

**Corrected Minutes of the April 6, 2022 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, Maureen Coutant, Brian Coville, Paul Dietershagen, Tom Ellis, Jen Ferriss, Bobbi Fitzgerald, Stephanie Gaudons, Steve Mackey, Megan McLaughlin, Kathi Noble, Tim Noble, Wayne Richter, George Sammons, Jen Shepherd, and Gretchen Steen. **Also present:** Pat Desbiens and Jeff Mans.

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

**The minutes** of the March 2, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Brian Coville, seconded by Steve Mackey.

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the March Treasurer's Report. Receipts included \$1,252 in dues from the Main Club. The largest expense was \$455 for the newsletter. The Main Club has not yet paid the \$5,800 it owes the Chapter on the promissory note. Total assets are \$37,568. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Kim Brown, seconded by Wayne Richter. Megan McLaughlin said that the dues payment was the final payment that the Chapter would receive from the Main Club.

Brian gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. The Club is soliciting input on what to do with the Cascade property, now that it owns it. An online meeting is planned.

**Brian Coville** reported that due to the vacancy created in the Trustee position when Jim Schneider resigned, he was acting as the **Chapter Trustee** on the Main Club Advisory Council. The Main Club is working on making insurance for chapter bicycle outings available. The next meeting is in May.

Guest **Jeff Mans**, a Chapter member and outings leader, asked about how the Main Club's **online outings calendar** works. He said that when his outings are posted on it, they attract more participants from a wider area, but that they are not posted consistently. Megan McLaughlin said that events are entered by staff manually; they are trying to convert it to a better system, but that is not ready yet. If an e-mail is sent to Virginia at the office, she will make sure that they get entered. Brian said that there is a way for chapters to enter them directly. Jeff offered to try it and to help with the Chapter's other outings.

**Mo Coutant**, reporting as Chair of the **Banff Mountain Film Festival Special Committee**, reported that thank you gifts have been sent to most of the sponsors and prize donors. She is soliciting ideas for causes to donate some of the proceeds to; the proposed Buck Mountain trailhead stewards program has been suggested. Wayne Richter has suggested renewing funding for outings leader training classes, as was done in a prior year.

**Conservation Co-Chair Paul Dietershagen** reported that the North Creek to Tahawus section of the Saratoga and North Creek RR was sold to private railroad operators who want to sell and ship mine tailings from the old Tahawus mine. They say they will allow Revolution Rail to continue to operate rail bikes on part of it. This would preclude conversion of the line to a bike trail. Paul also discussed pending development projects on Saratoga Lake - one will include a boat launch.

**Education Chair Kim Brown** said that the campership recipients need to submit their applications to DEC soon. The Chapter was able to fund all who applied, except for one late applicant.

**Fire Tower Challenge Chair Tim Noble** reported that Main Club E.D. Michael Barrett has now agreed to go ahead with using the Main Club's website and other administrative assistance for the FTC. The State and Hamilton County are working on trail access to the Buck Mountain tower in that county, and the tower should be added to the FTC soon.

**Membership Chair Bobbi Fitzgerald** reported that membership is now 2,481 as of February. She is looking into organizing social events.

**Newsletter Chair Jen Ferris** said that she is working on the next issue.

**Nominating Chair Pat Desbiens** proposed Mo Coutant, Laura Fiske, and Margie Litwin to be the members of the committee. There are four positions to fill: Treasurer, Second Vice Chair, Trustee, and Member-At-Large. On a motion by John Caffry, seconded by Brian Coville, the committee membership was unanimously approved.

**Outings Co-Chair Wayne Richter** reported that very few people have been attending outings. Jeff Mans' outing to Boreas Mountain (on a trail that crossed private land via a state easement) was well researched and they were confident that it was legal and permissible. **Co-Chair Jen Shepherd** said that she was not able to carry out the planned social event, but that she had a hike coming up. Meghan McLaughlin negatively called out the Chapter for its lack of outings relative to other chapters based on its size.

Mo Coutant reported for the **Programs Committee**, in the absence of Chair Anne Paolano. She said that Anne is still working on finding a program for the Annual Dinner. The Great Escape Lodge has been reserved for October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Trails Committee Co-Chair Tom Ellis** said that the Tongue Mtn. work will be done in April.

**Website Chair George Sammons** discussed updates to the website and security issues.

**YMG Chair Megan McLaughlin** said that she had nothing new to report; she is moving, so she is resigning as committee chair. She complained about what she perceived as negativity at Ex. Comm. meetings. **Outings Co-Chair Jen Shepherd** also announced that she is resigning as co-chair because she is too busy, but will continue to lead outings.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Gretchen Steen, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

**Next meeting – May 4, 7:00, at the Saratoga Library, and via ZOOM**