

Appalachian Mountain Club - Berkshire Chapter Executive Committee  
**FINAL REVISED** Minutes of Meeting – October 15, 2007

**Present:** Jon Hanauer, Deb Levine, Pat Fletcher, Jim Pelletier, Ian Beatty, Kelly Druzisky, Bob Napolitano, Rob Robertson, Bob Bergstrom, and Pat Stevenson

**Call to order and acceptance of minutes:** The meeting was called to order at 6:40 P.M. The minutes of September 24, 2007 were presented and read. On a motion by Pelletier, seconded by Beatty, the minutes were approved unanimously with revisions.

**Announcements: Jon Hanauer**

Jon Hanauer made the following announcements:

1. **Friday, January 25, 2008**, there is an open house scheduled at the AMC facility on Joy Street. This an opportunity to tour the facility and meet the AMC staff.
- 2, **Saturday, January 26, 2008**, there is an AMC club-wide summit at the Sheraton Framingham Hotel.

Hanauer also announced the need to address the issue of risk management within our chapter. A discussion ensued and on a motion by Beatty, seconded by Druzisky, the following was approved with one member in opposition:

that the Chapter undertake a comprehensive self audit looking at what are each committees risk management policies and procedures, how consistent are they at being followed, and do they consistently measure up to Joy Street guidelines and/or standards for risk management.

Further discussion followed with recommendations by Board members to:

devote the next meeting to gathering information relative to this topic, develop an ad hoc committee comprised of one designated member from each committee i.e. Conservation, Trails, AT, Outings (Young Members and Training and Education), Mountaineering, and Canoe/Kayak who is knowledgeable about committee guidelines/policies/procedures for risk management, open the meetings of the ad hoc committee to board members.

Prior to undertaking a comprehensive self audit, the Board members recommended that Hanauer contact Roger Scholl at AMC and explain that we are going to assemble an ad hoc committee as noted above for the purpose of collecting relative information with regard to risk management policies/procedures/guidelines and what resources does he have to assist us in this process. It was further recommended by Robertson that Hanauer contact John Tarantino, AMC's insurance broker as he may have some guidelines to share.

**Treasurer's Report: Kelly Druzisky**

Druzisky presented a balance sheet as of October 14, 2007, a 2007 financials report, and a historical spread sheet of budgets for the chapter for calendar years 2003 to 2007. On a motion by Robertson, seconded by Beatty, the treasurer's report was accepted unanimously with revisions to 2007 Budget figures.

#### **New Business:**

##### **Submissions for Chapter Website: Ian Beatty**

Beatty announced that he is stepping down from the Board at the end of 2007. He further announced that Bob Bergstrom and Nancy Gonter-Weld had made some changes in the chapter's website to make it more user friendly. Any problems relative to the website should be reported to them. Beatty went on to inform board members that Nancy is frustrated at the lack of information she is getting that appears in other publications before it is sent to her for posting on our website i.e. Outdoors and Berkshire Exchange. He requested that board members be diligent about submitting information to Nancy in a timely fashion with regard to chapter activities, events, potlucks, announcements, etc. He also requested that Dillman send notices to Nancy of any articles she sends to publications outside of those noted above as Nancy can highlight information from those articles to post on the website. He also recommended that certain documents be archived on the website i.e. Canoe/Kayak newsletter, Berkshire Exchange, and minutes of meetings from calendar year 2007.

##### **Recommendations for volunteer recognition at Big Berkshire Bash: Jon Hanauer**

Hanauer asked that board members send recommendations for volunteers who stand out to be recognized at the Big Berkshire Bash scheduled for November 3, 2007. Levine stated it is important for all members to be aware of the work that volunteers do for our chapter. Hanauer asked that recommendations be emailed to him and Levine.

##### **AMC's Vision 2015: Deb Levine**

Levine presented the AMC Chapters Committee Long-Term Planning Goals to the Board for review and future discussion. These goals came from the Chapters Retreat that was held June 8-10, 2007.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Noble View: Rob Robertson**

Robertson reported that construction of the bath house at Noble View had halted due to the fact that a construction fund loan that was promised by Joy Street and supposed to be available in mid September did not materialize. At present, approximately \$1500 is need to winterize construction that has already occurred to prevent winter damage. Robertson is waiting to hear if a self-help grant is forthcoming that will help to accomplish this.

##### **Appalachian Trail: Jim Pelletier**

Pelletier reported that AT day was a success. There was a good turnout on all hikes but he felt that more work needed to be done to improve the logistics of getting people to the picnic after hikes are completed. He further reported that Sarah Sheehey, AMC's regional coordinator for Western Mass had resigned from her position to pursue other interests.

##### **Berkshire Exchange: Jon Hanauer**

Hanauer reported that all material for the winter Berkshire Exchange needs to be submitted to

him by November 1, 2007.

**Training and Education: Jon Hanauer for Chris Fogarty**

Hanauer announced that seven people were currently signed up for Leadership Training scheduled for October 27 and 28 at Noble View and there is good representation from trip leaders to assist with this training program. He further announced that Fogarty is in the process of developing a bike leaders training program which will be scheduled in April or May of 2008.

**Membership: Deb Levine**

Levine thanked Pat Fletcher for his presentation at the monthly potluck held at the Agawam Public Library on September 26, 2007. She further reported that our chapter membership currently stands at 3,000. Our retention level is as high as other chapters and in some areas we are doing better than other chapters. Levine will have a more detailed report with regard to membership at our next meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn at 8:32 P.M. by Levine, seconded by Fletcher, and approved unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 12, 2007 at 6:30 P.M.

Patricia A. Stevenson, Secretary