

A.M.C. BERKSHIRE CHAPTER
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 7, 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; Connie Peterson; Sabine Prather; Jon Hanauer, Dave Sauriol; Eric Gove; Sarah Long; Gary Forish; Bob Bergstrom.

Call to Order: 6:30 PM

Reading of the AMC Mission Statement: Gary Forish

March meeting Minutes: Accepted with edits.

Announcements:

Treasurer's Report: (Sonja Goodwin)

Savings - \$11,043.33, Checking - \$13,537.83, Total - \$24,581.16

Committee reports

Appalachian Trail: Jim Pelletier

Our project season is well underway and our project schedule has been posted. This year we've started a blog to share info about our activities; see: <http://massatprojects2012.blogspot.com/> if you'd like to take a look. We've been active with youth groups with 2 projects completed with the students at The Academy at Swift River and one more scheduled; and with the students at the Craneville School in Dalton. This Saturday we will assemble a kiosk at the AT's southerly entrance into town with volunteers from the students and their parents. This kiosk as well as the one at the north end of town will be managed by the teachers and students. Our new post of Group Use Coordinator, Hank Barton, has been very busy making contact with known users and following up with new groups we've become aware of. Several group use conflicts have been addressed already. We are exploring a realignment of responsibilities for our Natural Heritage program with the New England Wildflower Society with an initial meeting scheduled later this month. This is the last meeting for us for a bit as we focus on our project work from now until September when we will resume regular meetings.

Berkshire County Representative: Vacant

Berkshire Exchange: Jon Hanauer- Deadline for Summer issue is NOW for June 21 – Sept 30 period. Jon is looking at another publishing house for cost comparison and convenience. Mike Gildesgame was to send Blue Ways article, but has not to date.

Canoe & Kayak: Charlie is now in California. There is a new whitewater leader recently approved. Trips are down significantly due to lack of water (no spring runoff).

Conservation: No Report

Family Programs: Vacant

Membership: Vacant

Mountaineering: Sarah Long – Work day at Chapel Ledges was held April 14th. 3-4 classes have been held so far this season. Wednesday night climbs have started.

Noble View: Gary Forish – Gary gave an overview of Noble View history for the benefit of some newer XC members. 2012 budget is ~\$70,000. They are in need of NV Committee leaders for Treasurer, Trails, Registrar, Naturalist and Website Manager. They would like to raise ~\$110,000 for convert barn to an educational/meeting center. Several XC members suggested a donation from the Berkshire and possibly Worcester chapters to get this started.

Nominating: Vacant

Outings: Jon Hanauer – No interested parties for Outings Chair replacement for Jon yet. Also, there were no responses for Outdoors magazine activities and several weekends have no outings planned.

Public Relations: No Report

Trails: Pat Fletcher

Pioneer Valley Hiking Club made improvements on bog bridge last weekend. There were 17 workers and the kiosk at Rising Corner was established. Chip is working with a local Eagle Scout from Westfield on his service project. Sales of Guidebooks appear to be picking up and there will soon be a new NET website.

Training & Education: Eric Gove

A very successful leadership training took part in April with 18 Berkshire, 3 CT and 1 Worcester trainee. Jon suggested a formal intro of approved leaders to trainees and Eric said that we need better mentoring of the new trainee (lots of co-lead options need to be immediately available to continue the interest level).

Website: Bob Bergstrom – Josh Surette has good graphical interface and guidebooks info. Bob will present revised Berkshire Web Page ideas at next meeting.

Young Members: No Report.

Old Business:

1. Berkshire Bash location set at Summit View.
2. Our last meeting at the Bay State Center will be June 11. July will be held at Noble View on July 9, no meeting in Augusta, and Fall meetings (Sept/Oct) will rotate between XC member locations.

New business:

1. Dave Sauriol provided an overview of the AMC Chapters' Committee Meetings at Cardigan Lodge. The Meetings focused on recruitment, especially in the areas of family, youth and young members.

Adjourned 8:09pm.