

Minutes of the April 3, 2013 Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club, Inc., held at Saratoga Springs, New York, in the Civalier Conference Room of the Wesley Health Center

Present: Jonathan Lane, Pat Desbiens, Linda Ranado, Laura Fiske, Bill Bechtel, Tom Ellis, Gretchen Steen, George Sammons, John Schneider, Jacki Bave, and Maureen Coutant

Chapter Chair Laura Fiske began the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

She asked if there were any corrections/amendments to the **minutes** of the last Ex. Comm. meeting. Since there were none, Tom E. motioned to accept the minutes as written. John S. seconded. Motion passed.

John S. gave the **Treasurer's Report**. Jacki B. motioned to accept. Linda R. seconded. The March 2013 Treasurer's Report was received by the Ex. Comm.

Jonathan L. gave an update on the Club's **Black Fly Affair fundraiser** which is on May 18. He asked for ideas regarding a chapter contribution to the event. We could go with a decorated Adirondack chair (as last year), a basket or make a monetary donation. The money will go to the eradication of invasive species in the Adirondack Park. The Committee voted to ask Bob Aspholm if he would be willing to decorate an item and if he agrees, go with that. If not, the Chapter will make a \$250 donation to the event. Laura F. will talk to Bob A.

Bill B. reported on the **Club Board of Directors meeting**. The 2013 budget will be reduced by 3% or \$100,000 due to a 2012 deficit. Membership is 15,930 households and the Club has an 83% retention rate which is quite high. ADK received a 75% reimbursement CFA grant from the State for \$221,000. The Club will renovate the High Peaks Information Center to increase the store size, renovate the main Loj kitchen at Heart Lake, increase the size of the Loj's meeting area, and expand the campground loop. He noted that the *Adirondac* magazine has gone digital. He explained the types of endowments the Club has. He reported that the Club would like to have the 70,000 acres of new Finch land being acquired by the State of New York classified as mostly wilderness and the State wants it classified as mostly wild forest. He reported that National Geographic is working with ADK to update its maps to coordinate with the Club's guide books.

Laura reported that the Club is attempting to set up a foundation.

Jonathan reported on the Annual Meeting that took place before the **Board of Directors** meeting. He noted that liability release forms need to be turned in for all ADK outings. There was a question of which forms to use. Laura F. will check with the Club so the correct ones can be on the website. Spring Outing will be June 14-16. The Conservation Alliance has given money to ADK for work in Allegany State Park. Deb Zack is working on a Canadian outreach program.

Laura F. reported that there may be someone interested in being Outings Chair. There are still other **Ex. Comm. positions** that need to be filled. For 2014, one of three Director positions needs filling but she found out that it would be okay if the Chapter had 2 Directors. Laura will follow up with the Treasurer and Secretary to see if they wish to continue in those positions and noted that at least one Vice-Chair position needs to be filled.

She noted that the **Ragnar Relay** will be Sept. 27 and 28 and will need volunteers.

Linda R. reported that there are **8 kids being sponsored** for camps this summer, one for ADK and 7 for DEC camps.

Pat D. reported that there were **5 new members** and 10 renewals in Feb. The Chapter has 1,351 households. She noted that EMS Club days will be the first weekend of May. If you would like to volunteer to help, contact her.

Jonathan L. reported that the **Sports and Fitness Event** was very busy and he sold many memberships and items.

Maureen C. reported that she called the Queensbury Chamber of Commerce for ideas of venues for the **Annual Dinner**. Ideas were the Great Escape waterpark's hall, Hiland Park, the Queensbury Hotel, and Dunham's Bay Lodge-which she considered to be too far away. She asked for ideas around Saratoga and will follow up with other venues when she hears back from those she contacted.

Jacki B. reported on the Club **Conservation** Committee meeting. Tony Goodwin is heading a group that wants to remove the rails from Thendara to Lake Placid and create a bike trail. At issue is the risk that this will facilitate more illegal ATV and snowmobile riding on wilderness areas and private land. The State is being asked to review the Unit Management Plan for that area. She noted that the LG Land Conservancy is planning an Around the Lake Challenge.

John S. will be going to the Club Trails Committee Meeting at Ray Brook.

Tom E. noted that the Tongue Mt. **trail work** will be April 27. He needs DEC paperwork and liability forms for the outing.

George S. reported that he is making changes to the **website** so that trip leaders can change the date of a trip more easily.

Tom E. motioned to adjourn the meeting. Pat D. seconded. Chair Laura F. adjourned the meeting at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen E. Steen, Acting Secretary

NEXT MEETING: May 2, 2013, 7:00 p.m.; at Carl R's, Queensbury