

**Minutes of the May 3, 2017 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: John Caffry, Maureen Coutant, Pat Desbiens, Deb Donahue, Tom Ellis, Dan Kane, Sarah King, Steve Mackey, Kathi Noble, Linda Ranado, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, Gretchen Steen, and Bill Wasiluski. Also present: Anne Paolano and Catherine Forbes.

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

The minutes of the April 5, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Dan Kane, seconded by Jim Schneider.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the April 2017 Treasurer's Report. Total income for the month was \$86. The website renewal was paid at a cost of \$334.80 for 2 years. Total assets are \$6819.32. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Linda Ranado.

Agenda Items:

Fire Tower Challenge: Jim Schneider explained the purpose of the Giving Tree at headquarters is to honor people who have been dedicated to the club. Jim shared the leaf that the chapter will donate in honor of Tilly and Jack Freeman. Jim also shared a framed replica of the leaf that the Freeman's will have to keep. Catherine Forbes thanked the chapter for doing this and for all we do and our support of the club. At the May program there will be FTC letters on display and Catherine will check on selling merchandise. Jim will present the leaf to the Freeman's and Sarah will introduce the speaker.

Jim reported that the book will not be reissued by the program date. No date has been given for publication.

John suggested that we create a fire tower challenge committee. He will look into what amendments need to be made to the by-laws.

Catherine Forbes offered her support and to answer any questions. John Caffry asked about John Million's replacement. Catherine stated that the committee has given the top picks to Neil Woodworth. John will stay on to help train the new person.

Dan Kane asked about the rebranding of the club. Catherine explained that \$60,000 is being used from the undesignated bequests for the rebranding of the club. \$50,000 is for a professional group that will help with a new membership brochure that has fresher language and will be geared towards attracting younger members. The group will also help with a statewide membership campaign. \$10,000 will be used for printing. The new draft of the brochure will be presented at the board meeting on June 23rd. Wayne Richter asked if there was a way to evaluate the new marketing? Catherine said that they would be looking at website hits and membership numbers. Mo Coutant asked if there would be a monthly payment plan. Catharine stated that it is being worked on.

John gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. John reported that the check given to Neal and Edna Van Dorsten for their April program was given back to the chapter. Thank you Neal and Edna.

John shared that in a recent edition of Adirondac Magazine there was an article about Neil Woodworth and John Gilewicz attending chapter meetings to answer questions and address concerns. The committee decided that we would not pursue them coming at this time.

Annual Dinner: Anne Paolano reported that the annual dinner would be held on Friday, October 27th at the Great Escape Lodge. Joseph Allen will present the program on the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone. Dinner will be plated, menu is on handout. Desert will be apple pie. The prices will be rounded down by the change.

Big Cedar Swamp: John Caffry reported that there was a large turn out at the public hearing. Opposition to the proposed extension of the runway at Warren County Airport is mainly due to taxpayer concerns that it is a waste of money and the environmental impact on the wetlands.

Banff Film Festival: Mo Coutant reported that Skidmore is on the schedule for 2/19/2018. We can request to have a second night in Glens Falls for 2019 but they usually don't do a 2nd night within 50 miles of an event.

Committee Reports:

***Conservation: Aimee Rutledge** reviewed the agenda for the May 6th meeting. Items include Boreas Pond and invasive species.

***Trails: Tom Ellis** reported that trail work on Tongue Mt. has been completed. There was minimal blow down. Thanks to Mo, Steve, Licia and Jim for helping out.

***Membership: Pat Desbiens** reported that in March there were 24 new members 14 rejoins which has us down 44 for the month. She also mentioned that the YMCA had a Healthy Kids Day and that volunteers are still needed for the Raptorfest on May 13 and 14.

***Board of Directors: Dan Kane** reported that the next meeting will be on June 24th. There will be another round table discussion among chapters to enhance communications. They are looking for nominations for the executive committee. **Bill Wasiluski** mentioned the club's opposition to the Constitutional Convention and that there will be new volunteer opportunities at HPIC.

***Newsletter: Deb Donahue** would like newsletter articles by June 1st. The next issue will include information on the annual dinner and programs.

***Wilderness: Jim Schneider** stated that the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness area is in good shape.

***Programs: Sarah King** reported that programs are set through next fall.

***Nominations: Mo Coutant** reported that we will be looking for a new Chair, Vice Chair, 1st Chair and 2nd Chair. She included information in the newsletter and in emails to her hiking/paddling groups. She asked that the committee look at the membership list, through our website, and email her the names of any possible contacts for these positions.

***Steve Mackey** suggested a \$75.00 donation to the Harris Land Preserve. The donation was accepted unanimously on a motion by Dan Kane, seconded by Linda Ranado.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Dan Kane, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Noble, Secretary

Next meeting – June 7, 2017 at 7:00, at the Wesley in Saratoga.

