

A.M.C. BERKSHIRE CHAPTER
Executive Committee Meeting Agenda
Monday, March 12, 2012

AMC's Mission

The Appalachian Mountain Club promotes the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the mountains, forests, waters, and trails of the Appalachian region. We believe these resources have intrinsic worth and also provide recreational opportunities, spiritual renewal, and ecological and economic health for the region. Because successful conservation depends on active engagement with the outdoors, we encourage people to experience, learn about, and appreciate the natural world.

Present: Pat Fletcher, Sonja Goodwin, Jon Hanauer, Deb Levine, Sarah Long, Dave Sauriol, Connie Peterson, Eric Gove, Paxton Berardy

Call to Order: 6:35 PM

Reading of the AMC Mission: Dave Sauriol

Introductions:

Acceptance of Minutes: Corrections made.

Announcements: None.

Treasurer's Report: (Sonja Goodwin)

Savings - \$11,038.66, Checking - \$14146.51, Total - \$25,185.17

Committee reports

Appalachian Trail: Jim Pelletier

Report sent in: The Committee met March 5th and approved our Project Schedule which will be posted on our web page soon. The new post of Group Use Coordinator was approved and Hank Barton named as the Coordinator. This position will allow us to do a much better job of coordinating groups who use the AT to avoid overcrowding, especially at overnight sites. The Committee also completed discussion on our Self Assessment and I will be writing the results up shortly. UGP Cabin Caretaker schedule has been issued for the season. Representatives of a number of organizations including the Mass AT Committee are moving forward on a Berkshire Trails Center and I hope to have more to report on this in the near future. Lastly, we approved our 2012 Budget and plan to spent ~\$11K this year.

Berkshire County Representative: Vacant

Berkshire Exchange: Jon Hanauer

Spring issue is out. Deadline for submissions for the summer issue is May 1st.

Canoe & Kayak:

Connie Peterson(Whitewater) - Sabine Prather (Quietwater)

Charlie Camp has resigned after many years of paddling contributions and leadership. He has moved to California to be closer to family and will be greatly missed. Tough year for whitewater with hurricane damage and lack of snow this year.

Sabine Prather (Quietwater) - As for Paddling, I prepared a postcard and sent it out to the list of

quietwater paddlers Charlie has, inviting people to sign up for the new listserv/discussion list. We have 24 members so far. I've also prepared an invitation to the listserv to be included in the Ferry Tales newsletter, which Norma Roche was preparing this weekend. I'll use this to announce trips coming up, and others on the list can also contribute. I've inputted all the quietwater trips but one into the AMC database and believe that Jon has approved and posted all of them. So far I'm the only authorized Berkshire quietwater contributor, which does make it easier for Jon. The list of trips will also be in the Ferry Tales newsletter when it comes out. I've attached it for your information.

Conservation: Sabine Prather

I've also posted a conservation-related article on the AMC Berkshire website, with information on the Flower Watch project (which can be done either in the mountains or in the forests of the Pioneer Valley).

Family Programs: Vacant

Membership: Vacant

Mountaineering: Bill Fogel, Sarah Long

Sarah Long reported the next Mountaineering planning meeting will be April 3. The first trip of the season will be March 31 to the Gunks in NY. Lots of classes scheduled.

Noble View: Frank Evans – no report

Nominating: Vacant

Outings: Jon Hanauer

Hike listing in Berkshire continue to lag due to lesser number of hike leaders and trips.

Public Relations: Sabine Prather

For Publicity, I have posted several events on the AMC Facebook Page, and linked the page to several other organizations including ATC, Green Mountain Club, Arcadia, and the UMass Outings Club. If I've missed linking to any that should be included, please let me know. I'm happy to report that this has helped to generate 90 people "liking" the page to date. Upcoming events include the Berkshire Potluck and the upcoming Spring Fling. I'll post the Woostashire Weekend soon. I've also posted the link to the interview for the Brushy Mountain Conservation Project

Trails: Pat Fletcher

Bids for bog bridge came if too high to go forward. Town requires ADA accessibility for all new constructions. Repairs will be made for now.

Training & Education: Eric Gove

Introduction to backpacking and cycling is in full swing with 20 people and 4 trips planned. The April Leadership training is planned for April 21-23 at Noble View and we need more Berkshire signups. The next Leader Training is around Halloween at Noble View.

Website: Bob Bergstrom – no report.

Young Members: Paxton Berardy

A social was held at the N. Hadley Sugar Shack. Paxton attended the Telluride Film Festival and suggests we attend this and other similar ones like in Bamff. YM is looking for additional leaders. Josh Surette will co-lead.

Old Business:

Added training subsidies – Eric Gove presented a suggested set of guidelines for approval and awarding of scholarships for advanced training courses to Berkshire Leaders in good standing (see attached). This will involve application to the T&E chair and XC prior to the course and will require minimum 1 year leadership in area of scholarship. 5 Scholarships of \$200 per year was agreed by the XC.

New business:

1. A new meeting location will be needed for 2013. Upcoming meetings at the current Bay State Conf Center location will be: April 9, May 7 and January 11. (Note May 14 had to be changed to May 7 due to availability of the room).

Adjourned 8:15pm.