

**Minutes of the December 4, 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, Brian Coville, Paul Dietershagen, Tom Ellis, Jenn Ferris, Steve Mackey, Kathi Noble, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, Gretchen Steen, Tammara Van Ryn, Bill Wasilauski, and Laurie Williams. Also present: Licia Mackey, Tim Noble, and Irene Sammons.

**Chapter Chair Kathi Noble** opened the meeting at 7:29 p.m. following the annual potluck dinner.

**The minutes** of the November 6, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Tammara Van Ryn.

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the November Treasurer's Report. One month's dues was received. Expenses included another \$213 for volunteer recognition awards at the annual dinner. Total assets are \$22,319. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Brian Coville, seconded by Laurie Williams.

Kathi gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. She is still working on improving the arrangements for the **Chapter's rental snowshoes**. For now, they are still at HQ. She thanked **Peter Benoit**, who has resigned from the Executive Committee. He is still involved with ADK at the Club level.

Kathi discussed the **Board of Directors vacancy** that resulted from Dan Kane's death earlier in the year. She said that Mo Coutant reported that Dan's daughter Emily is interested in the position and that his wife Charlene is interested in being an alternate director. After a discussion of their qualifications and experience, on a motion by John Caffry, seconded by Steve Mackey, and approved unanimously, they were appointed to those positions, effective January 1, 2020. John said that, under the by-laws, Emily will have to run for a full term in October 2020.

**Director Tammara Van Ryn** led a discussion of the **annual chapter donations to the Club**. Various options were discussed. Jim Schneider said that a \$5,000 donation would get Dan's name and the Chapter's name on a plaque on the Mt. Jo trail. On a motion by Tammara, seconded by Jim, and approved unanimously, it was agreed that the Chapter will donate \$5,000 in honor of Dan, restricted to use on the Mt. Jo trail project. On a motion by Steve Mackey, seconded by John Caffry, and approved unanimously, it was also agreed that the Chapter should communicate to the Club that it opposes putting the plaque on the summit of the mountain, as has been proposed. There was a discussion of giving or raising more money in the future once more is known about the Mt. Jo trail project.

**Mo Coutant**, chair of the **Banff Mountain Film Festival** ad hoc committee, said that ticket sales are going well, but some tickets are still available. She is still working out some cost issues with ACC. She is working on promotion and sponsor recognition.

**Mo Coutant, as Vice Chair**, reported that Jack and Tillie Freeman, and Herb and Nancy Hudnut, have donated additional ADK items to the Chapter, which she is trying to give away. She also reported that a Dan Kane memorial Christmas ornament is for sale online. The link is on the Chapter website. The proceeds will go to a memorial scholarship at Queensbury H.S.

**Hospitality Chair Gretchen Steen** reported that tomorrow is the Victorian Stroll, and that she has plenty of help lined up.

**Fire Tower Challenge Chair Jim Schneider** handed out FTC brochures for distribution. He reported that we will need to order more soon. 4,000 brochures, a two year supply, will cost around \$500.

**Website Chair George Sammons** explained how to search the Ex. Comm. minutes on the Chapter website. The entire website is searchable. The minutes from 2005 to date are on there.

**Younger Members Group Chair Brian Coville** reported that the YMG will do a game night monthly all winter. There are some YMG outings scheduled.

**Conservation Co-Chair Paul Dietershagen** reported that he and Jim Schneider met with DEC and Saratoga PLAN to discuss trail planning for the **Palmertown area**. As part of this work, DEC is working on a UMP for the Lincoln Mountain State Forest. Jim said that the goal is to connect Saratoga Spa and Moreau Lake State Parks. The ADK trails staff is working on this too.

**Secretary John Caffry** distributed some recent mail, including a thank you letter from the Hadley Mountain Fire Tower Committee for the recent donation and about 35 new opt-in letters for the mailed newsletter.

**Outings Chair Wayne Richter** distributed his 2019 annual report (attached). The numbers of leaders (33), outings (174), and outings leads (209) are all up from last year, and are comparable to the numbers from 2013.

**Director Tammara Van Ryn** said that the Board meets this coming Saturday. The big issues include the 2020 budget, which will be conservative; a proposed policy on internet usage at the Loj; and a proposal to eliminate the Grow ADK fund for bequests, and to allow the Board to spend these donations at its discretion instead. She also said that she will be moving out of the area and will be leaving the Chapter.

**Newsletter Chair Jenn Ferris** reported that the next newsletter is almost done and will go to the printer soon.

**Education Chair Kim Brown** reported that 7 camperships for the DEC camps have been filled, but none for ADK Teen Trails have been filled yet.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Brian Coville, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

**Next meeting – January 8, 7:00, at Crandall Public Library in Glens Falls.**