

**Minutes of the August 5, 2020 Meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club, Inc., held via ZOOM**

Present: Kim Brown, John Caffry, Brian Coville, Pat Desbiens, Paul Dietershagen, Tom Ellis, Jen Ferriss, Megan McLaughlin, Wayne Richter, George Sammons, Jen Shepherd, Gretchen Steen, and Laurie Williams. **Also present:** Maureen Coutant and Anne Paolano.

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

The minutes of the July 8, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Kim Brown.

In the absence of Treasurer Steve Mackey, Kathi presented the July **Treasurer's Report**. We received a refund from DEC for the camperships. The checking account balance is \$3,472 and total assets are \$15,738. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by John Caffry, seconded by Pat Desbiens.

Annual Dinner Coordinator Anne Paolano discussed the status of the event in light of the COVID-19 situation. A motion was made by Kathi Noble and seconded by Gretchen Steen to cancel the dinner. The motion was unanimously approved. Anne will notify the speaker and the venue. She expects no problem getting a refund of the deposit from the venue.

Director Brian Coville discussed the proposed new **Club By-laws** which will be put to a vote by the members this year. As proposed, the chapters would no longer elect directors. Instead, each chapter will appoint a "trustee" to an advisory council. If approved, the Chapter will have to amend its by-laws to bring them in line with the Club's. The rationale for the change is to bring more expertise to the Board. John Caffry said he was opposed because the Club will lose its connection to the chapters and the members and that the change was really just a way to get big donors on the Board. Megan McLaughlin described the planned outreach and voting process and said that the proposal came from the strategic plan. Kathi said that it will not affect the Chapter's upcoming vote unless it passes. Wayne Richter asked if the Chapter could take a position on this and John said it could. John and Wayne discussed their concerns about the loss of member and chapter influence. The possibility of having Executive Director Michael Barrett discuss this at the September meeting was discussed.

Kathi led a discussion of how to conduct the Chapter's **election of officers and directors** without the annual dinner. She saw no need to amend the by-laws to deal with what may be a one-time situation. She will reach out to other chapters. John Caffry recommended voting by absentee ballot, combined with an annual meeting on ZOOM, possibly in connection with the November Ex. Comm. meeting. The ballots could be sent out by mail and e-mail and counted at the annual meeting. Different ways of doing this were discussed and more research will be done. No decision was made.

Nominating Committee Chair Brian Coville reported that the slate was almost complete and he will distribute it soon.

On a motion by Tom Ellis the meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary