

Appalachian Mountain Club – Berkshire Chapter Executive Committee
DRAFT Minutes of Meeting – February 26, 2007

Present: Jon Hanauer, Deb Levine, Jim Pelletier, Ian Beatty, Pat Fletcher, Pat Lukas, Donna Walters, Alice Hodgdon, Dave Koerber, Connie Peterson and Pat Stevenson

Guests: John Tu, Nancy Gonter-Weld and Bob Bergstrom

The meeting was called to order at 6:43 P.M.

The minutes of the January 29, 2007 meeting were read and accepted unanimously with revisions to be made by Stevenson. On a motion by Pelletier, seconded by Levine, it was recommended that we discontinue the search for the minutes of the December, 2006 Executive Committee Meeting. Stevenson reported that she was unable to find them.

Announcements: Jon Hanauer

Bess Dillman is looking for outings and listings worthwhile for publication in non-AMC publications as this will give our activities and events more exposure to the general public.

Hanauer mailed the card and gift to Ken Greason.

There are three vacant seats on the Executive Committee. They are Family Programs, Young Members, and Berkshire County Representative. Hanauer plans to post these in the upcoming Berkshire Exchange and Gonter-Weld recommended posting them on our website.

New Business:

Hanauer reported that Deb Levine had accepted the nomination to be Vice Chair of the Berkshire Chapter. Her acceptance was approved unanimously.

Levine reported that our presence at the RV Camping Show was a huge success with lots of volunteers. In the future, we need to refine the publications and displays we bring to this event to more adequately reflect who we are and what our mission is. She is looking for help to redesign current publications and displays.

Fletcher recommended doing a special edition of the Berkshire Exchange that showcases events we have planned several months ahead and to note in that issue that the general public is invited to our events and activities. Hodgdon expressed concern about liability issues and that certain activities such as mountaineering should be excluded from being open to the general public as this activity requires specific skills.

Hanauer reported that the budget is significantly lower than last year's budget, so we need to consider restricting leadership training to our chapters instruction in this area or develop a policy for reimbursement for taking training with another chapter. Discussion followed on this topic and it was decided that if a person is selected to participate in leadership training outside of our chapter, they must agree on good faith basis to become an AMC Berkshire Chapter approved

leader and that they will lead two trips within one year of becoming a leader. These trips should be AMC-Berkshire led trips. This is a policy that the NH AMC chapter has adopted and all agreed it was a good policy for our chapter. The one addition to that policy for our chapter is that if a person does not agree to lead two trips within one year, they must pay for their leadership training out of their own pocket. This policy will be implemented for next years trainings. The amount of reimbursement will be comparable to the cost of the Berkshire Chapter leadership training.

Koerber raised the issue of improving communication within the general membership as a whole on shorter notice rather than through the quarterly Berkshire Exchange. Beatty recommended maintaining communication via the Berkshire Exchange but begin to think about transitioning into a format that offers a more frequent means of communication as a supplement to the Berkshire Exchange.

Committee Reports

Berkshire Exchange: Jon Hanauer

Hanauer reported that May 1, 2007 is the deadline for submission for the summer newsletter.

Website: Ian Beatty

Beatty reported that the email problem may be behind us.

Training and Education: Donna Walters

Walters reported there was nothing to report.

Trails: Pat Fletcher

Fletcher gave a brief update on the Cohos Trail. He also reported on the need to block out June 2, 2007 for National Trails Day as they need that date for a series of hikes he has planned. They are doing hikes on the entire M-M Trail.

Membership: Deb Levine

Levine reported that all is in place for the March 31, 2007 potluck. She asked that anyone who wants to display should bring their displays to the event. She also asked committee chairs to think about giving a five minute presentation for each of their committees to inspire people to get involved. In addition, she mentioned that we now have a digital projector that would be a good venue for showing visuals that anyone might want to share and that the focus of the visuals should be to create interest. Lastly, Levine and Furtek are working on monthly events throughout the area that might be a good subject for putting into the transitional format for communication that Beatty is going to develop.

Canoe/Kayak: Connie Peterson

Peterson reported that their committee discussed river cleanup on a section of the Deerfield River.

There being no further matters for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M. on a motion by Fletcher, seconded by Beatty, approved unanimously.

The next meeting of the AMC Berkshire Chapter is scheduled for Monday, March 19, 2007.

Patricia A. Stevenson, Secretary