

**Minutes of the June 7, 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, Tom Ellis, Steve Mackey, Kathi Noble, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, Gretchen Steen, and Bill Wasiluski. Also present: Peter Benoit and Anne Paolano.

Chapter Chair John Caffry opened the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Agenda Items:

The minutes of the May 3, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Aimee Rutledge seconded by Pat Desbiens.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the May 2017 Treasurer's Report. Steve reported that total income for the month from dues, FTC and other was \$3819.90. Expenses totaled \$161.79. Total assets at this time are \$10,477.13. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Mo Coutant.

Nominating Committee: Mo Coutant reported that she and Peter Benoit have contacted people and they have a few prospects for Chair and Vice-Chair. Mo will send out an email with the slate of officers. Officer's bios are due in August.

By-laws amendment: John Caffry proposed an amendment to the by-laws to add the Fire Tower Challenge as a standing committee. Mo motioned to recommend the proposed amendment and Bill seconded the change, all members of the executive committee are in favor. There will be a formal vote in September on the proposed change. The information will be presented in the newsletter and voted on at the annual dinner. A description of the committee will need to be written after chapter members have approved.

FTC Update Status: Jim Schneider reported that he has not been given a date for publication of the book or any updates on the status at this time. Jim expressed his frustration with the process. Funds had been set aside last fall for contract editors to work on other projects so Andrea could be available to work on the new FTC book.

Jim summarized the recent fire tower program in May. Jack and Tillie were thrilled with the leaf. It was a good celebration.

Banff Film Festival: Mo Coutant reported that Skidmore is not hosting Banff next year so there is still the possibility that the chapter can do it. Mo, Jim, Dan and Tammara are working on this. Mo explained what the festival is and how it works. We would need local sponsors, a venue and ticket sales plus someone to run the sound system etc. We would host this event as a benefit to our members and to attract new/young members. There are 2 possible date: 2/5 and 2/19/17. The Woods Theatre isn't available on the 19th. Both dates are Mondays. There were some discussions about which date maybe better. It was decided that they were about equal. It was felt that downtown would be best in order to get businesses to sponsor. The committee needs to submit the application to Banff. John asked that the Banff committee send a detailed proposal by email so the executive committee can vote. There will be two votes completed through email: The first one is to approve of the application and budget and the second vote, once the application is accepted will be to vote on the details.

Annual Dinner: Anne Paolano reported that we set. A save the date has been put in for the July newsletter, Steve will receive the reservations and the deposit will be made next week.

Committee Reports:

Wilderness: Jim Schneider reported that Brendan Jackson is back as the Assistant Forest Ranger. However, there is no backcountry steward this year. Jim isn't sure of the reason.

Nominating: Mo Coutant proposed an amendment to change the terms of Chair, Vice-Chair, 1st and 2nd Chairs from 2 one-year terms to 3 one-year terms. This will be done in the fall for 2018.

Hospitality: Gretchen Steen requested that there be a bigger push at programs for volunteers on the executive committee.

Membership: Pat Desbiens reported that for April we have 38 new members, which puts us at, plus 33.

Conservation: Aimee Rutledge reported on the Conservation meeting held on May 6. Nothing has happened with the Boreas Pond, maybe in August. The governor wants to use 5 acres of unclassified land for glamping etc. This is not legal according to Article 14. The ADK is voicing this and is opposed to this use of the land.

Aimee also talked about the invasive species training. Training and use of the app iMapInvasives is being pushed. Chapters are being asked to host training. Aimee will get more information.

Aimee also reported that the Wild land Committee is being revived. They are trying to get chapters to adopt wild land. A coordinator is needed for the sub-committee. A draft will be written as to what this entails.

Aimee will be getting information on the North Country Scenic Trail request for chapters to adopt a section of the trail.

Peter Benoit reported that he volunteers for the Hudson River Keeper. The most recent water samples from North Hudson to Fort Edward showed no chloroform bacteria.

Steve Mackey reported that Hadley FT is having a 100th year celebration on July 15. He received and passed around a thank you note from Jungle for our donation to the Harris Land Preserve. Steve is taking reservations for the winter weekend.

John reported for the **Education Committee**, in the absence of Chair Linda Ranado. He said that we had a camper back out and that we would be receiving a refund check from DEC.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Noble, Secretary

Next meeting – September 6, 7:00, at Crandall Library, Glens Falls.