

**Minutes of the January 6, 2021 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, Tom Ellis, Jen Ferriss, Stephanie Graudons, Steve Mackey, Megan McLaughlin, Kathi Noble, Tim Noble, Anne Paolano, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jen Shepherd, Gretchen Steen, and Bill Wasilauski.  
**Also present:** Maureen Coutant.

**Chapter Chair Jen Shepherd** opened the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

**The minutes** of the December 2, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Bill Wasilauski.

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the December Treasurer's Report. A dues payment was received from the Club for November. The major expense was the newsletter. Total assets are \$18,269, down \$2,418 from the start of the year. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Brian Coville, seconded by Pat Desbiens.

**Chapter Chair Jen Shepherd** introduced herself for the benefit of those who did not yet know her.

**Conservation Committee Co-chair Aimee Rutledge** reported on OSI's recent purchase of land in Lake Luzerne, near the Palmertown Range.

**Education Committee Chair Kim Brown** reported that DEC has not yet decided whether to operate the children's camps in 2021. She has followed up with last year's campership awardees to see if they are still interested for this year.

**Fire Tower Challenge (FTC) Committee Chair Tim Noble** discussed the problem with the Cathedral Rock tower, which is closed because the SUNY Wanakena Ranger School campus is closed, but people are not respecting the closure. The Gore Mt. tower, which is closed during ski season, has not been a problem. **FTC Correspondent Kathi Noble** reported that there were more completed letters in 2020 than in 2019. She also thanked everyone for the Common Roots gift certificate she was given as outgoing Chapter Chair.

**Membership Committee Chair Pat Desbiens** reported that membership was up a net 3 members in November. Due to the COVID pandemic, she has no outreach programs planned. She also said that the delivery of the mailed newsletters was delayed due to problems with the Postal Service.

**Newsletter Committee Chair Jen Ferriss** said that the next deadline is February 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Outings Committee Chair Wayne Richter** reported that there have been a few outings recently. Jen Shepherd said that the Club's insurance now covers rock climbing (with a guide) and in a gym. She would like to try to plan a climbing outing in June. Wayne said that the Chapter should also look into whitewater rafting outings.

**Programs Committee Chair Anne Paolano** said that the programs were all set through May.

**Banff Mountain Film Festival (BMFF) Ad Hoc Committee Chair Mo Coutant** reported that 148 tickets for the online festival had been sold through the Chapter. Another set of films will be released in February.

Chapter Chair Jen Shepherd appointed **Stephanie Gaudons** as the new **Publicity Committee Chair**. Jen said that, as the prior chair, she will help with the transition, and that they will assist with **publicity for the BMFF**. Steph introduced herself as a former ADK HQ staffer. She now lives in Vermont, but plans to move back to the area.

**Website Committee Chair George Sammons** said that he is gathering data on searches of the website regarding the BMFF for Mo.

**Young Members Group (YMG) Chair Megan McLaughlin** reported that she has been leading some YMG outings, have all been full. Some participants are “young at heart” members.

**Chapter Chair Jen Shepherd** reported on the **Club Board of Directors**. The Club has said that Director Emily Kane was filling a vacancy, so her position will continue until the end of 2021. John Caffry said that the Club has eliminated the position of Alternate Director, and the prior one year appointments have expired, so there is no need for the Chapter to appoint new ones for 2021.

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the **2021 budget**. He said that he had based it on the 2020 budget, rather than the 2020 actual numbers, because 2020 was an unusual year. There were no major changes except that he increased the income from the FTC because that has been busier. The budget was unanimously approved on a motion by Megan McLaughlin, seconded by Pat.

**Chapter Chair Jen Shepherd** presented the proposed **Special Donations for 2021**. The list was the same as 2020, for a total of \$1,275. Steve proposed replacing Refugees to Camp, which does not seem to be very active any more, with the Goodnow Mountain Fire Tower group. There was a discussion of the Club’s criteria for donations to outside groups, and of the various groups on the list, all of which support places where Chapter members hike, or otherwise recreate. The list, as amended, was approved unanimously on a motion by Kathi, seconded by Kim.

**Chapter Chair Jen Shepherd** proposed creating an **ad hoc committee to revise the bylaws**. The revisions would include taking into account the recent changes to the Club’s bylaws, and other necessary changes regarding absentee balloting at the Chapter’s Annual Meeting. John Caffry said that this should be done by June so that timely notice can be given to the members, but that we also need to see if there are going to be further changes to the Club’s bylaws. Jen made a motion to create a special committee, which was seconded by Wayne Richter, and approved unanimously. Jen appointed John to chair the committee. Kathi, Brian and Kim volunteered to be on the committee, and John appointed them to it. John asked everyone to submit suggested issues to be addressed.

**Chapter Chair Jen Shepherd** said that the Ex Comm needed to consider who to appoint to represent the Chapter on the new **ADK Advisory Board**, and that she is looking for someone to do it. Brian said that the Club’s bylaws leave open the procedure for how chapters are to appoint their representatives. John said that the Chapter could decide to have the members or the Ex Comm do that, but for now, the Ex Comm could do it by filling a vacancy.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Pat Desbiens, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

**Next meeting – February 3, 2021, 7:00, via ZOOM**