

**Berkshire Chapter – Appalachian Mountain Club
Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes, December 19, 2005**

Present: Rob Robertson, Deborah Levine, Donna Walters, Bob Napolitano, Jim VanNatta, Jon Hanauer, Mary Norton, Pat Stevenson, Cosmo Catalano, Liz Gordon, Christine Mangano, Gary Forish and Anita Greiter (Mountaineering Committee secretary).

Note: next meeting is January 16 (Monday) at 6:30 p.m. at Florence Savings Bank in Hadley.

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 by Rob Robertson. Rob started with a reading of the mission of AMC.

Minutes from the November were voted on and accepted, with one correction.

Treasurers' Report

There was a question on the amount of money for membership dues that was not able to be answered at this meeting. The report was not accepted due to this question.

Committee Reports

Cosmo Catalano - AT

Cosmo said there was not much to report. The local management plan for the AT in Massachusetts has been updated, and it is the first update in 10 years. The AT Committee is guided by this document, which contains Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Department of Conservation and Recreation, and National Park Service policies and procedures. He said there will be a maintainers meeting in January (1/21/06) and they will create the work list for the coming year at that time. The AT committee will meet on 1/7/06.

Jon Hanauer – Berkshire Exchange

Jon confirmed with Gary that the wilderness first aid training at Noble View will be on 4/22/06 and 4/23/06, and the advanced wilderness first aid training will be on 5/20/06 and 5/21/06. The deadline for the spring newsletter is 1/25/06.

Ian Beatty – Computer/Website

Note: Rob Robertson mentioned that the updating and servicing of the web site will be taken care of in Ian's absence. Ian had a meeting last week with these folks and he trained them to do what is necessary to keep the web site current.

Liz Gordon - Conservation

Liz said they are gearing up for the coming year.

Deborah Levine and Christine Mangano - Membership

They reported that on 1/12/06 there will be a new member introduction to AMC. They sent out about 100 notices and it will also be listed in the January magazine. Donna Walters will do a show and tell about hiking and appropriate gear at the Bangs Community Center from 6:30 to 8. Also, the new member potluck will be 3/25/06.

Donna Walters – Training and Education

Donna spoke about ideas and status/progress of various training ideas. She is looking into “on the trail” wilderness first aid training through AMC, and said solo certified trainers would be doing this. She said 5 different chapters were represented at the “train the trainer” meeting. She mentioned wanting to do a joint training with other chapters.

Jim VanNatta – Mountaineering

Jim said things have been quiet but that he does have some weather dependent trips scheduled and a moonlight ski (monthly) at Notch View.

Bob Napolitano - Outings

Bob said there is nothing new to report this month.

Gary Forish – Noble View

Gary said the Russell fire chief approved the fire suppression system. Also, that there is a new two lane road into Noble View, and that the sprinkler system will be installed on 1/6/06 and the double cottage will be open the summer of 2006.

Rob Robertson - Chair

There was a continuing discussion about the fleece jackets and how many and which volunteers should receive them.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully,

Mary Norton

Berkshire Chapter Secretary