

**Minutes of the May 5, 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, Anne Paolano, Wayne Richter, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, Jen Shepherd, Gretchen Steen, and Bill Wasilauski.

Chapter Chair Jen Shepherd opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

The minutes of the April 7, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Kim Brown, seconded by Jen Shepherd.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the April Treasurer's Report. One month's dues was received from the Club and Fire Tower Challenge patch revenue was \$316. Total expenses were \$765. Total assets are \$23,752. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Pat Desbiens, seconded by Wayne Richter.

Jen gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. The Onondaga Chapter has sent notice of the Fall Outing. She will circulate this. The Club requested information about the Chapter's cycling outings. She obtained this from Wayne Richter and submitted it.

Club Advisory Council Trustee Jim Schneider reported that he is in a group that is writing its charter. The Club is emphasizing "One ADK". The Chapter needs to appoint an Alternate Trustee. The Club sees these alternate positions as an opportunity to increase diversity of all types in the leadership and promote mentorship. The Advisory Council will work on sharing best practices among chapters. It will have committees that any member can join.

Director Bill Wasilauski reported on the recent board meeting. There was a discussion of redesigning the parking lots at Heart Lake. This would restore the number of spaces from 160 to the full authorized number of 200. Jim said that this is a long-run plan and won't happen soon.

Conservation Co-Chair Paul Dietershagen discussed relations with Saratoga PLAN and suggested bundling Chapter members' donations to it so as to have more impact.

Education Chair Kim Brown reported that 3 Chapter members attended trailhead steward training. She also said that the Club is looking for volunteers to work at the Lake George HQ to answer visitors' questions about hiking.

Kim reported for the **Banff Mountain Film Festival Committee**, in the absence of Chair Mo Coutant. She said that Mo was expecting a check from Banff for 2021 soon. Sales in April were very low. Next year there may be an option to offer both live and virtual tickets.

Jim reported for the **Fire Tower Challenge Committee**, in the absence of Co-Chairs Kathi and Tim Noble. The new edition of the book is out and is selling well. The planning of the new management arrangement with the Club is progressing. He is working on the updated brochure.

Membership Chair Pat Desbiens reported that net membership was down by 14 in March.

Newsletter Chair Jen Ferriss said that the next deadline is June 4th.

Outings Chair Wayne Richter reported that there continues to be a small number of leaders doing a small number of outings. The Club has released updated guidelines for the chapters.

Programs Chair Anne Paolano said that the monthly programs are going well, but she expects programs to continue to be done remotely until the libraries are open for meetings. She has booked the Embassy Suites in Saratoga for the **Annual Dinner** for October 15th, and will continue planning for a live event in case we are able to do it – the guidelines are still evolving. She may pay honorariums to some of the monthly speakers; there is \$300 in the budget for that.

Publicity Chair Stephanie Gaudons said that she has done a flier for the next program and is sending it out.

Trails Committee Chair Tom Ellis said that the Tongue Mountain trail work will be done in April.

Website Chair George Sammons discussed publicity for programs.

Wilderness Chair Jim Schneider reported on his two recent trips to the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area. He picked up trash, but the trails are in good shape. He also discussed the plans for the ADK centennial next year.

Young Members Group Chair Megan McLaughlin said that sunset hikes have started again – 8 people attended yesterday at Pilot Knob. They attract new members because they are short, easy, and after work.

Special By-laws Committee Chair John Caffry summarized the changes in the draft that was circulated before the meeting. Due to the volume of changes, this should be submitted to the members as a new set of by-laws, rather than as discrete amendments. Voting procedures have been clarified, and it will be easier to send out mail ballots and to hold meetings online. Due to the changes in the Club by-laws, the director positions will now be Chapter-only positions, but Club Trustee and Alternate Trustee positions will be added. The authority of committee chairs to spend budgeted funds without a further vote has been clarified. The Club's mission statement on the cover needs to be updated. John will revise the draft and submit it for a vote in June.

Nominating Committee Chair Brian Coville said that the Committee's work is progressing. He also said that the Club has received an analysis of the new Club by-laws from NYCON but has not yet released it.

Steve Mackey raised the question of whether we should make an **additional \$2,500 donation to the Club**. No action was taken because we still need feedback from the Club on where it could use the funds.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Gretchen Steen, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

Next meeting – June 2nd, 7:00, via ZOOM