

MEETING MINUTES
Appalachian Mountain Club
Hiking/Backpacking Committee
Boston Chapter

3/10/09 at Silvia's gorgeous new house

PRESENT:

Ellen Cullen –Leadership applications
Florrie Johnson - Secretary
Bob Kittredge – Harvard Cabinmaster
Leandra MacLennan – Trip Reporter
Julie Lepage
Kevin McAllister
Gary Schwartz - Webmaster
Mike Swartz - Treasurer
Dan Wiktor – Co-Chair
Silvia Zaharinova – Trip Coordinator
Joyce Horrigan

1) INTRODUCTION WELCOME. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER 7:15 pm by Dan

2) LAST MEETINGS MINUTES accepted

3) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dan did not attend meeting. Continuing issues are re-evaluating Harvard Cabin policies to add a cancellation clause and inviting other committees to our trip planning meeting 4/23 at Joy St.

4) TREASURER'S REPORT – MIKE SWARTZ

We have approximately \$15,000 in the bank. February 09 was \$2,044 in the red.

5) TRIP COORDINATOR'S REPORT – SILVIA

Eight trips are listed for March, so far 4 for April and 4 for May.

Silvia notes that when putting trip listings on line it is important to select the HB Committee from the committee drop down menu. Form should default to HB but apparently this is not always the case. Silvia will look into this.

Leaders can add the [SHP] designation to their trip listings to alert Spring program participants that their trip is appropriate for SHP participants.

6) HARVARD CABIN REPORT – BOB

There were two HC trips in Feb. The above treeline workshop had many participants but apparently was not full. However, it was a successful weekend and all expenses were met.

The Feb HC trip had 8 participants and just broke even, though some leaders did not seek reimbursement for food expenses.

7) TRIP REPORTER'S REPORT – LEANDRA

Leandra handed out the list of recent trips.

She announced that due to her schedule and time commitments she must end her long and productive reign as Trip Reporter. Leandra emphasized she could not give the committee as much attention as it deserved. This was greeted with regret and many thanks for an extremely competent job so well done.

8) WEBMASTER'S REPORT – GARY

HB leaders List and HB Committee addresses have been bouncing. After a certain number of bounces subscribers are automatically discontinued. Gary will raise the threshold of bounce numbers and look into the problem that is causing the bouncing.

SHP material is on website. Dan Westerberg is the on line trip coordinator for SHP. The program was also announced on Views from the Top website, as well as the Boston Chapter Home page.

9) COMMITTEE PROGRAMS

SHP starts April 21st. Program has decided to reserve 30 beds at Cardigan.

Spring SOLO will be in Saugus, May 16-17. It has a few sign ups already and many inquiries.

Spring Leadership Program has many applications in and is ready to roll. Location in CT is the same location Major Excursions Committee has their training.

10) SUBSIDY PROGRAM-Florrie

None this month. Phil included subsidy info in his SOLO info sheet.

11) LEADERSHIP APPLICATIONS – Ellen

Michael Swartz was unanimously voted in as 3 season leader. This will be announced on the HB Leader's List as Footnotes no longer exists to transmit this info.

Ray Caron of the NH Chapter would like to lead for HB. Guided by the precedent set with Erica Bloom, Ellen let him know he would need to do 2-3 co leads with the Boston Chapter. It was decided he would be required to do the regular 3 co leads with an HB leader because he is not yet a Leader in the NH Chapter.

Ellen will follow up with Erica Bloom to inform her she needs to do 2 Co leads with an HB leader.

12) OLD BUSINESS

Mountain Talk - participant discussion forum – for the purpose of encouraging AMC trip participants to chat with each other. Same format as the HB Leader's list. No trip listings or bootlegs allowed on this list by participants or AMC leaders. It was agreed that to start the list a critical mass was needed; the more people on it to start the better chance of the list succeeding.

Gary will set up and configure the group. He will draft a disclaimer/information paragraph for the list and send it to HB Committee for review before going forward with it. Silvia will publish the paragraph after approval to HB announce and all Winter Program Participants, and it will also go to SHP participants, and can be included in all program manuals from this point on.

Various names were discussed and “Mountain Talk”, coined by our own Kevin McAllister, was adopted.

Fall Leadership Program – Ellen and Gina are considering coordinating.

All Leader Campton Weekend – An evite will go out to all committees in early summer. Mountains and Music is also participating. Leaders/CLs are not permitted to bring guests. Let Julie know if you have ideas for activities.

13) NEW BUSINESS

Discussion regarding the inconvenience of having to log in to get to the leader’s area on the HB website to get instructions on posting trips, etc. It was agreed by all that this should be changed. Julie, Silvia & Gary will make the change so that posting instructions and the general leader’s area can be accessed without logging in to the site.

14) NEXT MEETINGS

Tues, April 14 – Casa Kittredge in Newton

Wed May 13 – Official viewing of Ellen Cullen’s new home in Peabody!

Tuesday June 9 – Traditional HB Grill fest at Dan’s in Wakefield

Time Adjourned 8:50

Respectfully Submitted,
Florrie Johnson
HB Secretary