

**Minutes of the February 3, 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, Paul Dietershagen, Tom Ellis, Jen Ferriss, Stephanie Gaudons, Emily Kane, Steve Mackey, Megan McLaughlin, Kathi Noble, Tim Noble, Anne Paolano, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, Jen Shepherd, Gretchen Steen, and Bill Wasilauski. **Also present:** Maureen Coutant and Charlene Kane.

Chapter Chair Jen Shepherd opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

The minutes of the January 6, 2021 meeting were corrected to add Bobbi Fitzgerald as being present, and then approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Steve Mackey.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the January Treasurer's Report. The only receipts were Fire Tower Challenge (FTC) fees of \$125 and dues for December of \$2,131. The only expense was the 17 special contributions of \$75 each. He is holding the check for the Raptorfest until it is closer to the time of the event. Total assets are \$19,350. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by John Caffry.

Conservation Co-Chairs Aimee Rutledge and Paul Dietershagen discussed recent trail developments in Saratoga County. Aimee reported that the Club is planning to support removal of the Debar Lodge building on the Forest Preserve and is looking for input.

Education Chair Kim Brown reported that the DEC summer camps are still on pause. The Club will do the Teen Trails program and the Chapter will sponsor the one applicant that it has for this. There have been no other education programs lately due to the pandemic.

FTC Correspondent Kathi Noble presented the statistical report for 2020, a copy of which is attached. It was the busiest year ever. Kathi and **FTC Chair Tim Noble** said that they met with the Club staff to present their ideas for how the Club could take a greater role in managing the program, with the Chapter still retaining control. Some of the ideas are that fees may be increased to create a fire tower fund, to support work on the towers; educational components could be added; the paperwork could be moved online.

Membership Chair Pat Desbiens reported that membership was up a net of 28 in December.

Outings Chair Wayne Richter reported that a few outings have gone out. The Albany Chapter says the same thing. Most leaders are not doing outings at this time.

Programs Chair Anne Paolano said that the online programs are set through May. There is nothing set for the fall yet.

Chair Mo Coutant reported for the **Ad Hoc Banff Mountain Film Festival Committee**. New online programs are being released, and she will continue promoting them. However, sales are

not good. She thinks people may not be registering through the Chapter's link, so that we do not get credit for them.

Publicity Committee Chair Stephanie Gaudons said that she has been promoting the outings.

Website Chair George Sammons said that he has been making some changes suggested by Mo.

Young Members Group Chair Meghan McLaughlin reported that she had a full group and a waiting list for the Prospect Mountain hike, and will have a full group for her next one.

Bylaws Special Committee Chair John Caffry reported that nothing had been done yet because the status of any additional changes to the Club bylaws is unclear. Jen Shepherd said that the Club is having a meeting on them soon. Kim Brown said that she would submit suggestions soon.

Chapter Chair Jen Shepherd said that there is a new website providing information on snowshoe routes and rentals in the area. She is looking into ideas for online social gatherings.

Steve Mackey said that he led a Pyramid/Gothics hike recently, with good attendance, and opined that the Chapter should start doing more outings now. He discussed organizing a "workout challenge" of some sort.

Jen announced that the Onondaga Chapter will be sponsoring the **Fall Outing** this year.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Stephanie Gaudons, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

Next meeting – March 3d, 7:00, via ZOOM