

**Minutes of the November 3, 2021 Meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club, Inc., held at
ADK Headquarters, Lake George, New York, and via ZOOM**

Present: Kim Brown, John Caffry, Brian Coville, Paul Dietershagen, Jen Ferriss, Bobbi Fitzgerald, Steve Mackey, Megan McLaughlin, Kathi Noble, Tim Noble, Anne Paolano, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, Jen Shepherd, and Gretchen Steen. **Also present:** Maureen Coutant and various large dogs.

Chapter Chair Brian Coville opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

The minutes of the October 6, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Brian, seconded by Kathi Noble, with Kim Brown abstaining, after some typos were corrected. There was a discussion about how certain members who have “Mac” computers can not open the minutes in Word, and how to make them available to those persons.

Secretary John Caffry reported on the votes taken at the **Annual Meeting** on October 15, 2021. There were approximately 50 members present in person and 43 members voted by absentee ballot, which was a quorum. The **amended by-laws** were approved unanimously, and will take effect on January 1, 2022. The slate of **nominees for 2022**, being Chapter Chair – Brian Coville; Second Vice-Chair – Kim Brown; Treasurer – Steve Mackey; Secretary – John Caffry; Member-at-Large – Maureen Coutant; and Trustee – Jim Schneider; was approved unanimously.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the October Treasurer’s Report. Two months of dues were received from the Club. Donations of \$250 came from Fire Tower Challenge (FTC) completers, together with \$169 for FTC patches. Newsletter expenses were \$632. The balance in the account keeps growing because of savings on the costs of the newsletter. Jim Schneider began a discussion about what to about the “**chapter note**”, which is a \$5,714 loan from the Chapter to the Club: whether to continue to it roll it over, forgive it as a donation to the Club, or buy more such notes. No action was taken. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Wayne Richter, seconded by Kim Brown.

Chapter Chair Brian Coville appointed Jen Shepherd as **Co-Chair of the Outings Committee**. Current Chair, and now Co-Chair, Wayne Richter declared that he was delighted and grateful.

Brian gave the Club **Directors’ Report**. At the Board meeting a week ago, the new slate of directors was presented, but not yet voted upon. There will be about 16 directors on the new Board. There are no offers yet on the Headquarters property. The purchase of the Cascade property is moving forward.

Trustee Jim Schneider reported that there were no meetings of the Advisory Committee last month, but that its committees have been active. The Club Conservation Committee has not.

Programs Chair Anne Paolano reported that the **Annual Dinner** went well, considering the ongoing COVID situation; the Ex Comm agreed. She said that the speaker was good and total attendance was about 55 people. Anne also reported on the upcoming monthly programs.

Mo Coutant, Chair of the Ad Hoc Banff Mountain Film Festival Committee, reported that due to COVID, the fees have been reduced and that the Committee is looking at alternate locations. The Chapter will also do the online programs again.

Conservation Co-Chair Paul Dietershagen reported that he has reached out to Saratoga PLAN about the Palmertown Range project, and also reported on pending trail projects in Saratoga County. **Co-Chair Aimee**

Rutledge said that she is working with Kim Brown on the issue of pesticide use around Lake George and is looking for input from members on local issues.

Education Chair Kim Brown said that she will seek campership applicants for the 2022 DEC youth conservation camps and ADK Teen Trails, but it is not yet clear whether the DEC camps will operate, due to COVID.

FTC Correspondent Kathi Noble said that the Committee is looking for an appropriate way to spend the recent \$250 in donations. The FTC's new process based on the Club's new website is not yet up and running. **Committee Chair Tim Noble** said that he has visited the newest listed tower, Swede Mountain, and the views are great. Steve Mackey discussed trying to sell FTC stickers and merchandise. Jen Shepherd said that the Club does this now, but supplies are limited, and the Club is looking into this.

Snowshoe rental maven Steve Mackey said that he is looking for a new venue to host this.

Newsletter Chair Jen Ferriss said that the newsletter is out and she is working on the next one.

Outings Co-Chair Wayne Richter reported that there continues to be a small number of outings. The Albany Chapter has a similar situation.

Wilderness Chair Jim Schneider said that the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area is looking good.

YMG Chair Megan McLaughlin reported that there was an YMG outing last month and another one is planned for November.

By-laws Special Committee Chair John Caffry reported that the committee's work is done and declared it to be disbanded.

Facebook Coordinator Aimee Rutledge reported that she has been posting upcoming events.

Minister Without Portfolio (and Club Headquarters Committee Chair) **Mo Coutant** discussed the previously approved **\$2,500 gift to the Club** for upgrading the handicapped access ramp at Headquarters. She said that this project is not going to be done and suggested doing something else with the gift. Jim Schneider made a motion to convert this to an unrestricted gift, which was seconded by Kathi Noble. The motion passed by a vote of 14 to 3.

Jim Schneider proposed that the Chapter **purchase ADK books** to donate to three local libraries – Saratoga, Crandall (Glens Falls), and Clifton Park-Halfmoon, at a cost of \$441, because many libraries have out of date editions of guidebooks. The list of books was previously distributed to the Ex Comm. On a motion by Jim, seconded by Mo Coutant, the motion was unanimously approved. It was agreed that each of the books must have a sticker in it stating that it was donated by the Chapter.

Chapter Chair Brian Coville said that the revised **Job Descriptions** have been circulated. He would like input on them and to hold a vote in December. The **December Ex Comm meeting** will be a potluck supper at ADK HQ in Lake George.

John Caffry made a motion to **appoint Kathi Noble** to fill one of the vacant **Member-at-Large** positions on the Ex Comm, starting on January 1st. The motion was seconded by Jim Schneider and approved unanimously.

In the absence of Tom Ellis, on a motion by Gretchen Steen, seconded by John Caffry, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

Next meeting – December 1st, 7:00, via ZOOM and at ADK Headquarters.