

**(Corrected) Minutes of the September 7, 2022 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, Paul Dietershagen, Jen Ferriss, Bobbi Fitzgerald, Steve Mackey, Kathi Noble, Wayne Richter, Aimee Rutledge, George Sammons, and Jim Schneider. **Also present:** Pat Desbiens.

In the absence of Chair Brian Coville, **Chapter Vice-chair Kim Brown** opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

**The minutes** of the June 1, 2022 meeting were discussed. Wayne Richter requested a correction to show that he will pursue insurance for bike trips for 2023, and not just research this. The minutes, as amended, were approved unanimously on a motion by Wayne, seconded by Steve Mackey.

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the June to August Treasurer's Report. Revenues included \$387 from the Fire Tower Challenge and \$156 from Banff online viewers. \$5,828.18 was received from cashing in the Chapter Note held by the Main Club, on an initial investment of \$5,000. Total assets are \$30,843. Donations paid from Banff funds included \$5,000 to the Main Club to support the Summit Stewards program and \$320 to support the Buck Mtn. stewards program. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by Kathi Noble, seconded by Mo Coutant.

Vice Chair Kim Brown discussed Brian Coville's **Chapter Chair's Report**, which is attached hereto. There was also a discussion of Brian's **Trustee's Report** on the Main Club Advisory Committee, which included questions about how the 10% limit on outside [special] donations was to be calculated and the need for clarification about whether or not it was really not legal to make donations to organizations that have a registered lobbyist, as the Main Club claims. The Main Club has not really answered this question. Kim will follow up with Brian to get clarification.

**Mo Coutant, Chair of the Ad Hoc Banff Mountain Film Festival Special Committee**, reported that she has received the contract for 2023. The cost is similar to prior years. She will review it with John Caffry, and review the technical rider with the Wood Theater. She said that Banff will no longer share the online revenue with the local affiliates, but that is okay because the Chapter got very little revenue from that. The 2023 dates will be Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup>. She will contact the past sponsors to confirm their 2023 support.

**Conservation Co-Chair Aimee Rutledge** reported that the planned herbicide treatment for milfoil in Lake George was halted for this year due to a lawsuit. The NYS road salt task force may issue its report soon. Saratoga PLAN has a new executive director and associate director - she will reach out regarding the status of the Palmertown Range plan. **Co-chair Paul Dietershagen** discussed how a hiking trail that he uses has been ruined by being widened to accommodate large snowmobile trail grooming machines. He also discussed APA's review of the "no material increase" rule for roads in Wild Forest areas in the Forest Preserve and the proposal to allow an increase of roads of up to 15%. He opined that 15% seemed like a lot.

**Education Chair Kim Brown** said that the Moreau Lake State Park Naturefest for kids would be held soon and that she, Pat Desbiens, and Mo would participate for the Chapter. The two kids sponsored by the Chapter for Teen Trails went to their programs, but the DEC camp closed mid-season due to health issues, so the sponsored campers could not go, and that money was not spent.

**Fire Tower Challenge Committee Member (and Correspondent) Kathi Noble** reported that there have been many completers over the summer. The Swede, Spruce, and Stillwater trails will close soon for hunting season. FTC 2.0 with the Main Club is not yet ready to go.

**Membership Chair Bobbi Fitzgerald** reported that the total number of members was down by 84 from April to July. The Chapter is still the largest chapter, with 2,358 members. She had a table at the Saratoga Farmers Market over the summer, and there was a lot of interest in ADK. She is moving, so she will be resigning as committee chair. Kim thanked her for her efforts.

**Newsletter Chair Jen Ferris** said that the latest edition was sent out recently.

**Nominating Committee Chair Pat Desbiens** presented the slate for this year's election: Chair – Brian Coville; Vice-Chair - Kim Brown; Second Vice-chair - nobody; Secretary – John Caffry; Treasurer – Steve Mackey; Members-at-Large - Kathi Noble, Mo Coutant, and Jeff Mans; Trustee - Thomas Khairallah. A notice will be published in the newsletter.

**Outings Chair Wayne Richter** reported that the schedule is still rather thin. He thinks that this is due to COVID concerns.

Kim reported on the upcoming programs and the Annual Dinner in the absence of **Programs Committee Chair Anne Paolano**.

**Trails Committee Co-chair Jim Schneider** reported that the bridge that the Chapter helped to build in the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area was out due to a tree falling on it and subsequent human-caused damage. He said that the Buck Mountain trailhead stewards program has been going well and that the local volunteer fire department is pleased with the results.

**Website Chair George Sammons** updated the Committee on the status of the website.

**Jim Schneider** reported that the ADK Voices oral history project will launch this month. There are currently 30 stories on it and they are continuing to collect more.

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the 2023 budget. He said that he completed the budget spreadsheet for Main Club approval, based on the 2022 budget numbers. There are no guidelines, just a spreadsheet to fill out. He thinks that the Main Club will not give the Chapter any money until it spends down its assets to \$2,500. The Banff money is segregated in the budget. On a motion by Jen Ferris, seconded by Wayne Richter, the budget was approved. Steve will submit it to the Club.

**Outings Chair Wayne Richter** discussed his concerns about the Main Club's proposed guidelines for Chapter outings. He thinks that they are too restrictive and ought to be more flexible, and that more input from the chapters is needed before they are adopted. The E.C. agreed with his concerns. Wayne will write this up and submit it to the Advisory Committee via Brian.

In the absence of Tom Ellis, on a motion by John Caffry, seconded by Wayne Richter, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary