

## Minutes: March 2010 Monthly H/B Meeting

**Date/Time:** Tuesday March 9, 2010

**Location:** Home of Bob Kittredge

**Attending:** Bob Asch, Doug Burbo, Silvia Dubinsky, Stan Dunbar, Robert Freed, Brian Glenn, Bryan Hall, Joyce Horrigan, Bob Kittredge, Bob Knudsen, Kevin McAllister, Alex Nedzel, Gary Schwartz, Michael Swartz, Dan Wiktor

**Come to order:** 7:03pm

**Guest Speaker - Brad Washburn Climb:** Doug Burbo, a Senior Development Officer from the Museum of Science, updated us on plans for the 4th annual Brad Washburn climb of Mt. Washington, and invited our committee's help both in getting the word out and in helping to pull off the event. Mike Thonis, one of the museum's Overseers, conceptualized the climb as a fundraiser in honor of Brad Washburn's legacy. Participants commit \$1,000 in support of a single climb, \$2,000 for a double climb - and this year, Mike is attempting a triple climb. Tracy Wilmot from the museum is managing the event.

The event takes place on Monday, July 12. Doug is looking for six WFA-trained volunteers to man key checkpoints, and is offering free Sunday and Monday night lodging, with dinner on Monday night. In the course of the discussion, Robert pointed out that solid radio-based coordination up and over both sides of the ridge would not be possible without employing repeaters, and offered to consult on the matter with the museum's team. For anyone who is interested in helping with any aspect of the event, Doug can be reached at [dburbo@mos.org](mailto:dburbo@mos.org), or 617-589-0233.

**Minutes of prior meeting:** The minutes from the February 9, 2010 H/B Committee meeting were approved.

**March Chapter Executive Committee Meeting:** Bob Kittredge attended, and reported that:

- We need an H/B representative to the Sustainability Committee, which is tasked with fostering continuity of the smaller AMC chapters, and possibly involving some redistribution of funds.
- The status of the communications/member involvement effort was also discussed.
- A Chapters Retreat is being planned, to focus on topics such as:
  - Establishing club priorities
  - How do we reach out to members and keep them engaged?
  - How do we recruit members to participate in chapter executive committees?

**Treasurer's Report:** Michael reported that we spent \$3,000 more than we took in. A few WHP (Winter Hiking Program) expenses are still outstanding. SLP rental costs (Friendly Crossings) have been paid for. Mike reminded the group that he will be on vacation from mid-April to mid-May, and that Joyce will be handling reimbursements during that period.

**Trips:** Robert reported that 20 trips are outstanding through June, although there are currently only two June trips. With encouragement from the group, Robert agreed to put out an HB Announce listing of upcoming trips twice each month. He'll then see how it goes.

**Trip Reports:** Joyce reported an average group size of 10 amid 13 January trips and 10 February trips (some of the WHP trips are not included in these numbers).

**Harvard Cabin:** Bob Kittredge reported that the Above Tree Line Workshop came off last weekend, but as of now he has no further details from Bob Moore. The next formally-booked H/B event at the cabin is the Map and Compass Workshop in September. Mike Seward (Ski Committee) has the cabin for the weekend of March 20, along with our 7-person AIARE/I course group.

**Webmaster Report:** Gary reported that the new trip sign-up system is now installed on the H/B website, and is in sync with our listings. It will be integrated with PayPal in order to verify payments for registrars. Alex, Brian, Julie and Sylvia volunteered to be beta/power users.

We're ready to roll with the *Mountain Talk* e-list. **Action:** Gary will roll out *Mountain Talk* this weekend (March 14/15). As a side note, Gary reported that we're now using 300MB of our 500MB allocation of storage space on the server.

**Wilderness First Aid:** Matt Pearson has stepped up to be the coordinator, subject to the limitation that he will not be able to attend our H/B meetings and hence will need to report indirectly. Brian suggested that we discuss a possible WFA requirement for leaders at our next meeting.

