

Hiking/Backpacking Committee – Boston Chapter, Appalachian Mountain Club

Minutes: March 11th, 2014 Monthly HB Meeting

Date/Time: Tuesday, March 11th, 2014

Location: Southborough, MA Host: Keith Watling

Attending: Michael Swartz (chair) Keith Watling, Robert Freed, Anne Jarek, Bob Asch, Stephen Conlin, Alex Nedzel, Fred Smith, Carl Gustenhoven, Paul Terenzi, Bob Kitteredge, Yorghos Tripidos, Jeff Carlson

Guests: Elizabeth Ryan, Philip Jones

Come to order: 7:00 pm

Minutes of prior meeting:

Minutes from the February, 2014 H/B meeting were approved with the following correction:

- An additional 35\$ fee was charged to participants of the previous WFA class who also took CPR

Boston Chapter Executive Committee Meeting:

- Business cards for leaders will be available within the next month with the threshold to receive cards set at having led 5 trips in the past 2 years. They will be distributed at the next trip planning meeting in an effort for AMC leaders to be more approachable
- 60 Guide Cards have been ordered and will also be available at the next trip planning meeting
- Still looking for volunteers at a chapter level, also national meeting volunteers and speaker ideas are needed
- Still looking for ideas for leadership perks at the AMC currently has 300k to spend on members and leaders

Treasurer's Report: Philip Werner

- Although not in attendance, Philip Werner reports that the HB Committee currently has \$20,181 in its coffer
- The old paypal account is now closed and a new one has been opened with sub accounts created for those events that require payment

Committee Programs:

Winter Hiking Program: Fred Smith

- Fred working on sending out survey to current participants
- Cardigan lost approximately \$1,000

Spring Hiking Program: Phil Jones

- The dates for the SHP are 4/14, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13 & 5/20
- There are some changes in the program this year
- The program will be shortened by 10-15 minutes each night
- Leaders will be asked to "advertise" their trips before, during and after the program
- An effort is being made to include a younger, and more inclusive group of leaders; those leaders who have not been asked to participate again this year will be sent emails

- Elizabeth Ryan will be the face of the program and the glue behind the scenes
- A social media effort is being made to recruit participants through facebook, brochures, and through local colleges
- There will be an EMS night. The committee discussed EMS as a location, and was comfortable with this.
- Cardigan weekend will be May 16th-18th

Spring Leadership Training: Stephen Conlin

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

Wilderness First Aid: Paul Terenzi

- Still trying to find a location as Cabot Hall is no longer available on weekends due to the lack of a staff member on site
- Checked out several sites but they're too expensive
- Renting SOLO in North Conway may be an option

Trip Coordinator Report: Robert Freed / Carl Gustenhoven

- There are 7 scheduled trips in March, 7 trips in April including the SHP
- There are 15 trips scheduled with the SHP
- Worcester chapter is not paying the Audubon fee at Audubon's Wachusett location
- Special Notices will be e-mailed each month with late trip postings &/or other relative information

Leadership Issues: Alex Nedzel

- Ideas about culling the leader list include notifying leaders that haven't led in two years
- there are 300 people on the leader list
- Renting SOLO in North Conway may be an option

Leader appreciation dinner / trip planning: Steve Conlin

- Planning it for the first week in May
- Steve would like to find someone else to take charge of the weekend

Harvard Cabin: Bob Kittredge

- Last Harvard Cabin trip of the season is planned for 3/14

Webmaster Report:

- Gary Swartz was not in attendance, no report

Leadership Applications: Bob Asch

- Issues with winter leadership applications brought up
- Ideas include looking into experience in winter like the NH chapter which requires leaders to have completed at least half of the W48
- Make an attempt to quantify the depth and breadth of the applicant, perhaps make winter leader subcategories

Bryan Jones and Keith Watling were approved for 4 season leadership

Old business:

- The April meeting will be held at Brandeis
- The May meeting will be held on a Wednesday at Bob Kittredge's house

- An email inviting leaders and coleaders to come to the HB meeting will be sent out

New business: Michael Swartz

- Recent WFA policy change is ineffective as it is in conflict with current Rules
- Rule changes must be voted on at two consecutive meetings
- WFA was discussed in the form of a Rules change
- Comments will be solicited for the change from HB leaders
- Motion to amend the policy (from 3 year; 3 year; 8 year repeating to 3 year; 3 year; 5 year repeating) was approved 8-5

Vote on the WFA Rule change (from 3 year; 3 year; 8 year repeating to 3 year; 3 year; 5 year repeating) is approved 10-2

Motion to adjourn: 9:11 pm

Submitted by Anne Jarek and Michael Swartz

