

Hiking/Backpacking Committee – Boston Chapter, Appalachian Mountain Club

Minutes: October 2012 Monthly H/B Meeting

Date/Time: Tuesday, October 9, 2012

Location: North Andover – home of Carl Gustenhoven

Attending: Michael Swartz, Alex Nedzel, Jeff Carlson, Stephen Conlin, Carl Gustenhoven, Bob Kittredge, Fred Smith and Stan Dunbar. Paul Terenzi joined as a guest.

Come to order: 7:00 pm

Minutes of prior meeting: Minutes from the September 11, 2012 H/B meeting were approved, with the correction that the first sentence under the section for Boston Chapter Executive Committee Meeting be changed to read as follows: "Michael Swartz reported that the Exec Committee voted to distribute \$40,000 to the Harvard Cabin Committee for addition the HCC's capital reserve fund."

Boston Chapter Executive Committee Meeting: Bob reported that:

- The Ski Committee is organizing a trip planning meeting for Wednesday, September 14, 2012.
- Paul Dale reminded all activity committees that all officers must have a three year term limit.
- Exec Comm is accepting nominations for officers of Exec Comm.
- Paul Dale reminded each activity committee that it must submit an annual report.

Bob also reported that Exec Comm requested that H/B contribute \$3,000 to the Harvard Cabin Committee for the HCC's capital reserve fund. H/B runs approximately 6-7 trips per year from Harvard Cabin, and Ski and Mountaineering do approximately 4 or 5. Members of the Committee discussed the request and whether the HCC had a need for the money. Several members suggested that the Committee decline Exec Comm's request for now and reconsider when the need arises. Bob made a motion that the Committee contribute \$3,000 to the HCC for the HCC's capital reserve fund, but the motion was rejected.

Treasurer's Report: Delayed until next meeting.

Trip Coordinator: Carl gave a brief summary of the number of listed trips.

Harvard Cabin: Bob reported that:

- Joe Comuzzi did the map and compass workshop and made \$430.
- Judy Dillman is leading the October program and it is full. She is also leading November.

Trip Reporter: Delayed until next meeting.

Webmaster Report: Delayed until next meeting.

Winter Hiking Program: Fred reported on plans for the Winter Hiking Program. He said 55 participants are enrolled and paid, and another 13 have signed up. The Cardigan weekend is fully staffed with 10 leaders and 10 co-leaders, and there are 19 trips associated with the program. He discussed the problem of participants signing up for too many trips and discussed limiting the number of trips that

each participant can sign up for, so that each participant will get to go on at least some trips. The Committee acknowledged the problem and discussed several different approaches. Ultimately, the Committee delegated to Fred authority to implement whatever procedures he thought would be appropriate to address the issue.

Wilderness First Aid: Jeff reported that a WFA program is scheduled for November 10-11 and is not yet filled up. He had not been able to make any progress with SOLO or other instructors on a half-day course.

Leader Applications: No applications.

Leadership Issues: Alex gave an update on the Pro Deals opportunity. He suggested that Pro Deals be made available to full leaders (either 3-season or 4-season, but not co-leaders) who have led or co-lead 3 trips/programs over the past 12 months, in one of which he or she was the primary leader (or alternatively, 6 trips/programs over the past 24 months, in two of which he or she was the primary leader). This would apply to any AMC trip or program and not be limited to H/B events. Philip Werner would serve as administrator of the program and assign login information to eligible leaders. After discussion, the Committee voted to approve Alex's recommendation (with Jeff and Stan abstaining).

Alex then presented the Committee with a number of questions relative to eligibility for leader status, as follows:

- Can co-leading Winter trips count toward 3-season leader status? Alex suggested that at least 2 of the 3 co-leads required for 3-season leader status be in 3-seasons. The Committee agreed.
- Do trips with Winter conditions that are held outside of calendar Winter count toward 4-season leader status? The Committee determined that if the trip was organized as a "Winter" trip and experiences "Winter" conditions (in the judgment of the 4-season leader on the trip), it counts as a 4-season trip for purposes of a 4-season leader application regardless of where the trip falls on the calendar.
- Does a trip held in calendar Winter that does not experience Winter conditions count toward 4-season leader status? The Committee determined that such a trip would not count as a 4-season trip.
- Does it matter when WFA is taken by a co-leader? The committee determined that WFA may be taken in any order with co-leads. All that matters is that the person is WFA certified when he or she applies for 3-season leadership status.
- Can co-leading Winter trips while a co-leader count toward a 4-season leadership application. The Committee determined that an applicant must complete at least three Winter co-leads after becoming a 3-season leader in order to apply to become a 4-season leader, and that Winter co-leads (while a co-leader) cannot count toward 4-season leadership status.
- Can some of the required trips for 3-season leader or 4-season leader be with the same person. The current rule is that an applicant must have 3 trips with at least 2 different leaders. The Committee determined to change the rule and require that an applicant have at least 3 trips with 3 different leaders for each of 3-season leader and 4-season leader status.

Next Meetings:

- Tuesday, November 20, 2012, at the home of Alex Nedzel
- December meeting at the home of Fred Smith and January meeting at home of Bob Knudsen

Adjourn: approximately 9:00 pm