

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

Present: John Caffry, Maureen Coutant, Brian Coville, Paul Dietershagen, Tom Ellis, Steve Mackey, Anne Paolano, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, Jim Schneider, and Gretchen Steen. **Also present:** Jeffrey Mans.

Chapter Chair Brian Coville opened the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

The minutes of the October 7, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Brian Coville, seconded by Maureen Coutant.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the October Treasurer's Report. Income included \$1,330 for Annual Dinner tickets, \$45 for bear canister rentals, \$245 for Fire Tower Challenge ("FTC") completer fees and a \$40 FTC donation. Expenses included \$563 for the newsletter and \$1,905 in Annual Dinner expenses. Total Assets are \$24,893. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by John Caffry, seconded by Mo Coutant.

Brian gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. He reported that at the **Annual Meeting** there were 27 absentee ballots, 34 live votes, for a total of 61 votes in favor of the slate of officers, which was a quorum, so the slate was approved. John Caffry recommended that in the future the Executive Committee should always vote in advance to send absentee ballots to all of the members, per the by-laws, at the same time that the Annual Meeting notice and dinner registration form are sent out.

Mo Coutant, Chair of the Ad Hoc Banff Mountain Film Festival Special Committee, confirmed that this year's event will be held on February 3 to 5, 2023 at the Wood Theater. The price will be \$22, the same as in 2022. She discussed the plans to publicize the event.

Conservation Co-Chair Aimee Rutledge reported that she had attended the [road] Salt Summit in Lake George. More information on that is available on the LGA website. She, Co-Chair Paul Dietershagen, and Jim Schneider will meet with Saratoga PLAN next week to discuss the Palmertown Range plan and other issues. Jim and Paul also updated the Ex. Comm. on this.

Hospitality Chair Gretchen Steen said that she is still trying to find out from the organizers of the Victorian Streetwalk in Saratoga Springs if the Chapter will be able to participate.

Brian reported for the **Membership Committee**, due to the vacancy in its chair position. He said that household memberships are down 40 since July. [Voting memberships are down 61, but the Chapter remains the largest chapter in ADK.]

Outings Chair Wayne Richter said that he will be sending out letters and gift cards to the 2022 outings leaders to show the Chapter's appreciation for their work.

Programs Chair Anne Paolano reported. Brian thanked her for her work on the Annual Dinner. Anne said that total registration was below the contractual minimum, so that the Chapter had to pay the difference to the venue. She discussed the upcoming programs through April, and said that she is looking for a program for May. All of the programs will be at the Saratoga Springs Public Library, due to the continuing COVID limitations on the use of Crandall Public Library in Glens Falls.

Trails Co-Chair Jim Schneider said that he will be meeting with DEC next week to talk about plans for future years. 2022 was the first year, and it went well. He would like to expand Leave-No-Trace training next year.

Website Chair George Sammons reported that the website was up to date. He recently sent out the newsletter. Anne thanked him for his help with publicity for the Annual Dinner.

Jim Schneider reported on the **ADK Voices** oral history project. It was funded by chapters in 2022 and there is some money left for 2023, but he is hoping that the Main Club will also contribute. The program will continue to solicit more stories.

Brian Coville opened the discussion of the **2023 Chapter Budget**. He discussed that after the Main Club suggested that the Chapter remove the donations to the Hurricane Mtn. Fire Tower group, Lake George Land Conservancy (“LGLC”), and Summit Stewards, and after the Executive Committee declined to do so at its last meeting, the Main Club Finance Committee disapproved these items. Also, the Main Club will not give the Chapter any money in 2023 because it wants the Chapter to use up the money that it has built up over the years before it will approve any more funding. Steve Mackey said that he had discussed this with the Finance Committee Chair, Eric Gregory, who is a volunteer. Steve suggested going along with the Main Club on the 3 disapproved items, which will also help the Chapter stay within the newly imposed 10% limit on non-ADK donations. Brian said that the Main Club does not count the Banff money in any of this. Jim Schneider said that he had discussed all of this with former Chapter Chair Laura Fiske, who is on the Main Club’s board, and explained the Hurricane Mountain situation; she told him that, based on this new information, the Main Club had misunderstood how its assistance to that group worked, so this donation could be added back to the budget, and the Main Club would approve it. Jim made a motion to drop the donations to the Summit Stewards and LGLC, but retain the Hurricane Mtn. donation, and approve the revised Chapter budget, which motion was seconded by Gretchen Steen. The motion passed with 9 voting in favor, Wayne Richter and Brian abstaining, and John Caffry voting no. The amended budget will be resubmitted to the Main Club for approval.

John made a motion to **donate \$100 from the Banff funds to LGLC**, which was seconded by Wayne, and passed unanimously. Banff Chair Mo Coutant said that she supported this donation because LGLC has been a big supporter of the Chapter’s work.

Brian suggested again having a **potluck supper for the December meeting**. The response was favorable and he will look into options for this.

Aimee Rutledge discussed the status of the Chapter’s **social media accounts** and asked for submissions. Emily Kane is no longer doing the Instagram account, so Aimee will now also do that.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by Brian Coville, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary