Appalachian Mountain Club – Berkshire Chapter Executive Committee
Minutes of Meeting - May 15, 2006

Members present: Rob Robertson, Pat Fletcher, Donna Walters, Bess Dillman, Chris Mangano, Alice Hodgdon, Stephen Beauregard, Deborah Levine, Connie Peterson

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

Minutes of the April 19, 2006 meeting were read and accepted as amended.

New Business

Motion made and seconded to contact Diane Crowell's family, determine an appropriate gift, and send it.

Long-term planning results distributed at Spring Gathering - Robertson will distribute via email..

Chapters Committee Retreat June 9, 10, 11 at Cardigan Lodge - four chapter Executive Committee members are welcomed to attend.

Appalachian Trail: Cosmo Catalano

Berkshire Exchange: Jon Hanauer

Canoe & Kayak: Connie Peterson
There's water now.

Chapter Youth Program: Alicia Wendolowski

Computer/Website: Ian Beatty

Conservation: Vacant

Membership: Christine Mangano, Deborah Levine
Levine and Mangano mentioned the June 8, 2006, event at the Unitarian Universalist Church, Porter Lake Drive, Forest Park., and asked all Executive Committee members to consider attending. W

Mountaineering Co-chairs: Alice Hodgdon, Jim VanNatta
Hodgdon said that all the trips they've had planned for this spring have been cancelled due to rain.

Noble View: Gary Forish

Outings Co-chairs: Dave Koerber, Bob Napolitano

Programs & Special Events: Vacant

Public Relations: Bess Dillman
Bess prepared a press release for June 8, 2006 members event. Bess is preparing a press release for trail work; she got a great photo from Cosmo. She's obtaining information as to newspapers' requirements for submitting photos and text.

Trails: Pat Fletcher

M-M Trail adopters are actively working on two relocations: one small relocation in Belchertown, and one large relocation near Royalston Gorge onto Warwick State Forest land, from Richmond Road to Bliss Road. They're working on another relocation south of Mt. Grace.
The M-M Trails Committee sent a $5000 check (revenues from the sales of the M-M guide book) to the Town of Northfield which, with the State and Mt. Grace Land Trust, is purchasing a 45-acre parcel now called Brushy Mountain Conservation Area.
This is the sixth purchase in which M-M Trails Committee has participated.
Discussions concerning signage for the southern section (southernmost 12 sections) is under way with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.
A hiker was bitten by a coyote near Royalston.

Training & Education: Donna Walters
Berkshire Chapter conducted outdoor leader training on May 5-7, 2006 at Noble View. Ten leaders (two from Worcester Chapter, two Berkshire Young Members, and six Berkshire Chapter Members) were trained; four trainers (Aaron Gorban, AMC Staff; Steve Ciras, Worcester; Wayne Rodrigues, Berkshire; and Donna Walters) presented the material.
Hike from Hell is scheduled for Sunday 5/21/06. Accident scene management will be practiced.
Little Lyford Ponds familiarization tour 9/29/06-10/1/06 - Walters will distribute information to the leaders.

Young Members: Kelly Druzisky, Stephen Beauregard
Beauregard said that two people are leading most of the hikes. The Young Members Committee is trying to develop leaders.

Old Business

Discussion of leader recognition.
- Different levels of recognition?
- Who would administer?
- Nalgene? AMC gift certificates? Fleece jacket?

Robertson said that Jon Hanauer indicated that he might be interested in doing data collection.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Fletcher to adjourn at 8:17 P.M., seconded by Hodgdon.

Next Meeting
The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2006 at 6:30 P.M.

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