

**AMC - Berkshire Chapter Executive Committee
DRAFT Minutes of Meeting - September 17, 2008**

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

Call to order and acceptance of minutes of 7/21/08: The meeting was called to order at 6:45 P.M. Minutes of the meeting held on 7/21/08 were reviewed and, on a motion by Levine, seconded by Fletcher the minutes were accepted unanimously with revisions.

Announcements: Levine

Levine reminded everyone that AT day is Saturday, October 4, 2008.

Treasurer's Report: Hanauer for Druzisky

Hanauer reported that \$32,500 loaned to Noble View had been returned to the Porter Dickinson Fund.

New Business: Hanauer and Levine

Hanauer reported that he had been in communication with Chris Rapacki regarding changes that are on the horizon with regard to how chapters get supplemental financial support. The feeling is that the current system of allocating SDA money is obsolete, so it is under review and yet to be determined how financial assistance will be given to chapters in the future. Hanauer reported that he had advised Rapacki that funding for club-wide travel and training programs for leaders were a high priority for our chapter.

Levine asked that everyone talk up the potlucks that are scheduled as follows:

**Wednesday, October 1, 2008 - A Trip Down Memory Lane
Wednesday, November 5, 2008 - Open House
Wednesday, December 3, 2008 - Yankee Swap**

Levine also reported that current job descriptions for Executive Committee members are outdated and when they are redone in MSWord format they will be sent out to members for review and edits. Levine has drafted an orientation for new board members coming on the Executive Committee.

Old Business: Levine

Levine reported that the current AMC bylaws are being reviewed for changes. She highlighted some of the proposals that are up for discussion and potential change in the proposed AMC bylaws. She asked members to review these carefully and submit recommendations to Hanauer.

Committee Reports:

Berkshire Exchange: Hanauer

The deadline for submitting anything to go into the winter Berkshire Exchange is 11/1/08

Conservation: Lukas

Lukas reported that the Geology Field trip scheduled for Saturday, September 27, 2008 is all set and the van for transport is almost full. If need be, they will use another car. However, there are some costs associated with the trip totaling \$250. Lukas agreed to use the \$200 from Conservation's allocation in the budget toward this expense. It is to be determined where the remaining cost will come from in our current budget.

Mountaineering: Van Natta

Van Natta reported that the Wednesday evening outdoor climbing has ended for this season, and they have scheduled ski/ice climbing for the winter season. They have noticed an increased interest in climbing and are looking at restructuring their training to accommodate a wider range of skills that people are coming in with.

Traning and Education: Hanauer for Fogarty

See attached report submitted by Chris Fogarty to Jon Hanauer.

Website: Hanauer

Hanauer reported that the next meeting of the Website Committee is set for Sunday, October 5, 2008.

Young Members: Levine

Levine reported that she had attended a meeting of the Young Members Committee and can report that there is lots of energy among this group. Also, they are opening up some of the hikes they have scheduled to attract all members.

Trails: Pat Fletcher

Fletcher reported that Mike Gildesgame had informed him that he was looking into what assistance AMC can provide to the group of individuals who are interested in clearing and potentially rerouting sections of the Mahican-Mohawk Trail off Route 2 near Shelburne.

Fletcher has taken over sales of patches for the M-M trail.

Fletcher showed committee members a copy of the M-M Trail Guide to which he had attached a sticker to the cover of this guide. The sticker brings attention to hikers the changes in sections of the trail that are no longer blazed as property owners no longer want hikers to use their land. He is also working with Gildesgame and others to reroute and clear trails in the Quabbin. Lastly, he reported a blowdown on the Mosher shelter in Leverett.

There being no further business, on a motion by Van Natta, seconded by Fogel, and approved unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

The following is the schedule of meetings for the remainder of 2008. All meetings are at the same location and begin at 6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, October 8, 2008
Wednesday, November 19, 2008
Monday, December 15, 2008

Patricia A. Stevenson, Secretary

Training and Education Update

September 17, 2008

Prepared by Chris Fogarty

Leader's Geology Tour, Saturday, September 27, 2008

- ⌚ Pat Lukas has arranged a Leader's Geology Tour lead by MA State Geologist/UMass professor Steve Mabee.
- ⌚ Tour will provide a one day study of the geology of the Pioneer Valley.
- ⌚ Has approximately 8 leaders signed up.
- ⌚ Funded by Conservation Committee and Training and Education Committee.
- ⌚ If this tour is successful, the T&E committee will offer this for \$10-15/pp to the membership in the Spring 2009.
- ⌚ Thanks to Pat for organizing and taking care of registration.

Leader Training, October 25 & 26, 2008

- ⌚ Sharing Noble View with the Worcester Chapter to provide a combined leader training. They didn't have time to get a venue for their fall training. Since our fall training is historically light in attendance I offered to share the Double Cottage with them.
- ⌚ They are providing breakfast and lunches for attendees and dinner for those staying over.
- ⌚ Currently have received payment from 6 Berkshire members. Two confirmed from Worcester. Waiting on payments from 5 total candidates (4 BK and 1 WOR)
- ⌚ Two existing leaders scheduled to recert. (not included in total from above)
- ⌚ Jessica Wilson will attend from AMC.
- ⌚ Existing leaders scheduled to present, or to introduce themselves to the candidates: Rob Robertson, Deb Levine, Jon Hanauer and Diane Furtek. From the Worcester Chapter, Steve Ciras (Vice Chair) and Deb Herlihy (Leadership Chair), Pat Lambert (Hiking Chair) and Gary Fitzgerald (leader trainer/observer from WOR chapter).
- ⌚ Obtained tick identification cards and other brochures from Mass DPH. Will be giving them out at the training.

Next Leader Training, April 2009?

- ⌚ Going to be held at Noble View.

Leader Appreciation Day, Sunday July 13, 2008

- ⌚ Great turn out!!
- ⌚ Financials in line with what we had projected at \$544.00. Largest expense for the day, next to food, was parking at approx ~\$150.
- ⌚ Considering a place that offers free parking next year.

Other Training and Education Notes:

- ⌚ Looking to offer a leader's holiday gathering. This will be held potluck style, at a no-cost venue, sometime in December.
- ⌚ Looking to revisit Bike Leader Training sometime in mid 2009. Still looking for ways to reduce cost and provide comprehensive on-road training.
- ⌚ Would like to discuss feelings about a policy re: cross-training leaders. Some leaders want to be leaders in two activities. Currently no firm policy in place.