

Hiking/Backpacking Committee – Boston Chapter, Appalachian Mountain Club

Minutes: April 2012 Monthly H/B Meeting

Date/Time: Wednesday, April 11, 2012

Location: North Andover – home of Carl Gustenhoven

Attending: Michael Swartz (Chair), Bob Asch, Jeff Carlson, Stephen Conlin, Robert Freed, Carl Gustenhoven, Bob Kittredge, Julie LePage, Joyce Horrigan, Alex Nedzel, Bob Knudsen and Dan Wiktor. Fred Smith joined as a guest

Come to order: 7:00pm

Minutes of prior meeting: Minutes from the March 14, 2012 H/B meeting were approved.

Boston Chapter Executive Committee Meeting: It was reported that:

- It is advisable for Committees to clear their PayPal accounts at the end of the year to make accounting easier.
- Committee bank accounts need to have the AMC CFO, controller, and Roger Scholl as signatories.
- Paul Dale can do email blasts to all Boston Chapter members once per month, and we is willing to send messages from committees when appropriate.
- Julie LePage gave a presentation on REGI. Paul Dale is open to investing in and enhancing REGI.
- A new editor of the MUD has been selected.
- ExecCom wants to build up a surplus in the Harvard Cabin account to cover future maintenance costs.
- Each committee is expected to deliver a current leader list (including new co-leaders) to ExecCom by May.

Treasurer: Joyce reported that the Committee has approximately \$22,000 in its account and reviewed expenses for the month.

Trip Coordinator: Robert reported that:

- There were 11 trips in March.
- There are 6 trips scheduled for April, 9 trips scheduled for May and 11 trips scheduled for June.

The committee briefly discussed whether it would be advisable to send HB Announce more frequently than twice per month.

Harvard Cabin: Bob Kittredge reported that there was 1 trip in March (the second Above Treeline Workshop), which had a \$127 profit. The next trip is scheduled for September (Map and Compass). Bob will consider and report back to the committee with a recommendation on whether H/B should contribute toward Harvard Cabin maintenance.

Trip Reporter: Yorghos reported via email that there were 10 activities in April – 7 regular trips, 2 WHP trips and 1 slideshow. He has 7 reports and still needs 3.

Webmaster Report: Julie reported that Surya is helping with updates to the H/B web site and she is helping on SHP web work.

Winter Hiking Program: No report.

Wilderness First Aid (WFA): Jeff reported that:

- The course scheduled for May may be pushed back to June.
- He is scheduling 2 courses for the Fall.
- He has not been successful trying to arrange an instructor for a ½ day refresher course. SOLO would need to authorize the instructor to do the course and they have been unwilling to do so.

The Committee discussed whether and how to police the WFA requirement, and also discussed whether to continue the WFA requirement. It was noted that at the time the requirement was adopted, the Committee agreed to revisit it after one year to see how it was working, and the Committee decided to review the requirement at the next meeting.

Slide Show: Julie reported that:

- Joan and Cliff Chambers presented in April.
- A slideshow is scheduled for next month, then there is a Summer break.

Julie said that most H/B leaders who have presented slideshows have turned down the honoraria. She suggested that the standard honoraria be reduced to \$50 and the Committee agreed.

Spring Hiking Program: Bob Knudsen reported that:

- 80 people are enrolled with 12 pending.
- Cardigan is reserved for up to 30 people on May 18-20.

Leadership Issues: Alex led the Committee in a discussion of the criteria for deciding who is an active leader, and the Committee decided that the criteria should not be overly stringent. The Committee also discussed whether the H/B leaders listserv should be limited to H/B leaders. Alex reported that there are now approximately 80 people on the listserv who do not appear to be H/B leaders. The Committee will consider the issue at a future meeting after having a better understanding of whether those people have a legitimate reason for being on the listserv.

Leader Applications: Bob Asch presented 3-Season Leader applications from Phillip Werner and Jeff Carlson, which the committee approved. (Jeff left the meeting during the discussion and vote and returned after the vote.) Bob also presented 4-Season Leader applications from Carl Gustenhoven and Brian Andresen, which the committee approved. (Carl left the meeting during the discussion and vote and returned after the vote.)

Spring Leadership Program: Stephen reported that the program is going well.

Next Meetings:

- Wednesday, May 9, at the home of Robert Freed
- Tuesday, June 12, location TBD (possible at the home of Dan Wiktor).

Adjourn: approximately 9:15 pm