

**Minutes of the December 2, 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, Emily Kane, Steve Mackey, Megan McLaughlin, Kathi Noble, Tim Noble, Anne Paolano, Wayne Richter, George Sammons, Jen Shepherd, Gretchen Steen, Bill Wasilauski, and Laurie Williams. **Also present:** Maureen Coutant, Charlene Kane, and Bobbi Fitzgerald.

**Chapter Chair Kathi Noble** opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. She introduced Bobbi Fitzgerald, who may be interested in becoming the chair of the Membership Committee.

**The minutes** of the November 4, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Kim Brown.

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the Treasurer's Report for October. \$1,787 was received in dues from the Club. The only large expenditure was the \$2,500 donation to the Club. Total assets, including the Banff Mountain Film Festival ("BMFF") account, were \$17,724. The report was approved unanimously on a motion Pat Desbiens, seconded by Brian Coville.

Kathi gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. She thanked the Committee for a wonderful three years as Chapter Chair, and said that she could not have done it without everyone's help. She has met with **Chair-elect Jen Shepherd** to go over things.

Kathi reported that ADK President Tom Andrews, E.D. Michael Barrett, and Assoc. V.P. Jean-Claude Fouere held a ZOOM meeting for ADK leaders, which she attended. The **newly approved Club by-laws** are being reviewed by an outside group, the New York Council of Nonprofits ("NYCON") for compliance with state law. Andrews stressed the idea of "one ADK". On the new Club board, the emphasis will be on who can give money. There is still a big question as to who will get to vote for the new board members. Andrews has sent out a letter explaining the new Advisory Committee. The Chapter will have to appoint someone as its representative. The Chapter will no longer have to appoint Alternate Directors. No newly elected directors (like our Emily Kane) will be seated, but the ones that are in the middle of their terms will complete them (like our Bill Wasilauski and Brian Coville). Donations may still be made to other organizations, so long as they are like-minded organizations. Barrett cautioned against donations to competing organizations. John Caffry said that under the Chapter by-laws, Emily will continue to be a member of the Ex. Comm., even if she does not get seated on the Club board; Charlene Kane's non-voting position as an Alternate Director has been eliminated - to continue on the Ex. Comm. she would have to become a committee chair or co-chair. Kathi said that she agreed with John and said that we needed to find a way for Charlene to stay involved. She also said that the Chapter will need to update its by-laws and that the NYCON review may lead to changes to the Club by-laws if any problems are found. John said that if NYCON says that the by-laws are not legal, they will have to be amended again.

**Conservation Co-chair Paul Dietershagen** reported on the recent Club Conservation Committee meeting that he and Co-chair Aimee Rutledge attended on ZOOM.

**Education Chair Kim Brown** said that there was no news yet on whether the DEC camps will be open in 2021. If they will be, she will reach out to the 2020 campership recipients to see if they are still interested, and also take new applications.

**Fire Tower Challenge (“FTC”) Chair Tim Noble** said that he will reach out to the fire tower “friends” groups to see what projects they are working on. **FTC Correspondent Kathi Noble** said that there were about 15 new completer letters, with about 200 so far this year.

**Membership Chair Pat Desbiens** said that membership was a net +21 for November. Due to the pandemic, no events are scheduled at this time. On the **newsletter** front, she has renewed the bulk mail permit at a cost of \$240. The permit number has not changed.

**Newsletter Chair Jen Ferris** reported that she is working on the January issue.

**Outings Chair Wayne Richter** reported that a small number of outings have been held, and there are some on the calendar, but that there is still a general reluctance by people to go on them. There was a discussion of whether to continue to offer outings, or not, due to the increasing numbers of COVID cases, but Wayne said that he thought it would be okay to continue, so long as some people are comfortable doing them.

**Programs Chair Anne Paolano** reported that John Schneider has cancelled his program for January because he was not comfortable doing it on ZOOM. The December and April programs are still going on. The May 19<sup>th</sup> program will be Steve Englehart of AARCH on historic bridges of the Adirondacks. She is looking for a September program.

**Mo Coutant, Chair of the Ad Hoc BMFF Committee**, reported that she has reached out to the sponsors to support this year’s online festival at a \$100 level. She will use the money to run paid ads. She will also promote it in the newsletter and on social media. There are 31 sign-ups so far. It was suggested that other chapters could be asked to promote this too. Mo said that we can, but we can’t infringe on areas where other groups are also hosting the BMFF. **Mo thanked Kathi for her 3 years as Chapter Chair**, and the awesome job that she has done for the Chapter.

Chapter-Chair Elect and **Publicity Chair Jen Shepherd** said that she is working on the transition to a new Publicity Chair.

**Website Chair George Sammons** said that he sent out 1,500+ e-mails about the BMFF, about 500 people clicked on it, and there were over 100 responses.

**YMG Chair Megan McLaughlin** reported that she led a YMG hike at Moreau Lake last weekend and there was a full group of 6, including herself.

**Vice-Chair Laurie Williams thanked Kathi** for her leadership.

**Director Emily Kane** said that she is trying to compile a photo collection for the Chapter’s social media accounts.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

**Next meeting – January 6, 2021, 7:00, via ZOOM.**