

Minutes of the April 6, 2016 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: John Caffry, Maureen Coutant, Deb Donahue, Tom Ellis, Laura Fiske, Steven Lashomb, Steve Mackey, Linda Ranado, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, Gretchen Steen, Tammara Van Ryn, and Bill Wasilauski. Also present: Dan Kane and Anne Paolano.

Guest: Catherine Forbes

Chapter Chair John Caffry opened the meeting 7:05 p.m.

The minutes of the March, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Laura Fiske, seconded by Linda Ranado.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the **March Treasurer's Report**. January dues were received in March. Education camp payments and the special donations were made during March. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Tom Ellis and seconded by Wayne Richter.

John gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**

- **Dan Kane has agreed to become our 3rd Director.** We were newly allowed a third Director based on our membership numbers. The board unanimously approved a motion by Tammara Van Ryn and seconded by Aimee Rutledge to appoint Dan Kane for the term.
- Kathi Noble wants to **award an honorary posthumous patch to Lynda Lake** who was doing the challenge with her daughter. Her daughter recently finished, but Lynda needed 3 more fire towers when she passed away. A motion was made by Deb Donahue, and seconded by Gretchen Stark, to award Lynda Lake a patch. The motion was unanimously approved.
- John will **update the Roster** and email that out to everyone. Afterwards it can be found on the Chapter website.

Cathy Forbes, ADK's Development Director, visited the Chapter and gave an update with Jim Schneider on the Fire Tower Challenge (FTC) new book release. She talked about opportunities to **encourage the challenge and promote ADK**. She also mentioned that our Chapter **memberships donation pattern** is a bit different than others. She is looking for someone who would be willing to be in a small group to try to figure out why our members give the way they do. **Laura Fiske offered to work with her** on this. Cathy made herself available for questions and follow-up.

Bill Wasilauski passed around a Club **survey about our Chapter**. John is going to send it to everyone to look out and get comments to fill it out next month. Bill also passed along a **request to host the Fall Outing in 2016**. Since this is close to the time of our Annual Dinner, the group decided this wouldn't be feasible.

Anne Paolano reported on the **Annual Dinner** progress. While hiking the Appalachian Trail, Steve Mackey met **Jocelyn "Patches" Songers**. She overcame some difficulties while hiking the AT and has some interesting stories. She also has a nice Facebook page of beautiful nature photography and has done programs in the past. She is willing

to do a program for our Annual Dinner. Steve shared some of her photographs and is going to check to see if she is available, willing, and within our budget. We will look for **October 15th** as the later dates had conflicts for many Exec Committee members. Anne has explored a number of options for venues in Saratoga. The Embassy Suites and Holiday Inn both seemed reasonable for the room, menu, and price. They both had availability when we were looking later in October, but Anne will check on 10/15. The group decided on trying **The Embassy Suites**.

Committee Reports:

Tammara Van Ryn updated the Chapter that at the recent on the BOD meeting there was a discussion of the **Club's liability release form**. The Chapters have been asked to check that they are using the most recent form. The form was going to be emailed to all the Chapters. George was asked to check that the form on the website was up to date.

Wayne Richter reported that we have a **good outings schedule** coming up for the next newsletter.

Dan Kane updated us on the **Skidmore trail project** that had been discussed at an earlier meeting by 2 Skidmore students. Dan and Steven Lashomb walked the trail and the project is moving along. We may get a call to action to help with the trail.

Jim Schneider deferred talking about the Stillwater Fire tower at the next meeting. He also reported on the Pharoah Lake Lean-to and mentioned that other Lean-to Adopters report similar issues with trash when an area is easy to drive to.

Tom Ellis – **Tongue Mtn April 27th Workday!**

Aimee Rutledge – She sent a letter to Warren County to support a bike trail on a section of track whose contract with a train company expired this year. Subsequently, the agreement to **extend the railway contract for 5 years was pass by the County**.

Deb Donahue reported that **she would be doing the newsletters now with George's assistance** on the back ½ (and he also helps with other technical details). Mo will assist for as long as needed. Deb reminded everyone to **get their items in ASAP** if they still needed to.

Stephen Lashomb will take over doing the **Young Member Group Facebook page**. (Aimee Rutledge does the Chapter Facebook page) Stephen is also working on some YMG posters.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Wayne Richter, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30? p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Coutant, filling in for Kathi Noble, Secretary

Next meeting May 4th, 7:00, at Crandall Library's Holden Room in Glens Falls.