

**Minutes of the October 2, 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: Jacki Bave, John Caffry, Pat Desbiens, Tom Ellis, Gretchen Steen, Laura Fiske, Jonathan Lane, Linda Ranado, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, John Schneider, Kerri Healy, and Wayne Richter.

Chapter Chair Laura Fiske opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

The minutes of the June and September 2013 meetings, as corrected, were approved unanimously on a motion by Jonathan Lane, seconded by John Schneider.

Treasurer John Schneider presented the September Treasurer's Report. He paid the Chapter's \$5,000 annual donation to the Club; 1,000 new chapter patches have been purchased for the Membership Committee; total assets are \$7,051. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Jacki Bave, seconded by Pat Desbiens.

Laura Fiske gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. She announced that this was Wayne Richter's first meeting as Outings Chair, after he was approved to do so by his employer DEC under its conflict of interest rules.

Laura discussed final preparations for the **Annual Dinner**. Mo Coutant is continuing to make the arrangements; Jonathan Lane is preparing the program for printing and will circulate a draft; an e-mail reminder will be sent to the members. The Ex Comm approved the purchase of additional appetizers at the same level as last year. An ADK promo video was reviewed, and it was agreed that the video may be shown as background during the social hour before dinner, but will not be part of the formal program. The development of a membership survey to be distributed during the dinner was discussed, but it was decided that it was too late to do so, and also because the Club is doing a similar survey, this idea was deferred to the 2014 dinner. Laura will do an informal oral poll at the dinner instead.

Laura renewed September's discussion about whether or not to allow **teens on Chapter outings** without a guardian. Among the issues discussed was that any new liability forms or procedures should be cleared with the Club. The outings leaders will be polled to see if they are interested in having teens on their outings. Laura and Wayne will research this subject further.

Laura gave an update on the **Club's publications program**. The Fire Tower Challenge book will be updated and reissued. Overall, guidebook sales are down due to competition from the internet and for other reasons. The Club would like the chapters to help market the books to bookstores and gear stores. Jim Schneider, a former Chair of the Club's Publications Committee, said that the program is down to one part-time staff person and opined that the program is being mismanaged by the Club's leadership.

Laura, together with Jonathan Lane and George Sammons, discussed creating an **online system** for Ex Comm members to keep track of projects, store commonly used forms, allow the public to communicate with outings leaders, and the like. They will investigate this and report back.

Laura said that the issue of bringing **dogs on hikes** had come up again. A review of the minutes showed that when, and under what circumstances, this is allowed had been decided at the September 2008 meeting. **Wayne Richter, Outings Chair**, said that he will work on updating the Outings Leaders Handbook and submit it for approval. He may suggest revising the dogs policy. Laura also reported that there is an occasional problem with Ex Comm members and outings leaders whose **memberships lapse**. If a leader's membership lapses, the outing will have to be canceled, because only members can lead outings. This needs to be monitored.

Sarah King forwarded a written report for the **Programs Committee** (attached).

Laura reported on the **Ragnar Relay**, at which Chapter members volunteered again this year. She will look into how the Chapter handled the purchase and distribution of ADK calendars as gifts for the volunteers last year, which were paid for out of the Chapter's share of Ragnar's donation to ADK. She also discussed the **2014 Chapter budget** and requested that the committee chairs let John Schneider know if their budget needs will be different from 2013's.

Pat Desbiens, Membership Chair, reported that she will do the EMS Club Days soon, and has volunteers lined up for that event. Membership for August was up 6 from July. The Chapter has the most total members of any chapter, but the Albany Chapter has more households.

John Schneider discussed upcoming **Trails** events. **Jim Schneider** reported that there was a lot of blowdown over the summer on the Chapter's adopted trail on Tongue Mountain.

Jonathan Lane, YMG Chair, reported that **Kerri Healy** is helping with the Facebook page and has recruited many new friends for the page. He is looking for more YMG outings leaders. Kerri said that she would like to see the Chapter make more use of social media. If people submit their items to her, she will post them.

Gretchen Steen, Hospitality Chair, reported that she has begun planning for the Victorian Streetwalk event.

Laura reported that DEC is changing the AANR agreements to "**Volunteer Stewardship Agreements**" and that anybody doing work under one must make the change.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Jonathan Lane, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

Next meeting – November 6, 2013, 7:00, at Carl R's in Queensbury.