

**Minutes of the February 2, 2022 Meeting of the Executive Committee  
of the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club, Inc.,  
held via ZOOM**

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

**Chapter Chair Brian Coville** opened the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

**The minutes** of the January 5, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Kim Brown, seconded by Tom Ellis.

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the January Treasurer's Report. A partial payment for the December dues share was received from the Club and there was \$403 in FTC revenue. The rest of the dues money is supposed to be coming in the mail. The only expense was \$1,275 in special donations. Total assets are \$33,255. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by John Caffry, seconded by Kathi Noble.

Brian gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. A thank you note was received from the Lake George Land Conservancy for the Chapter's recent donation. The Club is hosting an online meeting with legislators, and he can share the link with anyone who asks for it. The Chapter will need a Nominating Committee Chair in March.

**Trustee Jim Schneider** said that there was nothing further to report since his e-mail report on the January 18th Advisory Council meeting.

**Mo Coutant**, reporting as Chair of the **Banff Mountain Film Festival Special Committee**, said that the event will be on the upcoming weekend, and thanked the committee and other volunteers. Both nights are almost sold out, despite the surge in COVID cases. There will be door prizes and a raffle. The SUNY Adirondack Outings Club can not do the concessions this year, so the Chapter will do it. There is also a virtual option for watching the films, which can be accessed from the Chapter's website.

**Conservation Co-chairs Paul Dietershagen and Aimee Rutledge** said that they hope to review the Palmertown area plan soon and report on it next month. Paul also reported on the state budget and the Tahawus railroad corridor.

**Fire Tower Challenge Correspondent Kathi Noble** said that there were only a few completer letters in the last month.

**Membership Chair Bobbi Fitzgerald** said that membership is currently 2,489. She will have a membership table at the film festival.

Brian reported for the **Newsletter Committee**, in the absence of Chair Jen Ferriss. He said that the deadline to submit content for the next issue is next Monday.

**Outings Co-chair Wayne Richter** reported that the number of outings is still low due to peoples' reluctance to go out in groups. **Co-chair Jen Shepherd** said that she will host a leaders' social event in March, either in-person or online. YMG Chair Megan McLaughlin said that the Club will hold a 100 miles in 100 days challenge event, starting on Memorial Day weekend. She wants to encourage offering more outings by summer.

**Programs Chair Anne Paolano** reported that the January program on climate change by Al Hicks was great. Average attendance for programs on Zoom has been about 50 people, and the past programs are available on YouTube via the Chapter's website. She will look into possibly doing the March program live at the Saratoga Library, and is looking for programs to present in the fall.

Anne then discussed the **NYSDEC Hudson River Almanack**. It provides a forum for people to report wildlife sightings and the like, and DEC would like to get more input from the northern part of the river. Anne suggested promoting it in the newsletter and there were no objections. Website Chair George Sammons suggested also linking to it on the website, and there were no objections.

**Facebook Coordinator Aimee Rutledge** reported for the **Publicity Committee**. She requested that Chapter events information be sent to her to be posted. She has been posting the outings. She and Instagram Coordinator Emily Kane have been cross-posting events.

**Trails Committee Co-chair Jim Schneider** reported on his proposed **trailhead stewards program for Buck Mountain**. He is trying to find people with Leave No Trace training to work on it. The program is not getting very far so far due to a lack of support from the Club.

Jim also discussed his planned **ADK Oral History** project. This would be done on a program called "Story Bridge". The ADK archives have not been updated since the 1990s. The Club's Centennial Committee rejected the oral history project, but the Advisory Council has been very supportive. The project would cost about \$5,000 to start and about \$1,400 per year to operate. If the Club won't cooperate, it could be hosted on a chapter's website. Jim requested that the Chapter provide financial support, which some other chapters have already done. On a motion by Gretchen Steen, seconded by Kathi Noble, and passed unanimously, a contribution of \$500 was approved. Jim was encouraged to ask for more funding later if he can't raise enough from other sources.

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

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

**Next meeting – March 2nd, 7:00, via ZOOM**