application process I did not know for sure. Also talked to her for a long time about the board, how it works, the fact that Vermont's greatest environmentalist, George Perkins Marsh, was on an early version of the Board, and the process for crafting and vetting new rules or rule changes.

I connected her with some board members as well. I believe Patrick Berry is taking her bird hunting this afternoon.

Thanks.

Lp

From: Gingras, Jessica
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 11:56 AM
To: Porter, Louis <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW:

Hi Louis,

We got a request from Molly from Seven days.
See my response:

Hi Molly,

I have been the Director of Boards and Commissions for a little over a year, and to my knowledge have only processed 3 appointments to the Fish and Wildlife Board. In those instances, I only received applications from individuals who were consumptive users/license holders. All vacancies on the Board are public, and are listed on our website until they are filled.

The Governor appoints individuals at will, and vets every application that we get for open seats. He would absolutely consider a non-hunter/non-consumptive user, as he does all other applicants – based

on experience, and expertise. The role of the Fish and Wildlife Board is to work with the Department specifically on implementing legal hunting and trapping activities, per direction of the Legislature. It is important to the Governor that individuals who serve on the Board are knowledgeable of issues surrounding hunting and trapping, are familiar with the current laws, and who are willing to volunteer and represent the hunters/licensed consumptive users in their communities.

-jg

Best,

Jessica Gingras

Director, Appointments to Boards and Commissions
Governor's Office

The Pavilion – Fifth Floor
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609-0101
Office: (802) 828-3333
Fax: (802) 828-3339
jessica.gingras@vermont.gov

From: Coriell, Scott

Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 11:55 AM

To: Gingras, Jessica <Jessica.Gingras@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>

Cc: Allen, Susan <Susan.Allen@vermont.gov>

Subject: RE:

Looks good to me. Can you run by Louis before sending? I know he is dealing with this issue.

From: Gingras, Jessica

Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 11:36 AM

To: Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>

Cc: Allen, Susan <Susan.Allen@vermont.gov>

Subject: FW:

See below the request from Seven Days: and my proposed response to her:

- I should probably include that the Governor is a hunter?
- My goal is to not say that we would never NOT consider someone who didn't have a license, but that expertise is needed on the Board given the statutory charge.

Hi Molly,

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Jessica Gingras

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From: Molly Walsh [<mailto:molly@sevendaysvt.com>]

Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 8:00 AM

To: Gingras, Jessica <Jessica.Gingras@vermont.gov>

Subject:

Hi Jessica:

I'm on deadline today writing an article about the push by anti-trappers and non-hunters to get representation on the Fish & Wildlife Board. I'm wondering if you could tell me whether anyone who is opposed to hunting and trapping has applied to the board under Gov. Shumlin's tenure.

Also, what is the Governor's position on the question -- does he think hunting and trapping foes should serve? I would love to get a comment from him if possible, email would be fine.

Thanks

--

Molly Walsh
Writer
Seven Days
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