

**Minutes of the September 4, 2024 Meeting of the Executive
Committee of the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter
of Adirondack Mountain Club, Inc., held via ZOOM**

Present: Deb Balliet, Kim Brown, John Caffry, Maureen Coutant, Brian Coville, Paul Dietershagen, Tom Ellis, Laura Fiske, Jessica Krause, Lisa Lehman, Steve Mackey, Jeff Mans, Kathi Noble, Anne Paolano, Wayne Richter, Ray Ross, George Sammons, and Gretchen Steen.
Also present: Pat Desbiens.

Chapter Chair Kim Brown opened the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

The minutes of the June 5, 2024 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Wayne Richter, seconded by Steve Mackey.

Kim gave the **Chapter Chair's Report**. Aimee Rutledge has resigned as **Co-chair of the Conservation Committee**. Paul Dietershagen will continue as the sole chair. Aimee has also resigned as the social media person on the **Publicity Committee**. Kim then announced that she was appointing Deb Balliet as the new **Chair of the Publicity Committee**. Deb said that she would handle the social media accounts until she found someone with more experience to do that.

Treasurer Steve Mackey presented the June to August Treasurer's Report. There was \$4,040 in revenue from the Main Club and \$5 from bear canister rentals. Total assets are \$23,790. The report was approved unanimously on a motion by John Caffry, seconded by Laura Fiske.

Steve then presented the proposed **2025 Chapter Budget**, which was largely based on the 2024 budget. Several revisions were agreed to: \$720 for increased e-mail blast capacity; increasing the Fire Tower Challenge (FTC) line by \$200; a one-time expense for new patches and updated brochures for the FTC; DEC camps will be reduced to \$2,100 because the full previously budgeted amount was not being used; the Hospitality budget of \$100 will be restored, or else added to the Programs budget; \$400 will be added to the Admin. line to pay for room rental for in-person Ex. Comm. meetings; \$1,000 will be added to Outings to pay for more outings leader training reimbursements. The budget, as revised, was approved unanimously on a motion by John Caffry, seconded by Kim Brown. Steve will revise the budget and submit it to the Main Club for approval.

Nominating Committee Chair Pat Desbiens reported that the slate has been published in the newsletter, and that Brian Coville has now offered to run for a member-at-large position on the Ex. Comm, but this was too late to be included in the published slate. It was discussed that the Ex. Comm. will do whatever is needed to be sure that he gets nominated. There was a discussion of whether or not to send out absentee ballots to all of the members. This will be decided in October.

Programs Chair Anne Paolano reported that the speaker for the **Annual Dinner** has canceled due to health reasons, and she is looking for a new one. For the 2025 monthly programs she is

planning some joint programs with Southern Adirondack Audubon, including one about moose, and Bill Brown on timber rattlesnakes.

FTC Committee Member Kathi Noble reported that FTC 2.0 is finally online and ten people have submitted their complete lists on it so far. There are still some bugs to work out. She will continue to accept mail-in submissions, but it is less work for her now.

Membership Chair Ray Ross said that he has now received updated rosters from the Main Club and has sent out over 50 new-member letters. The rosters still need a lot of work. He has plenty of membership materials for sending out to new members. He will participate in the Naturefest at Moreau Lake State Park in the fall. George Sammons discussed the technical problems with the rosters.

Newsletter Chair Lisa Lehman reported that the membership roster was still a problem for the most recent edition, so she used the list of postal recipients from the last edition.

Conservation Chair Paul Dietershagen provided updates on the Adirondack Rail Trail, Lake George milfoil treatment, Snake Hill, and Whitney Park. He will attend the upcoming Saratoga County trails committee meeting.

Trails Committee Co-Chair Jim Schneider submitted a written report, which was distributed with the agenda.

Mo Coutant, Chair of the Ad Hoc Banff Mountain Film Festival Special Committee, reported that she has received the contract for 2025. The cost will be \$300 higher. She will sign it unless she sees any problems with it. The Wood Theater needs to sign the technical rider. People can watch the Festival live online from Banff in October.

Outings Chair Wayne Richter and others discussed the ongoing problems that are being caused by the mandated outings leader training. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Website Chair George Sammons said that he is still not getting much of a response from the Main Club to his questions about the IMIS system.

Chapter Chair Kim Brown said that she will try to reschedule Main Club Acting Executive Director Julia Goren, who was supposed to attend this meeting, but did not do so.

On a motion by Tom Ellis, seconded by John Caffry, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Caffry, Secretary