

**Minutes of the June 7, 2023 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, Tom Ellis, Steve Mackey, Kathi Noble, Tim Noble, Jim Schneider, and Gretchen Steen. **Also present:** Pat Desbiens.

Chapter Chair Brian Coville opened the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

The minutes of the May 3, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved, on the condition of the correction of the spelling of Margaret Litwin's name, on a motion by Brian Coville, seconded by Kathi Noble.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the May Treasurer's Report. Fire Tower Challenge ("FTC") revenue (patch fees and a donation) was \$127; expenses, including the deposit for the venue for the Annual Dinner, were \$517; total assets are \$29,532. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by John Caffry, seconded by Brian Coville.

Brian gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. He spoke to Jules at the Main Club about the accounting for the Banff funds, and she will look into this issue. He and Jen Ferris tabled at the Wilton Wildlife Preserve's festival. The Black River Chapter asked if the GF-S Chapter would like to be involved with Winter Outing at the Loj – no action was taken.

Alternate Trustee Mo Coutant reported on the May meeting of the Main Club Advisory Council, which was held at Cascade. This was the first in-person meeting in a long time. The new outings leader guidelines were discussed. It seems that most chapters are not affected as much as our chapter is by the stricter requirements for leading "A" hikes because they do not offer as many "A" hikes as we do. A discussion of these rules ensued.

Mo Coutant, Chair of the Ad Hoc Banff Mountain Film Festival Special Committee, said that the 2024 festival will again be on the first weekend in February, running for 3 nights. Mo suggested that the Chapter now make the previously proposed donation of \$7,000 to the Summit Stewards program. The motion was approved unanimously on a motion by Mo, seconded by Steve Mackey.

Education Chair Kim Brown reported that she and Jim Schneider presented a program to about 30 children at the Moreau Lake State Park Conservation Day.

Fire Tower Challenge Committee Chair Tim Noble and FTC Correspondent Kathi Noble reported on the status of the planned FTC 2.0 online version – Jim Schneider is trying to get the Main Club staff to work on it. The patch fee may go up to \$15, with \$5 going to the Chapter to cover its costs, and \$10 going into a fund to support fire tower friends groups' projects. Kathi and Tim would like to move previous donations to the FTC, which currently total \$815, to this fund. There was also discussion of moving this sum to a separate line item on the Chapter budget. No action was taken on either item.

Hospitality Chair Gretchen Steen said that the program at the last program meeting, presented by Saratoga PLAN, was very informative.

Brian reported for the **Membership Committee**, because the chair position is vacant, and referred to the written report.

Brian reported for the **Newsletter Committee**, in the absence of Chair Jen Ferris. He said that the deadline for the next edition is August 1st.

Nominating Committee Chair Pat Desbiens reported that Vice Chair Kim Brown has agreed to be nominated for Chapter Chair; most of the other officers have agreed to continue in their positions; Trustee Thomas Khairallah is unable to continue in that position due to work commitments. She will see if Thomas is willing to accept a different position. She is still looking for nominees for the Vice Chair and Trustee positions.

Brian reported for the **Outings Committee**, in the absence of Chair Wayne Richter, and referred to Wayne's written report.

Brian reported for the **Programs Committee**, in the absence of Chair Anne Paolano, and said that arrangements for the Annual Dinner are on track.

Trails Committee Co-Chair Jim Schneider referred to his written report, and updated the Executive Committee on the status of the Buck Mountain trailhead stewards program.

Chapter Chair Brian Coville discussed the need to approve the **sending of absentee ballots** to all of the members prior to the **Annual Meeting**, so as to ensure that a quorum is voting, as allowed by the Chapter's By-laws. This was unanimously approved on a motion by Brian, seconded by Gretchen Steen.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by John Caffry, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary