Appalachian Mountain Club – Berkshire Chapter Executive Committee
Minutes of Meeting - April 19, 2006

Members present: Rob Robertson, Deb Levine, Cosmo Catalano, Pat Fletcher, Donna Walters, Bess Dillman, Chris Mangano, Jim VanNatta and Kelly Druzisky

Robertson called the meeting to order at 6:38 P.M. and Walters read the AMC mission statement.

Minutes of the March 20, 2006 meeting were read and accepted as amended, with Berkshire Chapter Expense Reimbursement Policy also approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report:
Druzisky reported that some outstanding checks haven't been cashed: Erica has a deposit check written to Seth Mias Catering; Forish has not cashed a check in excess of $1000 payable to Noble View, Hospice hasn't cashed a $50 check (which Druzisky will write off).

New Business

Review & Revision of Berkshire Chapter Draft Goals & Objectives was concluded. Goals and Objectives as revised 4/19/06 are attached.

Robertson presented a request that Berkshire Chapter support Noble View with a $10,000 loan to be reimbursed by the potential Springfield Water Commission conservation easement. In the event that the easement falls through, this $10,000 loan would be a grant. Robertson stated that he sought a sense of how the Executive Committee would vote, but did not wish to bring the question to a vote at this time. Robertson stated that there was a possibility that he would serve as Noble View Chair upon rolling out of the Chapter Chair position.Consensus was in favor of the $10,000 loan/grant.

Spring Gathering April 28-30 was announced. Robertson plans to attend.

Robertson announced that the Conservation Committee Chair position is open. Liz Gordon stands willing to serve on the Conservation Committee, but isn't able to serve as Chair.

After discussion of arrangements for the 11/4/06 Annual Meeting, it was decided that we should have the entree catered, and do potluck appetizers and desserts.

Dillman presented a press release advertising two of our May outdoor weekends.

Old Business

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn at 8:25 P.M.

Next Meeting
The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for Monday, May 15, 2006 at 6:30 P.M.

Rob Robertson, Chapter Chair, for Patricia A. Stevenson, Secretary

**Berkshire Chapter Expense Reimbursement Policy**

It is Berkshire Chapter's intent to promote widespread Executive Committee participation in Club-wide meetings. As Chapter Representatives, it is our responsibility to attend AMC Club-wide meetings. The costs for these meetings should not be our personal responsibility, as we are volunteers. These costs should be the responsibility of the Berkshire Chapter.

Berkshire Chapter will:

- Reimburse vehicle expenses at the then-current federal business reimbursement rate (not the charitable deduction rate), with no mileage limit. We encourage carpooling to minimize the waste of resources.

- Reimburse expenses to cover the registration cost of club-wide meetings.

- Reimburse overnight lodging expenses based on the lowest available cost (such as accommodation in a bunk room or other minimum cost shared space). The attendee may upgrade the overnight accommodation at his or her own expense. If low-cost lodging space is not available due to last-minute booking and other more expensive accommodations must be made, reimbursement will be limited to the cost of bunk room or other minimum cost shared space.

  Overnight lodging will be paid when the meeting is over 250 miles round trip from the attendee's residence, when the meeting is of seven hours or more in duration, or the meeting is over multiple days.

- Reimburse meals based on reasonable costs incurred.

- Reimburse for travel, registration, lodging and meals, for attending other meetings at the discretion of the Chapter Chair. Advance notice to, and approval of, the Chapter Chair is required.