

**Minutes of the May 4, 2022 Meeting of the Executive Committee of the  
Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club, Inc.,  
held at the Saratoga Springs Public Library and via ZOOM**

**Present:** Kim Brown, John Caffry, Maureen Coutant, Brian Coville, Jen Ferriss, Bobbi Fitzgerald, Stephanie Gaudons, Steve Mackey, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, and Gretchen Steen. **Also present:** Pat Desbiens.

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

**The minutes** of the April 6, 2022 meeting were corrected and then approved unanimously, as amended, on a motion by Gretchen Steen, seconded by Wayne Richter. [The corrected minutes were circulated shortly after the meeting.]

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the April Treasurer's Report. \$500 was donated to the Main Club for the oral history project. Total assets are \$36,107.02. The payment of \$5,800+ owed by the Main Club to the Chapter on the "chapter note" has been received. He will reinvest it in a bank CD. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by John Caffry, seconded by Brian Coville.

Brian gave the **Trustee's Report**, as Acting Trustee. He watched the online presentation on planning for the new Cascade property. The Advisory Council is likely to vote at their next meeting to change the trustees' term of office to 3 years, so as to match the directors' terms.

**Mo Coutant**, reporting as Chair of the **Banff Mountain Film Festival Special Committee**, reported that the Committee is planning for the 2023 festival. Banff may offer the "road warrior" host option again, and the Chapter could add a third night if it chooses to do so.

**Conservation Co-Chair Aimee Rutledge** reported that the public trails in the Tupelo Community Forest in Greenfield are now open to the public. Additional trails in Saratoga County will open in the fall. The APA has approved use of an herbicide to control milfoil in Lake George. She will look into this further. She will also look into the NYS road salt task force and may submit comments. She met former Glens Falls Mayor Dan Hall and discussed the Big Cedar Swamp with him, as the City now owns the adjoining former Tennis and Swim Club property and would like to promote ecotourism.

**Education Chair Kim Brown** said that she is doing a program for school children soon. She reported that all but one of the campership recipients was accepted into their program of choice.

**Membership Chair Bobbi Fitzgerald** reported that she is planning a meetup/social membership event soon. Aimee will post it on the social media accounts. Pat Desbiens and Jen Ferris volunteered to cover the Wilton Wildlife Preserve event in June. Bobbi said that she recently had a table at the Saratoga Farmers' Market, which got some interest.

**Newsletter Chair Jen Ferris** said that the next deadline is June 4<sup>th</sup>. She then discussed the **return to in-person programs**. The recent live program at the Saratoga library was the first live

program in a long time, and many people cancelled their reservations after learning that it would be live. About 25-30 people attended, which is much less than pre-Covid attendance levels. A discussion of in-person vs. hybrid programs ensued. No action was taken.

**Nominating Committee Chair Pat Desbiens** reported that an announcement has been placed in the newsletter. So far, one person has indicated interest in a position.

**Outings Chair Wayne Richter** reported that Jeff Mans is helping to get the Chapter's outings posted on the Main Club's calendar. There are not many outings scheduled because the leaders are Covid-adverse. Brian offered to lead kayak outings.

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.

**Trails Co-chair Jim Schneider** reported that the Tongue Mountain trail work was completed. A lot of blowdown cutting was required. Planning for the Buck Mountain trailhead stewards program is ongoing. More volunteer stewards are needed to cover shifts this summer.

**Website Chair George Sammons** reported on recent updates to the website.

**Outings Chair Wayne Richter** reported on the ongoing search for insurance for cycling outings. The Albany Chapter has obtained this through a cycling group for \$584 per year, but it only covers that chapter's members, so the outings have to be limited to members. He will try to find out how much interest there may be among the leaders to see if it might be worthwhile for the Chapter to do this. He is not aware of any progress by the Main Club on this issue. He will look into this more, and report back.

**Mo Coutant** discussed the **bird banding station at Crown Point** and offered to lead a group trip there.

In the absence of Tom Ellis, on a motion by Gretchen Steen, seconded by Brian Coville, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

**Next meeting – June 1, 2022, 7:00**