

**Minutes of the September 5, 2018 Meeting of the Executive Committee
Of the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club,
Inc., held at Crandall Library, Glens Falls, NY**

Present: Kathi Noble, Maureen Coutant, Pat Desbiens, Sarah King, Wayne Richter, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, Gretchen Steen, Tom Ellis, Brian Coville, Tammara Van Ryn, Dan Kane, Bill Wasilauski and Laurie Williams.

Chapter Chair Kathi Noble opened the meeting at 19:05. She passed around several items/letters for our information.

The minutes of the June 6, 2018 meeting – not final.

Treasurer Steve Mackey is away on a trip out West. Next Treasurer's report shall be given at the October Meeting.

Agenda Items/Discussion:

2018 Donation to ADK Main Club: Kathi Noble opened discussion regarding the Chapter's planned annual donation of approximately \$5,000 to the Main Club. Suggestions were made for funding to be directed towards the Summit Stewards program, Trails, and Education. There was considerable discussion about having the Main Club make requests for program specific funding. Kathi shall email Wes Lampham for a list of specific equipment or supply needs. This action item will be taken up at the October Meeting to develop final recommendations and motion.

Chapter News Letter: Kathi Noble continued discussions on a proposal to move towards an electronic news letter by implementing an "Opt In" process for continuing to receive a paper copy by mail. After considerable discussion regarding the newsletter contents (should trip/events schedule be only on-line), timeline for implementation, making sure we continue to use the headquarters membership list for delivery (either electronic or by mail), and potential cost savings a motion was made by Tammara Van Ryn. The motion is as follows: "The GF-S Chapter shall announce in the Nov-Jan 2019 Newsletter that the Newsletter shall be an electronic publication by the Nov-Jan 2020 edition. To continue to receive a paper copy a member must notify the Chapter before January 2020." The motion was seconded by Dan Kane and unanimously approved.

Annual Dinner: Anne Paolano was unable to attend this meeting and provided an email update. Mo Coutant volunteered to prepare a program for this event. The Outings and Membership Committees requested that they be added to the agenda for brief presentations and recognitions. Beverages shall be purchased at the Hotel Bar this year. The hors'dourves menu from the Embassy Suites Restaurant shall be discussed, if necessary, at our next meeting. The Chapter Chair shall send out invitations to Executive Director Neil Woodworth and others as appropriate. Anne will need a few people arrive early to help set up.

FTC: The executive committee unanimously approved \$457 for the purchase of 4000 new FTC brochures.

Committee Reports:

***Programs:** Sarah reported that monthly programs have been scheduled. There will be no February Program because of the anticipated Banff Film Festival at ACC, Queensbury.

***Pharaoh Mountain Wilderness:** Jim Schneider reported that conditions around Pharaoh Lake area and camping sites are “looking good”. The presence of an assistant Forest ranger is helping to reduce the amount of litter and educating campers and hikers on leave no trace principles.

***Directors:** Tammara Van Ryn and Dan Kane reported on the High Peaks Information Center (HPIC) and campground improvements projects at the ADK Loj. Recent activities include excavation along the entrance road to the Loj for installation of water supply lines from the new well to the Loj and back to the HPIC. There is an expected additional cost for this work of about \$14,000. This work is being funded by a \$221,000 state grant, refinancing of the mortgage on the LG property, and money from the grow ADK fund. Because these capital projects are over budget, the Budget Committee is anticipating that a request for up to \$80,000 from the Grow ADK Fund may be made to cover the cost over-runs. This topic will likely be discussed at the next ADK Board of Directors Meeting.

***Newsletter:** See above discussion on electronic Newsletter.

***Education:** No report.

***Young Members:** It was reported the YMG is working on more coordination of events, and that there have been approximately two activities per month this summer.

***Membership:** Pat Desbiens had good numbers for membership levels over the past three months. She reported approximately 31 new members for May (membership up 16), 31 new members for June (membership up by 15), and about 17 for July (with overall membership down by about 1).

***Conservation:** No report.

***Outings:** Wayne Richter reported that the schedule has been prepared through October.

***Hospitality:** Gretchen Steen – should have an email about Saratoga Victorian Stroll by next meeting.

***Trails:** Tom reported that there is a small issue with a neighboring landowner’s trail near the Tongue Mt. Trail near Clay Meadows. So there is no current trail work in that vicinity.

***FTC:** Jim Schneider reported on the recent Fire Towers Program held at the Blue Mountain Lake Museum (aka the Adirondack Experience) on Saturday August 14, 2018. The event was well attended and very interesting and informative presentations were made by various Fire

Tower Friends groups. The latest edition of the ADK publication “Views from on High: Fire Tower Trails in the Adirondacks and Catskills” was available for purchase and signing by the authors. There was some discussion as to whether the new Fire Tower Challenge Brochures would lead to more interest and eventually more finishers. That will probably be the case.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, second by Dane Kane, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at about 20:45 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

William Wasilauski, on behalf of:
Chapter Secretary

Next meeting – October 3, 19:00 hours, at the Wesley Center in Saratoga.