

**Minutes of the September 7, 2016 Meeting of the Executive Committee  
Of the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club,  
Inc., held at Glens Falls, NY at Crandall Library**

**Present:** Maureen Coutant, Pat Desbiens, Deb Donahue, Tom Ellis, Dan Kane, Sarah King, Steven Lashomb, Steve Mackey, Kathi Noble, Linda Ranado, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, Jim Schneider, Gretchen Steen, and Bill Wasiluski. Also present: Anne Paolano, Peter Benoit, and Regina.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Maureen Coutant** opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. in the absence of John Caffry.

Discussion of the overuse of the ADKs was added to the agenda.

Introductions were made. Peter Benoit is attending because he is interested in being an alternate director and Regina attended as a new member.

**The minutes** of the June 1, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Tom Ellis seconded by Dan King.

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the July and August Treasurer's Report. We received \$3020.55 from the club for dues. Total expenses were \$1487.24 for the newsletter. Current balance is \$13684.16 the report was approved unanimously on a motion by Dan Kane seconded by Pat Desbiens. Steve suggested that we roll over the money that is in the savings account into the chapter note to earn more interest. He will bring it up again in February before the note is due.

**2016 Nominating Committee:** Mo Coutant reported that 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair position is still vacant. All other positions are filled.

**Annual Dinner:** Anne Paolano reported that she will check with the venue to see what hors'dourves they can offer for \$250.00. There was a discussion as to who to invite. Jim and Aimee will talk to John about the possibility of inviting someone from Saratoga Plan and the Saratoga mayor. John will send out invitations. Anne will do name tags, Mo will create the program, she will send out a draft for approval, Anne will share last years agenda, let her know if you would like to be added, a few people need to arrive early to help out. Make sure we are all promoting the dinner at events and outings.

**Committee Reports:**

**\*Programs:** Sarah King reported that programs are set through April 2017. She shared the dates and events through an email.

**\*Wilderness:** Jim Schneider reported that the new edition of "Views from on High" would now not be published until next year. The club has cut the publishing budget and the part time editor can't do all that is being asked. Jim stated that the ADK club should publish guides so they are looked at as the authority on the trails and fire towers.

**\*Directors:** Dan Kane and Bill Wasiluski reported on the June Board of Directors meeting. Changes will be made to the High Peak Visitor Center starting this fall. There will be new bathrooms and the possibility of vendors to provide food. This is being funded by a grant. Neal

Woodworth talked about having a land bank. FTC merchandise is on target and will be brought up again at the next meeting on 9/17. Membership is up 30% in the last year as is the number of households. The club will be launching a new website. The goal is to have it up by September.

\***Newsletter:** Deb Donahue reported that everything is going well with the newsletter.

Information for the next issue is due on October 1.

\***Education:** Linda Ranado reported that all campers attended this summer. She heard back from a few that they really enjoyed the experience. Moreau State Park is having a Nature Fest on 9/17.

\***Young Members:** Steve Lashomb reported that he will be working with Skidmore's director of environmental studies to help generate interest in the club.

\***Membership:** Pat Desbiens reported that we had 29 rejoins for May 23 for June and 17 in July.

\***Conservation:** Aimee Rutledge mentioned a few topics that will be discussed in the future: land bank amendments, logging in Madison Hollow and Boreas Pond discussion of use. DEC plans to hold public meetings in November for the Boreas Ponds land classification.

\***Outings:** Wayne Richter reported that we are in need of younger leaders.

\***Hospitality:** Gretchen Steen reported that the Victorian Stroll is on December 1. She will share details as she gets them.

\***Trails:** Tom Ellis reported that there is a new chainsaw safety and CPR course.

\***FTC:** Kathi Noble reported that are 79 finishers of the challenge this year plus 6 winter completers. There is a Google doc that is being shared with the club's membership personnel in hopes of getting some FTC completers to join the club.

Additional Agenda item: **Over use of the ADKs:** Key points that were made:

\*need to use this to head in a positive direction

\*use volunteers as "ridge runners" similar to summit stewards. Rangers can't get to back country because they are doing a lot of search and rescue.

\*need to educate people about trail etiquette and safety, someone at main trail heads

\*our directors need to advocate for funding for more rangers and trail maintenance

\*ADK club needs to take a leadership role, get together all involved parties, and stake holders, to work together

\*the money our chapter donates to the club could go to helping find a solution to this problem

On a motion by Tom Ellis, Sarah King by XXXX, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Noble, Secretary

**Next meeting – October 5, 7:00, at the Wesley in Saratoga.**