**Lecture series:** Through Silvia, Julie reported that 20 people attended the latest lecture despite a stormy day.

**Spring Hiking Program:** Bob Knudsen reported that the next planning meeting will take place on April 6, at Mark Warren's house. Two lectures still need to be filled (nutrition, map & compass), but Bob feels as though things are in good shape. 10-15 participants are already registered.

**Spring Leadership Program:** Bryan Hall reported that 22 people are signed up, and 12 have paid. Two more spots are available. There will be 9 faculty - Bryan, Claudine Kos, Dave Metsky, Reggie Jones, Matt Pearson, Gail Ferreira, Jim Schroeder, Mike Seward, and \_\_\_\_\_. The program takes place the evenings of 4/6 and 4/13 at Joy Street, and then 4/23-25 at Friendly Crossings in Harvard. There is a definite need to have stronger institutionalization/documentation of the program -- perhaps with H/B taking the lead for the spring, and Young Members in the fall.

**Leader Applications:** Ellen presented an application from Alex Nedzel to become a Winter Leader. The committee voted to approve the application.

**Policy on Disseminating Leader Contact Information:** The group discussed the desired content, medium, and distribution frequency of H/B leader contact and status information. The consensus was:

- In the leader info that we share, continue to include name, address, home/cell/work phone number, and e-mail address. Also continue to include current status (co/three/winter) of each individual. People who have not led/co-led trips within two years of the current date (i.e., inactive) will not be included.
- To the H/B leader list, distribute the information as a secure, non-copy/paste-able PDF file. In addition to this, H/B Committee members will receive the source Excel file.
- Increase the distribution frequency to quarterly -- corresponding to the window of time immediately prior to each of the seasonal trip planning meetings.

**Action:** To kick off this schedule, Gary will release an April edition of the leader contact info. Also, Gary will go review what he does with Alex, with an eye toward offloading some of the workload.

In the course of discussing leader status, a conversation started around what length of inactivity constitutes the threshold of being considered inactive -- and then what happens? The group agreed to take this up at a future meeting

**Holt Trail:** Bob Knudsen reported that the Holt Trail Subcommittee plans to present its recommendations to the H/B Committee at the September meeting after observing the trail first hand and gathering further perspective from people as needed. **Action:** The subcommittee (Bob, Stan and Mike) will conduct its task, and prepare to present its report at the September H/B Committee meeting.

**Monthly Newsletter to H/B Leaders:** Robert currently does a periodical e-note with trip coordinator-related tidbits, and Silvia has agreed to initiate an e-newsletter of more general interest to H/B leaders. **Action:** e-mail Silvia with ideas for content.

**Passings:** Two people of H/B note -- Bob Weker and Janice Eiden's (SLP) mother -- passed away recently. The committee approved a memorial expenditure of \$75 for each. **Action:** On behalf of the committee, Silvia and Gary will coordinate on these remembrances.

#### **Agenda Items for Future Meetings:**

- Discuss establishing a requirement that H/B leaders take the WFA program - **March meeting**
- Report of Holt Trail Subcommittee - **September meeting**
- Designation and handling of inactive leaders - **Future meeting TBD**

#### **Future Meetings:**

Tuesday, April 13, 2010 - Judy Dillman

Tuesday, May 11, 2010 - Florrie Johnson

Tuesday, June 8, 2010 - Dan Wiktor

**Adjourn:** 8:55 pm

#### **Recap of Action Items:**

- The Holt Trail Subcommittee (**Bob Knudsen, Stan and Mike**) will complete its observations and analysis and prepare to present its recommendations at the September H/B meeting.
- **Gary** will roll out *Mountain Talk* this weekend (3/14-15), and will release an April edition of the leader contact info. Also, Gary will go review what he does with Alex, with an eye toward offloading some of the workload.
- **All** - E-mail Silvia with ideas for leader newsletter content.
- **Silvia and Gary** will coordinate on memorial remembrances for Bob Weker and Janice Eiden's mother.

Alex Nedzel