

**Minutes of the November 1, 2017 Meeting of the Executive Committee
Of the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club,
Inc., held at Queensbury, NY at The Tavern**

Present: John Caffry, Maureen Coutant, Pat Desbiens, Tom Ellis, Dan Kane, Sarah King, Steve Mackey, Kathi Noble, Linda Ranado, Aimee Rutledge, on speakerphone, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, Gretchen Steen, Tammara Van Ryn, and Bill Wasilowski. Also present: Peter Benoit

Chapter Chair John Caffry opened the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

The minutes of the October 4, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Bill Wasilowski.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the October 2017 Treasurer's Report. Steve reported that the membership committee is over budget due to ordering patches. Total income for the month was \$4598.35 and expenses were \$5205.48. Total assets at this time are \$12,913.63. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Dan Kane.

John gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. John reported that the chapter's budgeted donation to the club is \$5200.00. There was a discussion about how do we want the money used. Mo asked about the date of the book release. Jim stated that it should be out in December. Jim had asked the club about advance orders, who else would be selling the book and what is the marketing plan? He wasn't given any answers. Having the club use our donation for promotion/ advertising of the book was suggested. Tammara suggested that for Giving Tuesday when someone donates to the club they receive a book. This item was tabled.

Agenda Items:

By-laws amendment: **John Caffry** stated that the amendment to the by-laws was approved at the annual dinner. He will amend the document and send it to George to be put on the website. John will also send a copy to executive committee members.

Fire Tower Challenge Committee: John appointed **Jim Schneider** as the chair of the newly formed Fire Tower Challenge Committee and **Tim and Kathi Noble** as members. Jim will draft a job description of committee responsibilities, which will need to be submitted for executive committee approval.

Conservation Committee: John reported that **Aimee Rutledge** would like to continue to be involved as chair of the Conservation Committee. He explained that the by-laws allow co-chairs. John appointed **Turner Bradford and Aimee Rutledge** as co-chairs of the Conservation Committee. Aimee will forward Turner's bio. Turner will attend meetings and Aimee will call in.

Annual Dinner: **Anne Paolano** was unable to attend the meeting but she sent an email with a recap of the dinner. The program was well received, the venue was great and the beer selection was good. Not everybody was satisfied with his or her meals; some dinners were cold. Attendance was good with 101.

Fire Tower Challenge Status: **Jim Schneider** reported that he spoke to Wes Lampman about the ADK changing the name to Adirondack Mountain Club Fire Tower Challenge on their

Instagram account and other social media sources. We need to drive the traffic to our website when people are searching for information on the challenge. Aimee had someone ask about a map that has all the towers on it. Nobody knows of one.

Banff Film Festival: Mo Coutant reported that there was no late fee and the cost was \$400 less due to moving the date. Mo reviewed the expense sheet. Tammara suggested using Brown Paper Tickets. The committee will be meeting soon to discuss the best way to sell tickets.

Committee Reports:

Mo reminded us that there is a workday at headquarters on 11/11/17 from 9 to 2.

Programs: Sarah King reported that Tyler Socash will be presenting in February. He requested that a donation of \$100 be made to the club's education department in lieu of a fee. She also mentioned that Saratoga Library is co-sponsoring our programs, which gives us free advertising and use of their technology.

Membership: Pat Desbiens reported that for September there was 25 new members and 12 rejoins which puts us down 16 from August.

Education: Linda Ranado reported that the Nature Fest was a great day. She is looking for applications to the summer camps. Linda also requested that the members of the Board of Directors please mention at the next meeting that the closure of ADK Headquarters on Saturdays makes it very difficult for many people to access the store.

Trails: Tom Ellis reported that he received many compliments at the dinner on the conditions of the trails we maintain. There was some concern about limited vista views. John mentioned that the DEC can trim/cut down trees for views.

Hospitality: Gretchen Steen reminded everyone about the Victorian Stroll in Saratoga on November 30th.

Fire Tower Challenge: Kathi Noble reported that they have been busy all fall sending out patches.

Finance Committee: Tammara Van Ryn reported that the \$30,000 budgeted surplus is now a \$20,000 deficit. Renovations to HPIC have created a loss in parking, food and lodging revenues. Staff positions have not been filled which should help the club to break even. Renovations costs for the HPIC are running 2x as much as projected. Grow ADK Fund will go towards the construction of the food service facility at HPIC. After a trial run with a grill there is a high projection for concession stand revenue.

Wilderness: Jim Schneider reported that the ADK 46ers has pledged \$70,000 to the Summit Steward Program.

Website: George Sammons reported that a list of FTC completers is now on the website.

Steve Mackey will be ordering more stationary and envelopes.

John reminded us that our next meeting will be the potluck dinner. George will create a sign up sheet.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Linda, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Noble, Secretary

Next meeting –December 6, 7:00, at the Wesley in Saratoga.