

**Minutes of the June 1, 2022 Meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club, Inc., held at
Saratoga Public Library, Saratoga Springs, New York, and via ZOOM**

Present: Kim Brown, John Caffry, Maureen Coutant, Brian Coville, Tom Ellis, Jen Ferriss, Bobbi Fitzgerald, Steve Mackey, Kathi Noble, Tim Noble, Anne Paolano, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, and Gretchen Steen. **Also present:** Pat Desbiens.

Chapter Chair Brian Coville opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

The minutes of the June 1, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Jen Ferriss, seconded by Steve Mackey.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the May Treasurer's Report. He deposited the funds paid by the Main Club on the former "chapter note" in the checking account because interest rates on CDs are so low. Current assets are unchanged from April at \$36,107. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Gretchen Steen, seconded by Wayne Richter.

Brian discussed his **Chapter Chair's Report** (attached). Several members questioned the Main Club's objections to some of the Chapter's Special Donations to other organizations. Brian said that he would look into these questions. The Chapter's accounting experts, Mo Coutant and Brian, discussed why it was good to list the Banff MFF funds as both an asset and a liability, to show that these funds are not general support funds for the Chapter, but are being held for special purposes, similar to a restricted account, which will help to protect them from the Main Club. Among other purposes, the funds are being held to pay Banff expenses in case of a cancellation or other such event. There was further discussion of the Ex Comm's concerns about the Main Club taking control over the Chapter's budget. The 2023 budget must be submitted to the Main Club for approval by September 30th.

Brian discussed his report on the Main Club's **Advisory Committee** meeting. Outings Chair Wayne Richter asked about the proposed requirement for leaders of A-rated hikes to have Wilderness First Aid training. Brian said that this was not a certainty, but that if it is approved, the Main Club may pay for it. Wayne opined that the Chapter would lose outings leaders if this was required, and others agreed.

Mo Coutant, Chair of the Ad Hoc Banff Mountain Film Festival Special Committee, said that the 2023 event will be held at the Wood Theater again because that is easier to do than holding it at ACC. The event will go to three nights to make up for the smaller capacity of the venue. She proposed using up to \$500 of the 2022 proceeds to support the Buck Mountain trailhead stewards project. This was unanimously approved on a motion by Kim Brown, seconded by Kathi Noble. Jim Schneider will front the funds and be reimbursed. Five hundred dollars has already been pledged to pay for Chapter outings leader training. Mo also proposed making a grant of \$5,000 to support the Summit Stewards program, which would leave at least \$8,000 in the Banff account. Jen Ferris made a motion to approve this, on the condition that it only be used to pay 2022 expenses. It was seconded by John Caffry and unanimously approved.

Conservation Chair Aimee Rutledge reported that the herbicide treatment of milfoil in Lake George had been put on hold as the result of a lawsuit. She will keep the Ex Comm updated.

Education Chair Kim Brown said that she participated in the Moreau Lake State Park Conservation Day. Attendance was low due to rain, but the kids who attended had fun.

Fire Tower Challenge Chair Tim Noble said that there had been no updates from Main Club E. D. Barrett about Challenge Version 2.0. Trail work is proceeding on the trail to the Buck Mountain tower in Long Lake.

Membership Chair Bobbi Fitzgerald reported that she will be distributing pamphlets. Total households were down by 20 in April.

Newsletter Chair Jen Ferriss said that she is looking for reports for the next edition.

Nominating Chair Pat Desbiens reported that there were no new expressions of interest, but that she would keep looking for people.

Outings Chair Wayne Richter said that the schedule is fuller than it has been in quite a while. He reported that 3 people said that they might lead a total of about 5-7 bicycle trips. He does not think that a separate expense of \$600 for insurance for this is justified. Others disagreed, so Wayne made a motion to look into this for 2022. The motion failed for lack of a second. Wayne will continue to research this for 2023.

Programs Chair Anne Paolano reported that the September program will be a presentation by Mo and Jim Coutant on hiking in the state of Washington, and November will be by a DEC naturalist on the Hudson River as it was before its namesake Henry showed up there [in 1609].

Anne then discussed the **Annual Dinner**, which will be held on October 21st at the Great Escape Lodge in Queensbury. The cost will be \$44 per person, including tip and hors d'oeuvres. The Chapter must guarantee 50 attendees. The program will be Jackie Donnelly of Saratoga Woods and Waters, speaking on Upper Hudson plants and wildlife. Anne will try to work on the budget to reduce the per person cost. On a motion by Gretchen Steen, seconded by Mo Coutant, and passed unanimously, it was agreed that the cost would be \$44, with a subsidy of \$6.38 per person.

Trails Co-Chair Jim Schneider reported that the training for the Buck Mountain stewards was held last week. DEC, APIPP, and ADK all participated. The stewards' T-shirts are on order.

Pat Desbiens said that she will represent the Chapter at the Wilton Wildlife Festival and have a membership table there.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Brian Coville, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary

Next meeting – September 7th @ 7:00