

Appalachian Mountain Club – Berkshire Chapter Executive Committee
Minutes of Meeting - June 21, 2006

Members present: Rob Robertson, Deb Levine, Cosmo Catalano, Pat Fletcher, David Koerber, Bess Dillman, Bob Napolitano and Pat Stevenson. ~~Members present: Rob Robertson, Deb Levine, Cosmo Catalano, Pat Fletcher, David Koerber, Bess Dillman, Bob Napolitano and Pat Stevenson.~~

Robertson called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM and read the AMC mission statement. ~~Robertson called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM and read the AMC mission statement.~~

Minutes of the May meeting were read and accepted unanimously.

Committee reports were postponed to the end of the meeting to address issues of new business first.

New Business:

Appalachian Trail Day Saturday, October 7, 2006: Cosmo Catalano

Catalano reported that several organizations were interested in participating in AT Day, so he is looking for volunteers from our chapter to assist with leading hikes. There will be a barbecue following the days events. Issues that arose during this discussion involved how to contact trip leaders to see if anyone is interested in leading hikes and what information should be included with regard to advertising the AT Day event. After much discussion, it was decided that:

_____ A bulk email will be sent to all trip leaders to see who is interested in leading a hike that day.

Dillman will advertise the event in papers.

Catalano will be the contact person for any trip leaders who volunteer to lead but do not want their phone numbers published in the paper.

Trip leaders will decide if the hike is a show and go or if people must register with the leader before hand.

Supplemental Dues Allocation (SDA) Funding: Rob Robertson

Robertson advised that the Chapters Committee approved a \$2,500 SDA request for the purchase of appliances for Noble View's Double Cottage. Robertson submitted a request to the Executive Committee to approve \$2500 in matching funds. Discussion followed and a motion was made by Fletcher to approve this request, seconded by Catalano, and the request was approved with one abstention.

In addition, Robertson submitted a request to the Executive Committee to approve \$400 matching SDA to purchase a digital projector, cables, and carrying case. On a motion by Fletcher, seconded by Catalano, and approved unanimously, it was agreed to approve this request but Stevenson, Robertson, and Levine will do further research on what will be the best equipment to purchase.

Executive Committee Vacancies: Rob Robertson

Robertson reported on existing vacancies within the Executive Committee and announced his plan to rotate out as chairperson at the end of 2006 having served a two-year term at that time. Currently, the following vacancies need to be filled:

Vice Chairperson

Conservation Committee

Programs and Special Events (Sue Mazrolle is interested in possibly filling this)

Koerber mentioned that there had been a question (March 2006 minutes) as to his remaining on the Outings Committee. He indicated that he and Bob Napolitano intend to serve as Outings Co-chairs through December, 2007.

Old Business:

Annual Meeting: Rob Robertson

Robertson reported that the Northampton Country Club is not available for our Annual Meeting scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 2006, so a new venue needs to be found and the event organized. Stevenson and Levine agreed to work together to organize this event. If necessary, the event date may need to change but that is not an option until all research on a new venue is completed. Robertson reported that he has already locked in the entertainment and guest speaker for the evening. Also, Mazrolle and Furtek may be willing to assist with the Annual Meeting. Napolitano agreed to organize hikes the day of the Annual Meeting.

Diane Crowell and Tom Eaton: Rob Robertson

Robertson and Napolitano reported that both Diane Crowell and Tom Eaton were doing okay after injuries they sustained....one due to an auto accident and one from a fall. After discussion, it was agreed that flowers or a plant should be sent to both and Napolitano agreed to take care of that.

Long-term planning results distributed at Spring Gathering: Rob Robertson

This topic was the focus of the Chapters Committee Retreat held at Cardigan on June 9, 10, and 11.

This will be the focus at future gatherings in the Fall and in January after which clear, coherent recommendations for Vision 2020 will be made to the AMC's Board of Directors.

Committee Reports:

Appalachian Trail: Cosmo Catalano There was nothing to report.

Membership: Deborah Levine

Levine reported that Mangano stepped down as co-chair because she does not have the time to commit to co-chairing and the Executive Committee meetings are too distant from her home. The new member social on June 8th went well. Levine distributed results of the "New Member Information Requests" survey that were received from new members. It was decided that a new survey form needed to be drafted for electronic distribution and Levine agreed to do that. Robertson agreed to send Levine the Welcome Letter and the New Member Information Request via email.

Noble View: Rob Robertson

Robertson reported that at the Chapters Committee Retreat at Cardigan, Noble View was discussed and there is an increasing interest in using Noble View as a venue for various activities and outings.

Outings: Dave Koerber and Bob Napolitano

Koerber and Napolitano reported that they would like to have a gathering for monthly coordinators and will plan an event and report back to the Executive Committee. Napolitano will also review the methodology on how we are submitting data to AMC Outdoors and see if we have the ability to bulk upload from amcberkshire.org to Outdoors.org.

Public Relations: Bess Dillman

Dillman shared an article on June 3's National Trail Day and all were pleased with its appearance and the content as well as the buzz it was creating. She also shared a piece from the Berkshire Eagle about the same event. Currently, she is working with Forish to prepare a writeup about Noble View.

Trails: Pat Fletcher

Fletcher gave a brief statement on our donation to the Brush Mountain Project and how much it was appreciated by the Town of Northfield for the conservation of Brush Mountain. The National Park Service has not released the draft M-M National Scenic Trail feasibility study. AMC as a whole is neutral about this matter.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM. The next meeting will be at the home of Pat Stevenson on Monday, July 17, 2006.

Patricia A. Stevenson, Secretary

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