

**Minutes of the February 1, 2017 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, Pat Desbiens, Deb Donahue, Dan Kane, Steve Mackey, Kathi Noble, Linda Ranado, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, Tammara Van Ryn, and Bill Wasiluski. Also present: Laurie Schweighardt ADK Membership Director

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

The minutes of the January 4, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Tammara Van Ryn, and seconded by Dan Kane.

Agenda items:

***FTC Update from Jim Schneider:** The content of the book is being reviewed by DEC. Appendix A lists resources such as friends of fire towers. Many towers will be celebrating 100 years over the next few years. Jim is suggesting a FTC Expo to help with the relaunch of the challenge. A similar event was held for lean-tos and it was very successful. Jim is planning on meeting with John Schneider to get information on this event. Jim commented that an expo would help to fulfill the mission of the club by involving young members and families. It would be nice to hold the expo at the same time that the new book is released although this may be too soon to put it all together. Tamara suggested fall might be more realistic, maybe on the same day as the annual dinner. A few ideas were suggested of things to include during the FTC Expo: sponsors would need to be obtained, having past observers attend, examples of completer letters and photos on display, Blue Mt. Museum could have a display- Linda has a contact, honoring Jack Freeman, Laurie Rankin, director of the NYS Chapter of the FFLA could present, Laurie Schweighardt suggested a fundraiser at the club level so people could donate money in honor of Jack Freeman and/or the FTC.

John Caffry mentioned that in 2011 there was a memorial gift given in memory of Alan Clark in the amount of \$750.00 to be set aside for use by the FTC.

Kathi Noble reported that there were two donations given to the FTC. Michael and Matthew Jackson donated \$50.00 and Val and Rod Barr donated \$100.00. Maybe these funds can be used towards the Expo.

George Sammons shared a demo page of what completion letters on the website might look like. He suggested that people, if they chose to, could email letters in a PDF that then could be up on the website. In doing so they would be giving permission for the chapter to share their journals. Checks would still need to be mailed to pay for patches or we can look into Pay Pal. Maybe add to brochure that letters maybe published.

***Banff Film Festival:** Skidmore isn't holding the festival this year, but may have it in the future. Jim has been in touch with Banff as to the possibility of the chapter partnering with Skidmore or having 1 night in Skidmore and 1 night in the Glens Falls area. Mo mentioned that the Skidmore show is sold out. The Woods Theatre holds 294 and the Queensbury School holds 880 however; it is difficult to get space at schools. Mo will look into the cost of using one of these spaces. Banff wraps up scheduling in June, we need to make a decision soon, looking for February 2017. It was suggested that The Glen Falls Chamber might help out with publicity. Estimated cost is \$2650.00 to \$3000.00 per screening.

***Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the January 2017 Treasurer's Report. Steve reported that total assets are \$8016.69; a payment of \$2450.00 was made for DEC camps and the chapter note of \$5087.10 will mature soon. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Dan Kane, and seconded by Linda Ranado.

Steve reviewed the **2017 Budget**. Pat Desbiens mentioned that the cost of mailing the newsletter will go up due to increase in postage. She feels a budget of \$10,000.00 for the newsletter will be sufficient. John Caffry would like the Other Income split out to show the FTC income as a separate line. The 2017 budget

was approved unanimously on a motion by Aimee Rutledge and seconded by Dan Kane with the above changes made. Steve will email a final budget.

John gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**: John will not be attending the March 1st meeting, Mo will chair. John mentioned that there is a conflict of interest with Aimee with the Big Cedar Swamp, so John will be involved. The runway extension at Warren County Airport will destroy 10 acres of wetlands. John also reported that Neal Andrew's Refugees to Camps will continue and that Steve is authorized to send \$75.00 in honor of Neal as stated on the Special Donations list. This was approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, and seconded by Linda Ranado. There will also be an article in the March newsletter about Neal. Some memorial hikes will be done in his honor. The hikes will be listed in the outings. Steve would like the chapter to give a donation to The Harris Land Preserve in Lake Luzerne for the development of trails on Potash Mt. John will look into this further to determine if we should add this group to the list of Special Donations.

Committee Reports:

***Education:** Linda reported that the chapter was given a discount of \$247.50 instead of \$275.00 for the Teen Trails camp.

***Membership:** Pat reported that for December there was 20 new members with 7 rejoin for a total of 27, which gives us plus 17 members.

***Website:** George receives an email roster from headquarters for members of our chapter. He wants to know if non-members of the chapter can be added to our list? The consensus was that only members may be added to our Chapter email list.

***Conservation:** Aimee reported that EPF: Environmental Protection Fund lobby dates were emailed from The ADK. She will post something on Facebook. The next conservation committee meeting is on March 4.

***Newsletter:** Deb asked about honoring Jack Freeman at the May program. Jim will see if he can attend.

***Wilderness:** Jim reported that he hasn't been doing an Adopt a Wildland annual report. Aimee said that Adopt a Wildland has been discussed at conservation meetings. She will bring up the reports at the next meeting.

***Programs:** Mo reported in the absence of Sarah. Bob Bayle completed a book, An Adirondack Portfolio. He is willing to give a free presentation about his book and his father. Dan said that the book is very good and that Sarah should pursue having the program.

***Dan Kane** reported that the rebranding of the ADK is to increase membership. The Heart Lake visitor's center is about 2 months behind scheduled. Volunteers have been working hard. Money has been spent on materials, \$250,000.00, but none on contractors. Volunteers and staff are completing work.

***Outings:** Mo shared an outings schedule to show that we are in need of more trip leaders. On a motion by Dan Kane, seconded by Pat Desbiens, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Noble, Secretary

Next meeting –March 1, 2017 7:00, at Crandall Library, Glens Falls