

Hiking/Backpacking Committee – Boston Chapter, Appalachian Mountain Club

Minutes: May 2012 Monthly H/B Meeting

Date/Time: Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Location: Cambridge – home of Robert Freed

Attending: Alex Nedzel (Vice Chair), Bob Asch, Jeff Carlson, Stephen Conlin, Robert Freed, Carl Gustenhoven, Bob Kittredge, Julie LePage, Joyce Horrigan, Bob Knudsen, Abby Driscoll, Dan Wiktor, Stan Dunbar, and Yorghos Tripodis. Fred Smith and Galen Wilkerson joined as guests.

Come to order: 7:00pm

Minutes of prior meeting: Minutes from the April 11, 2012 H/B meeting were approved.

Boston Chapter Executive Committee Meeting: Bob Kittredge reported that:

- The Club has professionally managed investment accounts and committees can deposit excess funds there if they want. Joyce will look into it and report back.
- Committees are required to deliver a current leader list by May 22.
- A chapters retreat was held on May 5-6. There was discussion on how the Club can get more young members and families involved, and what more can the Club do about conservation. The committee discussed various approaches, such as joint activities with outing clubs at schools and colleges.

Treasurer: Joyce reported that the Committee has approximately \$20,000 in its account and reviewed expenses for the month. She said that there are some cases in which we have received program income but not yet recognized the expense.

Trip Coordinator: Robert reported that:

- There were lots of trips scheduled.
- The trip planning meeting was a great success.
- He will enter new co-leaders into the trip posting system.

Harvard Cabin: Bob Kittredge reported that there was no activity in April. He also summarized activity and financial results for the past several years. For some years the committee lost money on Harvard Cabin (up to \$1,000) and in others it made money. Over the past 5 years, the committee is ahead by \$600 in the aggregate. He said he therefore thinks that pricing for Harvard Cabin is at the right level.

Trip Reporter: Yorghos reported that some leaders did not know that they needed to report trips outside of the White Mountains. The committee discussed that it would be desirable to have REGI automatically send a reminder 1 week after each trip.

Webmaster and REGI Report: Julie reported that:

- Web updates for the SHP are going well.
- She needs to have access to web hosting account information in case the system goes down.
- She will update REGI to add new co-leaders.

- She met with Club staff at Joy Street regarding REGI. They are interested in taking over REGI, but will not be able to get to it until 2013.

Winter Hiking Program: Abby reported that she will start gearing up in late Summer.

Wilderness First Aid (WFA): Jeff reported that he needed to cancel the May WFA class. He also discussed recruitment for the Executive Committee.

Slide Show: Julie reported that Chris Petrini will present a slideshow on trekking in Nepal, which will be the last slideshow of the year.

Spring Hiking Program: Bob Knudsen reported that:

- 115 people are enrolled in the program.
- There has been good participation on trips, with 41 on a Welsh/Dickey trip.
- 40 people are signed up for Cardigan.

Leader Applications: Bob Asch presented 3-Season Leader application from Rokhand Arvan, which the committee approved.

WFA Requirement: Alex led a discussion of the process to assess the WFA requirement. He stated that when the requirement was first put in place, it was agreed that the committee would re-evaluate how the requirement was working after a period of time, and that it was time for the committee to do so. The committee discussed how to go about completing such a re-evaluation and what information it would be helpful for the committee to have when making a decision. Some items mentioned were: are we losing leaders because of the requirement, and how many; do leaders think that the WFA requirement is a good idea; how would it be best to poll the views of leaders; what questions should we ask them; does having a WFA requirement matter to participants; does it lead to better results; how do others address WFA; and how do others police a WFA requirement. The committee agreed that Alex should organize an ad hoc subcommittee to consider this further and report back to the committee at a future meeting.

Next Meetings:

- Tuesday, June 12, at the home of Dan Wiktor
- Tuesday, September 11, 2012, location TBD
- Tuesday, October 9, 2012, location TBD

Adjourn: approximately 9:15 pm