

Minutes: December 2009 Monthly H/B Meeting

As amended at the 1/12/2010 meeting.

Date/Time: Wednesday December 9, 2009

Location: Home of Mohammed Ellozy

Attending: Judy Dillman, Silvia Dubinsky, Stan Dunbar, Mohammed Ellozy, Robert Freed, Phil Jones, Bob Kittredge, Bob Knudsen, Julie LePage, Alex Nedzel, Michael Swartz, Dan Wiktor

Come to order: 7:14pm

New Member: The committee voted to admit Robert Freed as a new member of H/B Committee.

Minutes of prior meeting: The committee voted to approve the minutes from the Nov. 11, 2009 H/B committee meeting.

Committee Elections: The committee voted to elect the following slate as Officers for the 2010 year: Silvia Dubinsky, *Chair*; Alex Nedzel, *Secretary*; Michael Swartz, *Treasurer*; Robert Freed, *Trip Coordinator*. In keeping with tradition, Judy Dillman accepted Silvia's request that she serve as Vice Chair.

Recent Chapter Executive Committee Meeting: Judy reported on the discussion at the December 7 meeting of the Boston Chapter's Executive Committee. There was a long discussion on the subject of improvements for the Chapter website. Any input on the subject should be direct to Gina Adam. The club is working on a simple, standardized website for use by smaller chapters our chapter would continue with its own. The Mountains and Music Committee is planning an April event on the Cape. There was a consensus that H/B should explore the possibility of coordinating with M/M on a Leader Appreciation event -- maybe on the Cape, maybe elsewhere. The Chapter budget was approved, pretty much in harmony with expectations.

Treasurer's Report: Michael reported that the cash balance is up by approximately \$5,000, due principally to Winter Hiking Program tuition payments (84 received, an 85th pending). We have also received payment for 32 out of 35 Cardigan trip participants. We donated \$200 to the Gentle Giant Rowing Club on behalf of Brendan Ward. PayPal is up and running on the website, and thus far, 6 Cardigan payments have been processed via this option, and we're good to go for the Spring Leadership program. Michael noted that money for Leader-reimbursed trips will **not** be collected on the website; participants will continue to reimburse Trip Leaders directly for their planned trip expenses.

Webmaster Report: Julie reported that Dirk Kirschner is in the process of writing trip signup software for H/B.

Fall Wilderness First Aid: Phil reported that we're ready to go. Hotel expenses are running higher this year, and we'll also be providing food for a second instructor.

Winter Hiking Program: Stan asked about the current status of Cardigan's official rescue procedures. Phil reported that any rescue during the WHP trip would be his direct responsibility, but that he was aware of no official procedures for the lodge. Stan reported that when he served as Cardigan Weekend Organizer in the 1990s, he actually implemented such procedures. **Action:** Stan will search his records to see if he can find the 1990s-vintage Cardigan rescue procedures for possible updating and reinstatement.

Lecture series: Julie reported that Michelle Grzenda will present a slideshow next week (Wed. 12/16) on her trip to New Zealand. Sean McKay has volunteered to do a slide show on his winter sail to Greenland in mid-February.

Spring Hiking Program: Bob Knudsen asked the group how far in advance he should pull his committee together to begin preparing for the SHP. The consensus was that a 4-month lead time would be optimal -- i.e., start now. Bob reported that the Cardigan charge will be \$75. **Action:** Prior to posting the SHP on the website, Julie will give Bob the listing from last year so he can update it for 2010 and return it to her for posting.

Spring Leadership Program: Julie reported that Brian Hall is close to committing as leader of the April 2010 SLP. Julie is sharing a list of prospective instructors with him. **Action:** Julie will work to close the leadership deal. **Action:** The soon-to-be-appointed SLP leader needs to pick the program dates and get notice to the H/B leader base.

Mountain Talk: Gary Schwartz has created this new discussion forum for H/B participants on the H/B website, and has invited the H/B committee members to join it and try it out. Julie reported that Kevin McAllister has volunteered to moderate the forum. There was a discussion of potentially unifying HB-Announce, this forum, and the Gear Sale all into a single forum if the software can allow users to be selective as to which components they are interested in. This would allow participants to be fully 'wired' into H/B with a single sign-up.

Winter Social: The reservation is all set for Chef Chang's (1006 Beacon St in Brookline), 6:30-9:30 on Tuesday, January 26. The plan is to start dinner at 7:00. **Action:** Julie will post the event on HB-Announce. **Action:** Phil will enlist Carol Phipps to serve as host (which among other things, entails managing the menu and nametags). **Action:** Silvia, Julie and Ellen Cullen will work up the awards; contact them with nominations.

Harvard Cabin: We incurred a financial loss of \$264 in November. The WHP trip in December may help us recoup these monies. A new electronic keyless entry system has been installed at the cabin for the front door.

Trip Report: Silvia reported that there currently are four trips posted for December, 8 for January, 6 for February, and 3 for March. These do not include most WHP trips. This may prove to be a slightly weaker season a year ago.

Outgoing Officers: The committee expressed its appreciation to Judy, Florrie Johnson, and Silvia for their great 2009 work as President, Secretary, and Trip Coordinator, respectively.

New Business: As incoming Secretary, Alex suggested that it may be a good time for us to review our policies and procedures around gathering and sharing H/B leader contact and status information. **Action:** Alex volunteered to lead this discussion as an agenda item at the January meeting.

Future Meetings:

Tuesday, January 12, 2010 - Bob Knudsen

Tuesday, February 9, 2010 - Ellen Cullen

Tuesday, March 9, 2010 - Bob Kittredge

Adjourn: 8:28 pm

Action Items:

- **Stan** will search his records to see if he can find the 1990s-vintage Cardigan rescue procedures for possible updating and reinstatement.
- Prior to posting the SHP on the website, **Julie** will give **Bob Knudsen** the listing from last year so he can update it for 2010 and return it her for posting.
- **Julie** will work to close the leadership deal.
- The **soon-to-be-appointed SLP leader** needs to pick the program dates and get notice to the H/B leader base.
- **Julie** will post the Winter Social on HB-Announce.
- **Phil** will enlist Carol Phipps to serve as host for the Winter Social.
- **Silvia, Julie,** and **Ellen Cullen** will handle the awards to be given at the Winter Social; contact them with nominations.
- **Alex** will structure and lead a discussion of policies and procedures for gathering and sharing H/B leader contact and status information.

Alex Nedzel

12/16/2009