

**Minutes of the October 2, 2019 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: Kim Brown, John Caffry, Maureen Coutant, Pat Desbiens, Paul Dietershagen, Tom Ellis, Jenn Ferris, Steve Mackey, Kathi Noble, Wayne Richter, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, Gretchen Steen, Tammara Van Ryn, and Bill Wasilauski. Also present: Peter Benoit, Anne Paolano, and Megan McLaughlin.

Chapter Chair Kathi Noble opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

The minutes of the September 4, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Tammara Van Ryn.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the September Treasurer's Report. Total assets are \$20,597. Monthly dues were received, bear canister rental income was \$5, and money is starting to come in for annual dinner reservations. The amount spent on the gift basket for the Club's auction was \$147.29. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Mo Coutant.

Kathi gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. The **2020 Ex. Comm. meetings** will alternate between Glens Falls and Saratoga again, starting with Saratoga (on 1/8, not 1/1). She discussed that the Ex. Comm. will need to fill the vacancy in the **Director's position** in January, for 1 year, with an election for a full term to occur in October 2020.

Annual Dinner Coordinator Anne Paolano reported on the arrangements. There was a discussion of the volunteer recognition part of the meeting, and a review of the draft program. Anne will order some hors d'oeuvres for the cocktail hour, up to a few hundred dollars, and make sure that the venue offers some craft beers at the bar.

Tammara Van Ryn led a discussion of the **Chapter Donations to the Club**. A resolution was made by John Caffry and seconded by Gretchen Steen to donate \$5,200 to the Club to restore and upgrade the Mt. Jo Long Trail, on the conditions that it be named Dan's Trail and that the Chapter's contribution be recognized; if there is a demonstrated need for additional funding, the Chapter will consider that at a later date. The resolution passed unanimously. It was also discussed that that there should be plaque to recognize Dan and the Chapter's role, and that if more funding is needed the Chapter could fundraise for it.

Kathi Noble reported that the **Chapter snowshoes** were not rented at all last winter because the Club HQ is not open on weekends any more. Options such as finding another outlet to handle the rentals or finding a way for the Club to be more flexible were discussed.

Wilderness Chair Jim Schneider discussed various small projects that DEC is working on in the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area.

Fire Tower Challenge Chair Jim Schneider said that he is working on updates to the guidebook for the next edition. The Lighting of the Towers event will be held again next year and more tower groups want to participate. Notice has been sent out that some towers will be closed for hunting season. The reopening of the Swede Mountain tower is progressing and it might open in 2020.

Jim Schneider led a discussion of the **Heart Lake Property**. Business and revenues are up, and the parking lot is often full, but there is a need to reinvest the income in the facility. Broadband access is now available at the North Country facilities – this was paid for partly with a grant, and partly by the Club. Some of the recent construction was done wrong and needs to be redone. Also, the solar panels at JBL don't work properly and are being retrofitted.

Website Chair George Sammons asked the Ex. Comm. members to update their job descriptions on the Ex. Comm. section of the website. He also discussed the management of the Chapter membership roster. 1346/1621 [83%] of the Chapter's memberships have listed e-mail addresses, but not all of them are valid.

BMFF Chair Mo Coutant discussed the technical arrangements for the upcoming film festival.

Outings Chair Wayne Richter reported that the schedule through February is thin, but okay. Two leaders have expressed interest in reimbursement for training from the BMFF funding recently approved by the Ex. Comm.

Conservation Co-Chair Paul Dietershagen reported on a recent county-wide trails meeting in Saratoga County that he went to. He will stay in touch with Saratoga PLAN on its Palmertown Range initiative, and is following various other trails initiatives.

Secretary John Caffry reported that he recently purchased a second key for the P.O. box, for the Chapter Chair.

Newsletter Chair Jenn Ferris reported that there are only two more newsletters planned before it goes to (mostly) electronic delivery – in October and December.

Director Bill Wasilauski reported that the hiring of the new E.D. was approved unanimously at the last Board of Directors meeting. Revenue and expenses are both up, but the overall trend is negative.

Education Chair Kim Brown reported that Naturefest went well – there was a steady flow of people. Pat Desbiens was a big help.

Membership Chair Pat Desbiens reported that membership was up a net +3 in August. Opt-ins for **paper copies of the newsletter** are at about 90 [5.3%] now. She may send post cards on this to people for whom there are not valid e-mail addresses on file.

YMG member **Megan McLaughlin** reported for the **YMG**, in the absence of the committee chair. She said that there will be a YMG social event at Artisanal Brewworks this month, at which she will do a gear demonstration. \$2 from every beer sold will go to ADK. The event is open to all ages and the brewery is advertising it.

On a motion by **Tom Ellis**, approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

Next meeting – November 6th, 7:00, in the Holden Room at Crandall Public Library in Glens Falls.