

**Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Members
And the November 4, 2020 Meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club, Inc., held via ZOOM**

Chapter Chair Kathi Noble opened the **Annual Meeting** at 7:06 p.m. and welcomed the members. The meeting had to be held online because the annual dinner was canceled due to the pandemic. Thirty-one members participated online. Pat Desbiens made a motion to elect the 2021 slate presented in the September newsletter, which was seconded by Kim Brown. The slate was:

Chair: Jen Shepherd
First Vice-Chair: Laurie Williams
Second Vice-Chair: Brian Coville
Treasurer: Steve Mackey
Secretary: John Caffry
Director: Emily Kane

The vote of the 31 online participants was unanimous in favor of the motion. Secretary John Caffry reported that there were 26 completed absentee ballots in favor of the slate, and none opposed. The total of 57 participating members met the quorum requirement of 50. Therefore, the motion passed and the slate was elected. The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Chapter Chair Kathi Noble opened the **Executive Committee meeting** at 7:09 p.m.

Present: Kim Brown, John Caffry, Brian Coville, Pat Desbiens, Paul Dietershagen, Jen Ferriss, Steve Mackey, Megan McLaughlin, Kathi Noble, Tim Noble, Anne Paolano, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jen Shepherd, and Gretchen Steen. **Also present:** Maureen Coutant, Sarah King.

The minutes of the October 7, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Paul Dietershagen.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the October Treasurer's Report. He has received the first dues payment from the Club since payments were suspended earlier this year due to the pandemic, in the amount of \$2,243. Total assets are \$17,724.07. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by John Caffry, seconded by Gretchen Steen.

Kathi gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. She said that the Club will hold a ZOOM meeting for chapter chairs and directors, to be led by E.D. Michael Barrett and President Tom Andrews, to discuss the implementation of the **new by-laws**.

Kathi thanked **Sarah King** for the great job that she did as **Programs Committee Chair**, putting on awesome programs for so many years. She said that **Anne Paolano** has agreed to accept the position, and Kathi then appointed Anne to the position. Anne asked for input on potential programs, and said that former Ex. Comm. member Tammara Van Ryn has agreed to do a

program on invasive forest pests in March and former Ex. Comm. member Peter Benoit will do a program in April. Sarah discussed plans to better promote the upcoming online programs.

Kathi led a discussion of the budgeted **annual donation to the Club**. Treasurer Steve Mackey suggested paying \$2,500, one-half of the usual amount, because the Chapter's cash balance is lower than usual, but suggested that it may be possible to give more in the future. Wayne Richter urged caution. Steve said that the funds were available, and that this gift would leave the Chapter in its usual year-end position. There was a discussion about whether to designate the gift to a particular purpose, and it was agreed to leave it unrestricted. John Caffry made a motion to make a gift of \$2,500 at this time and to revisit the issue later. The motion seconded by Kim Brown and unanimously approved.

Pat Desbiens led a discussion about whether to resume **mailing the newsletter** to the members who opted out of the e-mailed version. After the discussion she said that she will resume doing so with the January edition, per the prior resolution which suspended the mailing. She will look into renewing the bulk mail permit for the newsletter.

Director Brian Coville reported that the new **Club by-laws** had been approved by the membership. The Club is trying to figure out how the current directors will fit in under the new rules. Megan McLaughlin said that the current directors will continue but no new ones will be installed in January. Kathi Noble pointed out that we will no longer need to appoint alternate directors.

Conservation Co-Chair Paul Dietershagen reported that the Club Conservation Committee would be meeting on the 7th and he will attend. **Co-Chair Aimee Rutledge** said that she is going to look into the status of the new OSI land purchase on the Hudson River in Moreau.

Fire Tower Challenge Chair Tim Noble said that he is looking for input. **FTC Correspondent Kathi Noble** said that she received another 10-15 completer letters and that the fall had been busy.

Hospitality Chair Gretchen Steen reported that she has not heard from the Saratoga Victorian Stroll organizers and assumes that the event has been cancelled this year.

Membership Chair Pat Desbiens reported that membership was down a net 5 members in September, and there was one new affiliate. She thanked Kim Brown for working with the Club to get ADK educational videos contributed to the online Moreau Lake S.P. Naturefest, which got them written up in the *Green Energy Times* online magazine.

<http://www.greenenergytimes.org/2020/09/04/naturefest-goes-virtual/>

Newsletter Chair Jen Ferriss said that the next edition will go out this week.

Outings Chair Wayne Richter reported that a few outings have gone out since they were resumed, but attendance has been fairly low. The Albany Chapter is reporting a similar situation. Wayne said that there are a few outings planned for the winter.

Programs Chair Anne Paolano said that to attend programs on ZOOM it is necessary to register in advance to get the link.

Mo Coutant, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Banff Mountain Film Festival, reported that the BMFF organization has sent her the revised contract for the online version of the event and that she will have John Caffry review it. The live festival is occurring now, online. She has reached out to the past sponsors, to donate at a reduced level, and would use the money for advertising. She said that the Chapter will get a percentage of any sales made through the Chapter and explained the sliding fee scale. The event will also be promoted by e-mail and through the website, newsletter, and social media pages, as well as through the sponsors.

Publicity Chair Jen Shepherd said that she had sent out a notice for the recent program, and that she was looking for a new chair, because she will become chapter chair in January.

Website Chair George Sammons said that he will send out e-mails to publicize the next program, both now and right before the program.

YMG Chair Megan McLaughlin reported that she led a hike on Columbus Day weekend and 7 people participated, including herself. She had to turn away 4 people. She is planning more outings.

Secretary John Caffry thanked George for helping to get out the notice and reminder for the Annual Meeting, so that there would be enough people participating by absentee ballot and online to reach a quorum.

On a motion by Gretchen Steen (filling in for the absent Tom Ellis), seconded by Wayne Richter, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

Next meeting – December 2, 2020 at 7:00, via ZOOM.