Hiking/Backpacking Committee - Boston Chapter, Appalachian Mountain Club

Minutes: June 2010 Monthly H/B Meeting

Date/Time: Tuesday June 8, 2010

Location: Home of Dan Wiktor

Attending: Bob Asch, Dave Conna (guest), Judy Dillman, Silvia Dubinsky, Stan Dunbar, Robert Freed, Brian Glenn, Joyce Horrigan, Florrie Johnson, Bob Kittredge, John Lisker (guest), Kevin McAllister, Alex Nedzel, Gary Schwartz, Michael Swartz, Dan Wiktor.

Come to order: 7:19pm

Minutes of prior meeting: The minutes from the May 12, 2010 H/B Committee meeting were approved.

Leader WFA Requirement - Follow-Up Discussion:

Gary: Aaron Gorban (AMC manager of leader training and risk management) is floating the idea
of spending some of his AMC time to the creation of an on-line self study module to review the
content aspects of WFA, as well as designing a live program to present WFA renewal candidates
with emergency scenarios.

Action: Silvia will follow up with Aaron.

Action: Let Gary know if you can help with either or both aspects of the program.

- Bob Asch: WFA refresher training is important. We should be able to do this on bad hiking weekends.
- There were short discussions of the idea of grandfathering senior leaders out of the new requirement, and of the contrasts between AMC trips and Meetup trips.
- **Action:** Alex will incorporate the new policy into the H/B Rules document and present it for the necessary votes at future meetings.

May Boston Chapter Executive Committee Meeting:

- Paul Dale is looking for a candidate to fill a vacancy on the Membership Committee.
- Claudine Kos is looking for instructors for the Fall Leadership Program.
- Brenda Conaway presented a screen shot of the new Boston Chapter website homepage.
- Roger Scholl (AMC staffer) is looking to create incentives for leaders to plan trips that utilize the AMC lodges and huts. *Action:* Robert and Silvia will team up for an e-mail to the leader group.

Treasurer: Michael reported that:

- The checking account balance as of May 31 of \$13,136.08, after a net debit since February 28 of \$2520.03. The two principal deficit components were subsidies of an avalanche AIARE-1 program recently completed by 7 leaders and co-leaders, and the Spring Leadership Program.
- We will be receiving some Chapter money back for the avalanche training.
- Michael is now in receipt of 102 checks for the Spring Hiking Program, 16 from the SHP Cardigan weekend, and 14 from the Spring Leadership Program.

Trip Coordinator: Robert reported that for June through August, we currently have 45 posted trips and programs, vs. 45 done in 2009. Note, though, that we will likely get a number of additional postings, especially for July and August.

Trip Reports: Joyce reported on trip reports from 48 trips, January through May.

Harvard Cabin: Bob Kittredge reported that the next H/B engagement at the cabin is Joe Comuzzi's Map and Compass program in late September.

Webmaster Report: Gary reported that:

- The new trip reservation system will be released to power users over the next couple of weeks.
- Gary can give additional people access to the H/B website to help keep it current.
- The Mountain Talk e-letter is almost ready.

Wilderness First Aid: Silvia reported that Matt is planning a WFA program for September at Joy Street.

Spring Hiking Program: Kevin reported that there were a record number of participants in this year's SHP. Kevin had tried marketing through various meet-up organizations and believes this was partly responsible for the high turnout. The co-leader corps was great.

Leader Subsidies: Florrie reported that:

- Some Avalanche training participants and WFA participants have not yet applied for their reimbursements.
- Florrie will be leaving the H/B Committee. Kevin McAllister will succeed her as Leader Subsidy Coordinator.
- Item for next meeting: Discuss adding co-leaders to the Leader list automatically, as well as assigning them mentors.

Leader Applications: Silvia presented applications for Three-Season Leader from Steve Cohen and Joyce Horrigan. Both were approved. Congratulations to Steve and Joyce!

Summer Social: John Lisker will be running this year's Leader/Co-Leader appreciation event. It will take place at Campton Campground over the weekend of August 27-29. After various activities on Saturday, there will be pot luck dinner.

Subsidy Coordinator: Starting in September, will need a new Subsidy Coordinator to succeed Florrie. Good leads should get passed to Silvia.

H/B Rules Document: Alex reported that the H/B Rules document has not been updated since the year 2000. Since then, the Committee has approved various policy changes. *Action:* Gary will scrounge up all meeting minutes from the year 2000 for Alex to review. *Action:* Alex will identify all policy changes made by the Committee since the year 2000, and present the committee with an updated H/B Rules document for approval.

Agenda Items for Future Meetings:

- Report of Holt Trail Subcommittee September meeting
- Discuss adding co-leaders to the Leader list automatically, and assigning them mentors (Kevin) September meeting
- Incorporate the new WFA policy into the H/B Rules (Alex) September and October meetings
- Update the H/B Rules to reflect policy changes since 2000 (Alex) Future meetings TBD

Future Meetings:

- Tuesday, September 14, 2010 Alex Nedzel
- Tuesday, October 12,2010 Bob Kittredge

Adjourn: 9:05 pm

Recap of Action Items:

- **Silvia** will follow up with Aaron to learn what he can offer us toward the development of an appealing WFA recertification program.
- All: Let Gary know if you'd like to help with development of the WFA recertification program.
- **Alex** will incorporate the new WFA policy into the H/B Rules document and present it for the necessary votes at future meetings.
- **Robert** and **Silvia** will team up for an e-mail to the leader group about doing trips that utilize the AMC's lodges and huts.
- Gary will scrounge up the meeting minutes from the year 2000 onward for Alex to review.
- **Alex** will identify all policy changes made by the Committee since the year 2000, and present the committee with an updated H/B Rules document for approval.

Alex Nedzel Approved 9/14/2010