

**Minutes of the April 5, 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:** Pat Desbiens, Tom Ellis, Dan Kane, Sarah King, Steve Mackey, Kathi Noble, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, Jim Schneider, Gretchen Steen, and Tammara Van Ryn Also present: Peter Benoit.

**In the absence of Chapter Chair John Caffry and Vice Chair Mo Coutant Steve Mackey** opened the meeting 7:00 p.m.

**The minutes** of the March 1, 2017 meeting were approved, with stated amendments, unanimously on a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Dan Kane.

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the March 2017 Treasurer's Report. Total income for the month was \$3,218.44 and expenses were \$50. Total assets at this time are \$9,786.59. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Dan Kane, seconded by Sarah King.

**Agenda Items:**

**\*Fire Tower Challenge Update Status: Jim Schneider** reported that he has been emailing with Andrea Masters on clarity of the book. The book may not be published in May. The chapter has a \$2500 budget for the book and we are paying for the same items that we did in 2001. Jim now has John's information on the lean-to expo. Things are too busy now to try to put together a fire tower expo. We will look at it again in 2018.

The committee would still like to honor the Freemans at the May program even if the book isn't published by then. There was some discussion as to what to do to honor Jack and Tilly.

Suggestions included a leaf on the Tree of Giving at headquarters, an ADK chair either at headquarters or ADK Loj, their name on the porch of HPIC or a donation to Hadley fire tower. After much discussion Tammara made a motion to spend up to \$1,000 for a bronze leaf on the Tree of Giving. The motion was seconded by Dan and approved unanimously.

**\*Banff Film Festival Dan Kane** reported that the possibility of hosting the festival is still in the works.

**\*Annual Dinner:** Anne Paolano was not present. There was a lengthy discussion about the conflict on October 20th with the Adirondack Film Festival. The event was very successful last year and should be again this year. Sarah King will email Anne to see if the speaker is available on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Committee Reports:**

**\*Membership: Pat Desbiens** reported that in February there were 17 new members, 1 rejoin for a total of 18 and plus 11 from January.

**\*Trails: Tom Ellis** reported that there will be trail work on April 29<sup>th</sup> on Tongue Mt. He is looking for volunteers.

**\*Programs: Sarah King** reported that the program by John Schneider was well attended. The April program will be held jointly with the Audubon Society and the May program is on fire towers.

**\*Board of Directors: Tammara Van Ryn** reported that the club received a clean financial audit letter. There was a \$4.6 million dollar budget with a surplus of \$52,000 which is needed for cash flow.

The club has passed a resolution opposing glamping on wilderness areas and on a constitutional

convention.

Renovations at HPIC are almost completed. This summer will be an expansion of the campground, building of the new bathhouse and food concession building. There are still ongoing discussions as to whether hikers will be able to use the showers or if they will be for campers only.

There are 2 finalists for the position of Chief Operating Officer.

National trails day is June 3rd.

Tammara led a round table discussion at the last Board of Directors meeting on how the chapters can recruit active members, officers and directors. Some chapters make proactive phone calls to new members to get them engaged. One chapter holds a game night to get people interested and promotes leadership opportunities there. It was also suggested that when a director or officer is leaving a position that the person find a successor.

**\*Conservation: Aimee Rutledge** reported that the Conservation Committee had met in the beginning of March. They passed resolutions that are opposed to glamping in wilderness areas, no development of Goat Island in Niagara Falls and a resolution was passed to amend the state constitution's Bill of Rights to include a right to clean air and water and a healthful environment. Cornell is working on a bio control for the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.

The APA will be deciding in May on the preferred development for access to Boreas Pond.

**\*Outings: Wayne Richter** reported that the outings schedule for May and June look good. A new trip leader has been added.

**\*Harris Land Preserve: Steve Mackey** reported that the state owns land at the top of the mountain. A forester will be going up to look at the purposed trail. Approval will be needed by the state.

On a motion by **Tom Ellis**, seconded by **Dan Kane**, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Noble, Secretary

**Next meeting –May 3, 7:00, at Crandall Library, Glens Falls.**