Appalachian Mountain Club - Berkshire Chapter Executive Committee
DRAFT Minutes of Meeting - March 24, 2008

Present: Jon Hanauer, Jim Van Natta, Pat Fletcher, Rob Robertson, Deb Levine, Pat Lukas, Bob Napolitano, Bill Fogel, and Pat Stevenson

Guests: Mike Gildesgame, Southern New England Policy Manager for AMC and Matt Moore, Southern New England Regional Trails Coordinator for AMC

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 P.M. Hanauer introduced the guests present. The minutes of February 25, 2008 were reviewed and, on a motion by Napolitano, seconded by Levine, the minutes were approved unanimously with revisions.

Announcements: Jon Hanauer
Hanauer reported that Steve Beauregard is stepping down as chairperson of the Young Members Committee. The position is now vacant.

Treasurer's Report: Jon Hanauer
Druzisky was not present to give one. Hanauer had nothing to report either.

New Business:
1. "Critical Treasures" Guest Mike Gildesgame, Southern New England Policy Manager for AMC was present and asked our chapter to participate in identifying Critical Treasures in Western Massachusetts. The following was taken from an email that Gildesgame had sent which details what he presented at our meeting with regard to identifying Critical Treasures:

2. Mahican-Mohawk Trail: Guest Matt Moore, Southern New England Regional Trails Coordinator for AMC reported that he had attended a meeting regarding the Mahican-Mohawk Trail. The group of individuals who held this meeting are seeking support from the AMC in areas involving trail maintenance and the possibility of its official designation as a trail. The individuals that appear to be interested in this are Paul Jahnige, Peter James, Polly Bartlett, and Sam and Barb~~ob~~ Richardson. There was some discussion about inviting these individuals to one of our chapter meetings. Hanauer agreed to extend this invitation for our next meeting on April 28, 2008. Stevenson agreed to contact Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director for the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) to see if she had any interest in attending a meeting of our chapter. Mike Gildesgame agreed to bring this concept of the AMC's involvement on the Mahican-Mohawk Trail back to Boston to see what their perspective is on this.

3. Volunteers for Club Days at EMS, April 18-19: Deb Levine asked for volunteers to step forward to set up a table representing our chapter at Club Days at EMS scheduled for April 18-19. She and other members of the Executive Committee were not able to do this as they will be attending Spring Gathering at the Cape.

Old Business:
1. Levine asked all executive committee members to bring an appetizer to the March 29, 2008 potluck. She also asked everyone to try and be present by 4 PM to help with setup. In addition, she reminded members to keep their presentations brief and focus on how people can get involved in the

chapter. Lastly, there will be a map of Western Mass available for guests to review to assist in identifying Critical Treasures in Western Mass.

Committee Reports:

Appalachian Trail:

No one present to give a report.

Berkshire County Representative: Jon Hanauer for Jim Wells

Hanauer reported that two people are interested in working with Jim Wells on getting more activities going especially in the area of hiking. Other people may be~~are~~ interested in serving on a Berkshire County Committee.

Berkshire Exchange: Jon Hanauer

Hanauer reported that the deadline for the Spring newsletter is May 5, 2008.

Canoe and Kayak:

No one present to give a report.

Conservation: Pat Lukas

Nothing to report

Membership: Deb Levine

Nothing to report

Mountaineering: Bill Fogel and Jim VanNatta

Both reported that they were still doing indoor climbing but getting ready to start outdoor programs in May. They also reported that Henry Barber would be speaking at Smith on April 5, 2008 and Levine asked if they would ask him to consider being a guest speaker at our Annual Meeting scheduled for November, 2008.

Noble View: Rob Robertson

Nothing to report.

Nominating: Rob Robertson

Robertson reported that he has a lead on getting someone to work on the Trails Committee.

Outings: Bob Napolitano

Napolitano reported that he is working on June, July, and August outings.

Public Relations:

No one present to give a report

Trails: Pat Fletcher

Fletcher had nothing new to report except there is still a lot of snow on the ground.

Training and Education: Chris Fogarty

Hanauer presented the report for Chris Fogarty. Please see attachment 1 for detailed report.

There being no further business, Napolitano motioned to adjourn at 8:25 PM, seconded by Fogel, approved unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 28, 2008 at 6:30 PM in the same location.

Patricia A. Stevenson, Secretary

Attachment 1

Training and Education Update
March, 24, 2008
Prepared by Chris Fogarty

Leader Training, April 5 & 6, 2008

- Currently we have 23 participants enrolled.
- Includes 5 existing leaders re-certing, Dave Conley, Diane Crowell, Pat Stevenson, Jon Hanauer. Lisa Kirkland.
- Jessica Wilson will attend from AMC.
- Existing leaders that attended training to either present, or to introduce themselves to the candidates: Rob Robertson, Deb Levine, Matt Emerson, and Steve Ciras (WOR), Bob Napolitano, John Tu, Joan Griswold (Leader in training), Janice Doubleday, Alan Doty.
- Will offer Alex Kossef's book for purchase at end of training for $5/copy.
- Will supply each leader trainee with a Leader CD's with all current AMC documents on it and a laminated Trailhead talk card.

WOR Chapter Training, March 8 & 9, 2008

- I attended their training held at the YMCA Camp Harrington.
- It was a weekend training, with class work held on Saturday and role plays on Sunday.
- They had very low attendance.

Other Training and Education Notes:

- There are currently not enough active leaders running *weekend* hikes to accommodate those leader trainees needing to complete their co-leads. I'm sure this is because of the lack of hikes run in the winter, but will continue to watch the spring listings and get the word out to all existing leaders to consider leading hikes to help out.
- Leader Appreciation Day, Sunday July 13, 2008, Time and Location TBD – Looking for ideas or recommendations for location, and giveaways.
- I am participating in the Worcester Chapter's 3 season hiking education program. I hope to bring the same type of education to Berkshire Chapter in late '08 with winter hiking program and Spring '09 for 3 season hiking.
- Discussing a Leave No Trace workshop with Alan Doty.
- Alan said he'd like to start an introduction to backpacking course. I will report more as discussions continue.
- Nothing new on Bike Training front, need to work on reducing cost for attendees (cost is over

~$100/attendee through MassBike), location, etc.