

**Appalachian Mountain Club – Berkshire Chapter Executive Committee
Minutes of Meeting – October 18, 2006**

Present: Rob Robertson, Deb Levine, Cosmo Catalano, Dave Koerber, Bob Napolitano, Ian Beatty, Alice Hodgdon, Donna Walters, Pat Fletcher, Pat Lukas, and Pat Stevenson

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 P.M. Robertson read the AMC Mission Statement and the minutes of 9/18/06 were read and approved unanimously with changes.

In the interest of time, committee reports were postponed to the end of the meeting to address other matters first.

Reports on Fall Gathering in Rhode Island:

Pat Lukas reported for the Conservation Committee meeting stating that other chapters had speakers reporting on efforts to clean up rivers and planting trees. Lukas indicated an interest in serving as Chair of the Conservation Committee for the Berkshire Chapter. On a motion by Koerber, seconded by Napolitano and approved unanimously, Lukas was named Conservation Committee Chair for the Berkshire Chapter for the next three weeks and her name was placed in nomination to be approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting on November 4, 2006.

Donna Walters reported for the Membership Committee meeting. Walters highlighted areas of particular interest from a 2006 Membership Study conducted by the AMC in Boston citing methodology, terminology, comparison to key 2003 survey data, outdoor enthusiasts v. environmentalists, new v. long term members, areas of AMC membership interest, and age and financial demographics. Of particular interest to the AMC overall is growing and retaining our membership. Copies of this report will be available to Executive Committee members ONLY not to be shared with competing outside organizations who are eager to have this information.

Robertson reported on the Outdoor Leadership Committee meeting. [Revised Leadership Requirements and Guidelines were approved by the OLDC at Fall Gathering, and will be effective 1/1/07.](#)

Committee Reports:

Computer/Website:

Ian Beatty discussed his plans to make changes in how AMC activities are listed and where. He recommends transitioning to AMC's general website. He also reported that two additional people will be assisting him with website operations. Nancy Gunter is the new Website Editor in Chief and Bob Bergstrom will serve as the Geek Understudy administering email lists. Ian agreed to develop job descriptions for these positions.

Training and Education:

Donna Walters reported that there is a Leadership Training program scheduled at Nobleview for March 9 to 11, 2007 and the Hike From Hell Series will be done again in March, 2007. However, no specific dates have been selected to date.

New Business:

Leadership succession was brought up by Robertson who is stepping down as Chapter Chair for the Berkshire Chapter at the end of December, 2006. After discussion, it was determined that the following goals need to be met to assure leadership succession for the future within the Chapter:

1. Need to build committees to support the work that needs to be done.
2. Need to distribute the workload to avoid burnout and assure leadership from within committees
3. Need to have job descriptions in writing for committee roles. Robertson has put together a variety of descriptions which he will send to current chairs for editing.

Robertson ended by informing the Committee that Jon Hanauer, Berkshire Exchange Editor has agreed to step up to the plate and be Chapter Chair. Hanauer will continue as Editor as well. We all thank Jon for assuming this responsibility and Rob Robertson for an exemplary job as Chapter Chair. Lastly, Stevenson will send a consent form to Hanauer accepting his nomination to this position. Hanauer's name will be placed in nomination to the membership at the Annual Meeting on November 4, 2006.

Annual Meeting – November 4, 2006

Deb Levine reported that all was in place for the Annual Meeting. However, she expressed concern about current signup for this event considering a notice did not appear in the most recent AMC Outdoors. Dillman will be sending out press releases and the event is listed on the AMC Berkshire website. Committee Chairs agreed to notify those in their email lists and we may need to assign names/numbers to Executive Committee members to call if signup does not increase significantly as the date approaches. Fletcher and Beatty did not wish to participate in a callup campaign for this event. Robertson reported that the guest speaker may not be able to attend our event.

New Member Potluck – March 2007

Deb Levine reported that she had looked at several venues for this event and the Unitarian Church is of particular interest as it only charges \$75 to rent. There was some question about the number of people it would hold, so Levine requested that anyone email her other possible venues for this event. Robertson also informed Levine that we could be flexible on the date which is normally the third Saturday in March. Levine also reported that there will be a New Member Social on January 12, 2007 at the Greenfield Public Library.

In closing, Robertson asked all members to review Recruiting Techniques for High Commitment Positions and AMC Clubwide Awards for discussion at our next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 P.M. The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 20, 2006.

Patricia A. Stevenson, Secretary

