

**Berkshire Chapter – Appalachian Mountain Club
Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes, July 20, 2005**

PLEASE NOTE – Next meeting on Monday, August 15, at 6:30, Florence Savings Bank, Hadley.

Present: Rob Robertson, Mary Norton, Deborah Levine, Dave Koerber, Ian Beatty, Alice Hodgdon, Kelly Druzisky, Pat Fletcher, Cosmo Catalano, Bob Napolitano, Erica Gees, Christine Mangano, and Connie Peterson.

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 by Rob Robertson.

Minutes from the June 20 meeting were voted on and accepted, with one correction.

Treasurer's Report – Kelly Druzisky

Kelly distributed the treasury report as of the end of June. There was a discussion about whether the amount of money in the budget column for Outings was correct and it was determined that it should read \$400.

Cosmo Catalano – Appalachian Trail

Cosmo said he went to the AT conference biennial meeting, now the AT Conservancy – "Join the Journey" is the new catch phrase, and there is a new logo also. This meeting was over July 4th weekend. He said it is now more of a corporation and less of a "family". He reported that the maintenance schedule is going well. There are two remaining major projects: the 35 bog bridges in South County, and the rehab of the Goose Pond cabin roof. He commented that it has been a successful season but a rather "sweaty" one.

Ian Beatty – Computer/Website

Ian said there had been problems with the site and that some dates were off for various trips. He said that discrepancies occurred when the host moved our site to a different server, which is in a different time zone and this caused trip listings to be off by one day. Ian is working on this.

Connie Peterson – Canoe & Kayak

Connie said the trips are going along fine and that a sea kayak trip to Knubble Bay in Maine went very well. She also said Charlie Camp will be coming back soon.

Liz Gordon – Conservation

Liz is still abroad, in Switzerland this time. No report.

Deborah Levine – Membership

Deborah said there will be two new member hikes in August and there may be several in October. She said there was a combination hike and Tanglewood concert this coming Saturday. New members receiving telephone calls are apparently very appreciative of the calls.

Alice Hodgdon – Mountaineering

"Nothing new".

Bob Napolitano and Dave Koerber – Outings

There was a discussion of the issue of releases, and what needs to be signed and by whom, when a person under age 18 wants to go on an outing. It was mentioned that there is a release form on the web site. Rob will check into the current AMC policy on this matter and report back to us.

Erica Gees – Vice Chair

Erica said 5 people came to the 4,000 footers meeting and that there will be a Mt. Greylock hike this Sunday.

Pat Fletcher – Trails

Pat said the guide book is out.

Kelly Druzisky – Young Members

She said there is not too much going on.

New Business

Discussion of Jon Hanauer's question as to whether or not committee chairs want their email addresses and phone numbers in the newsletter. This led into a discussion of the fact that not all executive committee members' names are printed in the AMC Outdoors magazine and comments by some members of the executive committee that this was not right. Rob will look into this issue. There was also a discussion of what happens when leaders submit trip listings. They are supposed to go from the contributor to a reviewer (Dave and Bob) and then on to the approver (Ken Greason). There needs to be a separate meeting of those involved with this, to discuss the flow of where the information goes, how, and who to, so that it gets where it is supposed to go.

Discussion of Young Members listserv and "official" vs. "unofficial" events. An unofficial event is someone putting out an email saying they are going to do a certain activity and asking if anyone wants to come along. An official event is one which has been listed on the listserv by a leader who is putting on the event.

Rob will send out a change in schedule for SDA's.

Rob and Erica may attend the Chapters Committee Retreat on August 26 to 28, at Wisdom House in Litchfield, CT. The cost is \$158 per person and the chapter will subsidize this.

Viz Vol kits are in.

Discussion of disbursements from three endowments. Joy Street handles this, and the money is usually reinvested. If someone wants a distribution, they have to ask for it. The Jack Cycz endowment is for AT use only; Porter Dickinson fund has unrestricted use, but is to benefit the Berkshire Chapter only; Mohekennuck funds are restricted for use of Upper Goose Pond cabin maintenance and repairs.

Pat Fletcher will be stepping down as chair of the Trails Committee, but will still remain on the committee. Cosmo Catalano wants to step down as chair of the AT Committee, but has not found a replacement yet.

Ian Beatty will be spending 6 months in Africa, from December to June. He will still do the web site but is looking for some help.

Kevin Costa has several file cabinets of information on the chapter from the past and there was a discussion of what to do with it. Kelly will find out the general nature of the information, and ask if Kevin can hold onto it until we can get 6 or 8 people to sort through it.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully,

Mary Norton
Berkshire Chapter Secretary