

October 4, 2023

Bruce Kistler
1828 Woodpointe Drive
Winter Haven, FL 33884
bwkistler@aol.com
863-258-3790

To Whom It May Concern:

I wish to serve on the Polk County Lake Access Advisory Committee. Please see enclosed Statement of Qualifications. I will provide further details if desired.

I am familiar with Polk County lakes and streams having power-boated, canoed or kayaked on most of the county's accessible water bodies over the course of nearly fifty years.

I am retired and, except for out of state travel, can make myself available for meetings. I am familiar with the functioning of citizen advisory committees.

Sincerely,

Bruce Kistler

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Statement of Qualifications for Lake Access Advisory Committee

I am an active power-boater, canoeist and kayaker.

I hold a Master's Degree in Parks and Recreation from Penn State University. My thesis concerned boating safety. I completed Penn State's first-ever course on water recreation.

I was Executive Director of the American Water Ski Association when it was headquartered in Winter Haven. I was the association's point man on legislative affairs which often involved water access issues. As a representative of AWSA, I sat on the National Safe Boating Council and the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. I co-authored a pamphlet on water ski safety for the US Coast Guard.

I had a long career as a land planner in Polk County including positions as Comprehensive Planner for Polk County Board of County Commissioners where I helped draft the first Recreation and Open Space Element, Comprehensive Planner for the Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Community Development Director for the City of Lake Wales and Planning Manager for the City of Lakeland.

Currently retired, I am Vice Chair of the City of Winter Haven Multimodal Advisory Committee which advises the city commission on issues related to sidewalks and trails.