

**Minutes of the December 4, 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: Bill Bechtel, John Caffry, Tom Ellis, Gretchen Steen, Laura Fiske, Jonathan Lane, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, John Schneider, Wayne Richter, and Kerri Healy. Also present: Irene Sammons.

Chapter Chair Laura Fiske opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m., following a potluck dinner.

The minutes of the October and November 2013 meetings were approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Wayne Richter.

Treasurer John Schneider presented the October and November Treasurer's Reports. Two months of dues were received, along with 6 cents of interest. John purchased a 2 year supply of stationery for \$294 and renewed the postal permit for the newsletter for \$200. \$1,050 was received from the Club for the Ragnar Relay, which equates to 21 volunteers from the Chapter. He has invested \$5,000 in Chapter Notes with the Club. The Club has not yet cashed the check or acknowledged the Chapter's \$5,000 donation. The reports were approved unanimously on a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Kerri Healy. This will be John's last meeting as Treasurer, but he will attend the January meeting and is assisting incoming Treasurer Steve Mackey with the transition.

Laura presented John with a card and a gift in honor of his **over 30 years of service** to the Club and the Chapter.

Hospitality Chair Gretchen Steen reported that the arrangements for the Victorian Stroll were all set.

Laura gave the **Chapter Chair's Report. Adirondack Community College**, a/k/a SUNY Adirondack, is still interested in having a program for student members with ADK, and the incoming Club president supports the idea of chapters having such programs, which would be similar to a program at SUNY Buffalo. This would require a contact person at the Chapter. The Club is looking for money and volunteers to help with the **ADK Winterfest** at the Loj, on 1/14/14. It was agreed that the Chapter will put this on its website but won't give any money for it. Laura, Jonathan Lane and Pat Desbiens attended the **Chapter Roundtable** with other Chapters. The main topic of discussion was membership.

Laura reported for the **Education Committee**, in the absence of Chair Linda Ranado. She said that DEC is now offering a summer camp deal on 7 kids for the price of 6. The Chapter currently sponsors a much smaller number. It was agreed that this would require more study.

There was a discussion of **committee goals** for the new year. Jonathan Lane and Jill Gruben submitted ideas in writing. Laura urged other committee chairs to work on their own goals.

Jonathan Lane reported that one chapter has tested the idea of a **so-called meet-up** group for outings, with certain controls in place to alleviate the Club's concerns about liability, which is going well so far. After some discussion, it was agreed that he and Wayne Richter will work on this idea for the Chapter. He also discussed the upcoming **BoD meeting**. A Mr. Duncan died and left the Club \$559,000. A proposal for the Club to divest from fossil fuel stocks will be voted on.

Jim Schneider discussed the status of the report prepared for the Club a few years ago by **Stuart Messinger on land acquisition priorities**. John Caffry stated that E.D. Neil Woodworth was sitting on the draft report and that it had never been released. It was agreed that the Secretary will write to the incoming President to ask about this, on behalf of the Chapter.

Kerri Healy discussed **the 2014 Chapter special donations**. She will circulate the prior list for discussion.

Jonathan Lane reported that he and Kerri are working on an **online project management tool** for the Ex. Comm.

Membership Chair Pat Desbiens reported that membership for October was a net minus 21.

Secretary John Caffry thanked Pat for preparing the November minutes in his absence.

Outings Chair Wayne Richter reported that the outings listings for January to March are going well.

Treasurer John Schneider reported that the 2014 budget will be much like the 2013 budget.

Jim Schneider reported that he is working to finish the revisions to the firetower book. He will also revise the **Firetower Challenge** brochure and add the winter challenge. He asked that the Ex. Comm. consider applying some of next year's \$5,000 Club donation to this project. Jonathan suggested trying to raise money for this on Kickstarter. John Schneider said that he will see if any money can be found for it in the 2014 budget.

On a motion by Bill Bechtel, seconded by Tom Ellis, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Caffry, Secretary

Next meeting – January 8, 2014, 7:00, at Carl R's in Queensbury.