Hiking/Backpacking Committee – Boston Chapter, Appalachian Mountain Club

Minutes: March 2013 Monthly H/B Meeting

Date/Time: Tuesday, March 12, 2013

Location: c/o Michael Swartz at Brandeis University, Waltham

Attending: Michael Swartz, Alex Nedzel, Bob Asch, Jeff Carlson, Stan Dunbar, Robert Freed, Carl Gustenhoven, Bob Knudsen, Fred Smith, Paul Terenzi, Philip Werner, and Anne Jarek as a guest

Come to order: 7:00 pm

Minutes of prior meeting: Minutes from the February 2012 H/B meeting were approved.

Boston Chapter Executive Committee Meeting: Jeff (and Bob Kittredge via e-mail) reported that:

- Jeff needs guide card quantities from the Boston activity committees by March 13. *Action:* Michael will touch base with Dan Wiktor (the H/B Guide Card coordinator) and get a number to Jeff.
- •H/B hosted the chapter's second broad-participant-invite social event in Concord. Michael presented and was well-received. Approximately 70 people attended, and the SHP landed at least two participants from the group.
- Boston is considering a Youth Committee, which would team up with groups such as the Scouts. CPR training and CORI checks would be required of all leaders interested in helping.

Trip Coordinator: Robert reported that:

- We currently have 44 trips done or on the books for Jan-May 2013, compared with 52 trips for the same period in 2012. However, there are now only 8 trips on the books for April and May--this number will grow, likely by more than 8.
- •Slide show, Harvard Cabin, and program numbers also are roughly comparable to the same period last year.

Harvard Cabin: Via e-mail, Bob Kittredge reported that Above Treeline Workshops were run out of the cabin on Feb 22-24 and Mar 8-10. He has not received their reports yet.

Winter Hiking Program: *Action:* Fred and Joyce will prepare a financial report for the 2012-13 program after its final paid trip (Carter Notch) take place.

Wilderness First Aid (WFA): Jeff reported that for the near future, he is steering people to a late March program hosted by the Harvard Outing Club, and an early April program hosted in Allston by the International German School.

Slideshows: Julie reported via e-mail that:

- We had a great turnout for the "Four More Feet" movie screening last month about 85 in all.
- Another slideshow will run this Thursday.
- Julie will do one more show in April, take the summer off, and start up again in the fall.

Spring Hiking Program: Bob Knudsen reported that:

- White Mountain Guides have been ordered, and are due at 5 Joy Street this week.
- Trip pages for the SHP Manual are due next Thursday3/14.
- •The SHP manual will be submitted to the printer on Friday 3/15.
- 62 participants have registered, with 49 currently approved.
- •We are limiting the number of program-related hikes to 18.
- All 2012 presentation files will be in the hands of this year's presenters for editing by next week.
- Final SHP trip info will be forwarded for includsion on the website by 3/29.
- Bob will send an e-mail with the SHP trip list to the hb-leaders list, asking co-leaders to respond to the leader(s) involved if they are interested in co-leading one or more of the trips.

Spring Leadership Program: On behalf of Stephen, Michael reported that 32 participants are currently registered for the program, and there has been good leader interest in joining Gail Ferreira to teach the program.

Leader Applications: None.

Leader Appreciation Night:

- Robert reported that Stephen is serving as the subcommittee's facilitator.
- The committee approved a \$1500 budget for catering at The Burren (which would be automatically increased if attendance warrants), and a \$400 budget for recognition prizes.
- •The subcommittee is thinking of recognizing all leaders who ran 10 or more trips/programs last year, which on preliminary research appears to included 4 individuals: Joe Comuzzi, Alex Nedzel, Brian Glenn, and Julie LePage. Alex strongly encouraged the subcommittee to set the threshold be set lower, say to 6, so as to be much more inclusive.

Treasurer: Joyce reported that before factoring in training subsidies from the chapter, H/B ran a \$1268 deficit for 2012. Inclusive of the chapter subsidies, we ran approximately a \$2000 surplus.

WMNF Guide Cards and associated rules:

- Of late, varying interpretations of what the WMNF rules are for leading AMC trips in the Forest. For example, it is being asserted that we are limited to a group size of 10 not only in wilderness areas, but in all areas in the WMNF.
- Action: Jeff will talk with Jess Wilson (the AMC staffer who interfaces with the WMNF) and verify (1) what ARE the WMNF's rules relating to groups, and (2) how, if at all, do the rules for AMC Guide Cardholders differ from the rules for groups in general? He will share what he learns with Michael.

Next Meetings:

- Tuesday, April 9, at the home of Stephen Conlin, Belmont
- Wednesday, May 15,, at the home of Bob Kittredge, Newton
- Tuesday, June 11, at the home of Dan Wiktor, Wakefield
- •Tuesday, September 10, at the home of Alex Nedzel, Lexington
- •Tuesday, October 8, at the home of Carl Gustenhoven, North Andover

Adjourn: 8:00 pm