

Minutes of the March 5, 2014 Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club, Inc., held at Queensbury, New York, at Carl R's Restaurant

Present: John Caffry, Maureen Coutant, Pat Desbiens, Laura Fiske, Kerri Healy, Steve Mackey, Linda Ranado, Wayne Richter, George Sammons, and Jim Schneider. Also present: Kathi Noble, Tim Noble, Dustin Bruhns, Sarah van Rijsewijk, and Anne Paolano.

Chapter Chair Laura Fiske opened the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

The minutes of the January 2014 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Kerri Healy. The February meeting was canceled due to bad weather.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented an oral Treasurer's Report. Assets are about \$8,000+. Steve will prepare written reports for January to March for the next meeting.

Kerri Healy presented the final list of Chapter **memberships and special donations for 2014**. She never received a response from the Friends of the Kayaderosseras, so she proposed that those funds be reallocated to the Friends of Pok-o-Moonshine's Ranger Trail project. The total will still be \$1,200. The list, as revised, was approved unanimously on a motion by Mo Coutant, seconded by Linda Ranado.

Laura Fiske gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. She and Pat discussed the upcoming **Winter Raptorfest**. The Chapter will have a table at this event. Volunteers are needed. She has created a **volunteer request form** to be distributed at meetings and events. Suggested revisions to the form were discussed.

Laura said that there is a need for an updated version of the **By-laws** that includes all of the amendments that have been approved, and that this should be posted on the website. John Caffry agreed to do this. She then proposed an amendment to eliminate the Annual Dinner Committee, which had been distributed with the agenda. John moved that the Ex Comm recommend approval of this amendment by the members, the motion was seconded by Mo Coutant, and approved unanimously. The amendment will be presented to the members for a vote at the next annual dinner. John offered to prepare another proposed amendment to allow the Ex Comm to vote by e-mail. Secretary's note: the formal resolution will be appended to these minutes.

Laura introduced **Anne Paolano**, the past Chapter Secretary, who has volunteered to be the **Annual Dinner Coordinator**, the position created by the prior resolution. This will be a non-voting position, within the Program Committee, replacing the Annual Dinner Committee Chair position, which is being abolished, pending approval of the By-laws amendment by the members at the annual dinner. The duties of the position were discussed. Mo said that the dinner should be in the Saratoga area this year, because it was in the Glens Falls area last year. Options for locations, entertainment and dates were discussed.

Jim Schneider discussed the status of the updated **Firetower Challenge book**. He, Wayne Richter, and Jonathan Lane met with the Club staff. The estimated total cost will be about \$10,500. This will be ADK's first use of crowdsourcing for fundraising. He discussed problems with the Spruce Mt. trail and that UMP updates for the St. Regis and Hurricane towers are pending. He will write comment letters to DEC on behalf of the Chapter.

Laura reported for **Jonathan Lane**, in his absence, on his idea for running **member profiles** in the **newsletter**. She said that Newsletter Chair Jill Gruben liked the idea. There being no objections, it was left up to Jill to do this as she sees fit.

Laura introduced Chapter members Dustin Bruhns and Sarah van Rijsewijk, who are interested in volunteering for the Chapter. The Ex Comm members introduced themselves and described what they do. Laura also

announced that **Roberta Daab** had agreed to work on **publicity** on a trial basis, but had not yet decided whether she wanted to be the committee chair.

Website Chair George Sammons reported on his work to make the website mobile-friendly.

Treasurer Steve Mackey said that he is looking into doing automatic on-line bill payment wherever possible.

Secretary John Caffry said that there was a problem with the P.O. Box being non-openable, and that he will look into it.

Chair Laura Fiske said that the Club is looking for volunteers to join its Human Resources Committee. She also reported that a business has inquired about **linking to the Chapter's website**. It was unanimously agreed that this should not be done.

Vice-chair Kerri Healy reported that she has been recruiting potential Ex. Comm. members and thanked the guests for attending. She is also working on getting the outings onto Meetup.com, and other projects.

Outings Chair Wayne Richter reported that he has a good schedule of outings coming up.

Education Chair Linda Ranado reported that 7 camperships have been filled this year. She said that she may transfer money from the rest of the Education budget to fund another child for DEC camp; there was no objection from the Ex. Comm. She will do a presentation at the Glens Falls Family Y's Healthy Kids Day next month.

Membership Chair Pat Desbiens reported that she will be covering the Sports & Fitness Expo in Saratoga and the Raptorfest. December was a good month for membership, with 19 new members and a net of +7. January had 14 new members and -4 net.

Wilderness Chair Jim Schneider reported that he had visited the **Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area** on skis and that it looked good. It is much improved over the last 2-3 years, due to there being a full-time seasonal assistant forest ranger and a full-time seasonal backcountry steward. These DEC positions will continue this year. He also reported that **Jacki Bave** is doing well with her medical treatments.

On a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Wayne Richter, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Annual Dinner Committee Dissolution Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee recommends that ARTICLE IV of the By-laws be amended to eliminate the Annual Dinner Committee;

RESOLVED, that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the members for a vote at the Annual Meeting;

RESOLVED, that the Chapter Annual Dinner Committee shall be dissolved and that the annual dinner function shall be the responsibility of the Program Committee; and

RESOLVED that an annual dinner coordinator should be appointed by the Program Committee Chair to fulfill the responsibilities of planning and executing the annual dinner.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary