

**Minutes of the December 1, 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, Tom Ellis, Jen Ferriss, Steve Mackey, Megan McLaughlin, Kathi Noble, Tim Noble, Anne Paolano, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, and Gretchen Steen. **Also present:** Maureen Coutant.

Chapter Chair Brian Coville opened the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

The minutes of the November 3, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Kim Brown, seconded by Kathi Noble.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the November Treasurer's Report. There were no major expenses. The Club did not make a dues payment last month. Total assets are \$30,849. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Kathi Noble, seconded by Wayne Richter.

Brian gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. He thanked the Executive Committee and all other volunteers for their help during the past year. The Ex Comm members thanked him for stepping in as Chair mid-year.

Director Brian Coville reported that the **Club Board of Directors** will be meeting this Saturday for the last meeting of the "old" board that was elected by the chapters. The Club says that the agenda is confidential, so he can't discuss it. Some of the Ex Comm members questioned whether it could properly be kept confidential. Jim Schneider said that he had heard that the Club was going to cut the chapters' dues share. The chapters supposedly have a total of about \$300,000. There was a lengthy discussion about there being too much secrecy by the Club and the Club's efforts to cut the chapters out of Club governance.

Trustee Jim Schneider reported that the committee work of the Advisory Committee is continuing. Three members of the AC are running for the one Board position allotted to the AC.

Programs Chair Anne Paolano was contacted by someone at DEC who wants the Chapter to help publicize its Hudson River newsletter. John Caffry pointed out that some time ago, the Ex Comm decided that such things should be decided by the committee so that the decision was not left up to just one person. Anne will get more information and circulate it. No action was taken. Anne said that the guy could also be a possible program presenter.

Mo Coutant, Chair of the **Banff Mountain Film Festival Special Committee**, reported that this year's program will be both live at the Wood Theater in Glens Falls and online. The theater will handle ticketing, COVID protocols, and tech issues. The past sponsors are on board again. Tickets will be \$20, up from \$15 in the past. There will not be a live presenter from Banff this year.

Conservation Co-Chair Paul Dietershagen said that he and co-chair Aimee Rutledge are reviewing the Palmertown Master Plan and will circulate it to the Ex Comm. It is a final plan, and there will not be a public comment period. Aimee said that they want to start having in-person committee meetings to help with work on local issues.

Education Chair Kim Brown said that DEC will resume hosting the youth camps in 2022, and the application deadline has been extended. She will be looking for applicants for camperships.

FTC Chair Tim Noble updated the committee on the status of some of the towers.

Hospitality Chair Gretchen Steen reported that the Saratoga Victorian Streetwalk will be held this year, but she was never contacted about it. It will be all outdoors this year, and the Chapter's table has always been indoors.

Newsletter Chair Jen Ferriss said that today is the deadline for the next edition, but she will extend it for a few days for those Ex Comm members who have content to submit. She has picked up the ADK books that the Chapter purchased for 3 libraries and they are being delivered.

Outings Co-Chair Wayne Richter reported that there continues to be only a small number of outings because people are not comfortable going in large groups.

Facebook Coordinator Aimee Rutledge, on behalf of the **Publicity Committee**, requested updates on the fire tower trail closures, etc. so that this information can be posted.

Treasurer Steve Mackey questioned whether the Chapter should make its usual **annual contributions to the Club**, or wait to see what happens with the dues situation. No action was taken.

Website Chair George Sammons said that he is updating the website with the Club's new logos.

YMG Chair Megan McLaughlin said that there are about 10 people signed up for the upcoming YMG hike to Black Mountain.

Chair Brian Coville presented the updated **Ex Comm Job Descriptions**, which had been previously circulated and commented on. It was agreed that the part about the Conservation Chairs attending Club Conservation Committee meetings will be removed because the Club has removed all chapter conservation chairs from the Club's committee. It was also discussed and confirmed that the social media coordinators are members of the Publicity Committee, but are not voting members of the Ex Comm. On a motion by Steve Mackey, seconded by Gretchen Steen, with the two changes discussed above, the revised Job Descriptions were unanimously approved.

Director Brian Coville reported that Club Executive Director Michael Barrett told him that he can not release the NYCON report on the new by-laws or the slate of new directors. This secrecy was criticized by several Ex Comm members. Brian was urged to seek Board of Directors approval to release this information.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Gretchen Steen, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

Next meeting – January 5, 2022, 7:00, via ZOOM