

Hiking/Backpacking Committee – Boston Chapter, Appalachian Mountain Club

## Minutes: January 2014 Monthly H/B Meeting

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, January 13, 2014

**Location:** Brandeis University – host, Michael Swartz

**Attending:** Michael Swartz (Chair), Fred Smith, Philip Wexler, Stephen Conlin, Bob Asch, Bob Knudsen, Julie LePage, Paul Terenzi, Robert Freed, Jeff Carlson, Bob Kittredge, Keith Watling, Faith Pulis and Anne Jarek.

**Come to order:** 7:00 pm

### **Minutes of prior meeting:**

Previously Circulated draft Minutes for the December 11, 2013 H/B meeting were approved with the following corrections:

- Chair Michael Swartz), Secretary (Faith Pulis), Treasurer (Philip Werner) and Trip Coordinator (Carl Gustenhoven) nominations were approved by the Committee
- Asst. Treasurer (Joyce Horrigan), Asst. Trip Coordinator (Robert Freed) were appointed by the Chair
- Vice Chair election postponed to January

### **Boston Chapter Executive Committee Meeting:**

- Effective 9/1/14, MUD will be distributed quarterly and will content based (not focused on trip listings). They are currently looking for writers and photographers.
- Effective 4/1/14, Boston Chapter will post a .pdf of all chapter trips. This will be updated semi-monthly.
- Leadership Training Program will be migrating from HB back to Boston Chapter. Goal is to streamline leadership levels within the chapter and across committees. Consideration is also being given for a one day course for other chapter activities (i.e. local walks) who are looking for less comprehensive course.
- \$26k surplus. Chapter is looking for recommendations for Cap Ex. Bring ideas to HB for discussion.

**Membership Committee:** Next Wednesday Social will be 1/15 in Winchester, with a focus on Ski Committee

### **Treasurer's Report:** Philip Werner

- Joyce will serve as Asst. Treasurer
- New PayPal account will be introduced after registration for Spring Leadership Training. (Need to break the personal liability link to current PayPal administrator.)
- Julie & Philip will update "How To" docs on website

### **Trip Coordinator Report:** Robert Freed

- Please add Leader name to report
- Special Notices will be e-mailed each month with late trip postings &/or other relative information

**Harvard Cabin:** Bob Kittredge

- There was 1 Harvard Cabin trip scheduled in December.
- HB ran 6 Harvard Cabin weekends in 2013, including 2 Above Treeline workshops and a Map & Compass program. Total 96 participants (16/trip avg.) with a net of \$703 (\$7.32/participant)
- Listing the upcoming Harvard Cabin trip on Random Hiker's Meet-up has elicited a few additional participants.
- Bob spoke to the make-up of the Harvard Cabin Trust

**Trip Reporter Report:** No report.

- Please remind co-leaders to complete trip reports.

**Webmaster:** Julie LePage

- 2013 minutes need to be uploaded. Stephen will send to Julie.

**Committee Programs:**

Winter Hiking Program: Fred Smith

- Anne Jarek reported Cardigan weekend has 45 approved and 8 submitted
- Trips seeing fewer participant sign-ups than prior years. Discussion whether there's enough exposure being given each week to trips during the program.
- Fred working on sending out survey to current participants

Spring Hiking Program:

- Philip Jones will coordinate
- Michael will push Phil to get dates

Spring Leadership Training: Stephen Conlin

- Dates set for 4/25/-4/27/14.

Wilderness First Aid: Paul Terenzi

- Cabot Hall no longer available to WFA. Jeff Carlson will reach out on behalf of the Boston Chapter to inquire further
- 1/18-1/19, Joy Street, has 26 registered participants, approx. 22 waitlisted.
- February course will be offered if Paul can find a venue.
- Suggestion was made to consider offering an Advanced Wilderness First Aid course.

Lecture Series: Julie LePage

- 1/16/14, Climbing Denali Old Skool (our very own Fred Smith)
- 2/5/14, Manaslu Mountain Trail Race
- 2/20/14, On Top of New England, A Portrait of the Hills

Leadership Issues: None Reported

**Leader Applications:** Bob Asch reported an application by Carrie Pshedesky for 3-season leader, which was approved by the committee.

## **Old Business**

### Hike Rating Subcommittee: Stephen Conlin

Question is, does the current system convey enough data to the new participant who does not know the hike or leader? Is it broken.

- Committee agreed sub-committee (Stephen, Kellie and Robert should continue to research and make recommendations at 2/11 HB meeting.

### **New Business:** The committee discussed the following items of new business:

- Michael nominated Alex as Vice Chair, committee approved.
- Michael noted the difference between Rules and Policies. HB Rules are formally documented in the Constitution. HB Policies typically revolve around details and logistics. Up to now they are not in writing, other than as noted in minutes, and are therefore subject to memory and recollection. Michael will put together a compendium in an attempt to consolidate prior policy decisions.
- Casey Ajalat, 3 season Leader being deployed to Middle East – invitation to attend send-off party, 1/15, 5-8:00pm, Baseball Tavern, Boylston St, Boston

### **Agenda Items for Next Meeting:** The following items were identified for discussion at the next meeting:

- Chair of YM, Phil Baraona will attend as guest to discuss Joint Trip listings and opportunities
- Update on the hike rating system

### **Next Meetings:**

- Wednesday, February 11, 2014, at the home of Stephen Conlin in Belmont
  - Thanks Anne for agreeing to take minutes
- Wednesday, March 11, 2014, at the home of Keith Watling

**Adjourn:** approximately 9:00 pm