

Hiking/Backpacking Committee – Boston Chapter, Appalachian Mountain Club

Minutes: May 14, 2014 Monthly HB Meeting

Date/Time: Tuesday, May 14th, 2014

Location: Newton, MA Host: Bob Kittredge

Attending: Michael Swartz (chair), Bob Kittredge, Alex Nedzel, Keith Watling, Carl Gustenhoven, Jeff Carlson, Robert Freed, Fred Smith, Paul Terenzi, Bob Asch, Stephen Conlin, Faith Pulis

Guest: Elisabeth Ryan

Come to order: 7:00 pm

Sincere appreciation and thank you to Bob Kittredge for his 8 years of dedicated service to the HB Committee.

Michael handed out Guide Cards. HB leaders who contact him will receive theirs via snail mail.

Word of the day: picayune

Minutes of prior meeting:

Minutes from the April 2014 H/B meeting will be approved at the June 10th meeting

Boston Chapter Executive Committee Meeting: Jeff Carlson

- Effective 1st issue 2015, Back Country section of Outdoors Magazine is being re-designed. Individual trip listings will be eliminated and replaced with committee headings followed by links to their respective trip pages. A half page will be allocated to each chapter.
- AMC Corporate is re-branding. New logo will be more contemporary and will be rolled out June 2014. All chapters and committees will have 6 months to comply with new brand standards,
- OLTL currently requires multiple log-ons. A new single log-on is being tested.
- Committee agreed Leadership Training sub-committee would become a permanent committee. Stephen Conlin will be Leadership Training Coordinator.
- A Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved that HB continue to require the existing “long version” (two evenings plus a weekend) of leadership training and not accept the shorter one day version.

Treasurer’s Report: Philip Werner

- No report

Trip Coordinator's Report: Carl Gustenhoven

78 trips archived 1/1/14-5/13/14. (upcoming: May = 5, June = 6, July = 4, August = 4, September = 3)

- Reminder that trip listing details should be accurate to the extent possible. Registrars should use due diligence and verify data (i.e. distances, etc.)

Harvard Cabin: Bob Knudsen

March report - \$608 loss due to power outage. (Note: HC Committee waived the normal weekend fee)

- Bob will connect with HC to see if they'll consider reimbursing for \$ loss or offer a future weekend
- Motion was made and vote was unanimous to reimburse the March HC leaders for the additional out of pocket expense.
- It was noted that HB does not typically underwrite losses of non-HC program trips, except under extraordinary circumstances.
- HC is booked through January 2015.

Recommendation was made to adopt a budget for all programs going forward.

Trip Reporter's Report: Yorghos Tripodos (Not in attendance)

- No Report

Webmaster's Report: Gary Schwartz (Not in attendance)

- No Report

Committee Programs:

Spring Hiking Program: Elisabeth Ryan

- 122 approved participants on REGI
- Weekly attendance dropping from 90 first two weeks to @ 55 weeks 4 & 5
- 5/20 class at EMS. 20% discount on EMS merchandise, 10% all other brands
- Evaluation will go out to participants via survey monkey
- Kudos to Elisabeth and Phil for a well run program

Winter Hiking Program: Fred Smith

- 2014 program will have a program evaluation
- Consideration being given to move program to Wednesday nights to avoid conflict with HB Committee meetings and election day.
- Fred will confirm space with Joy St.
- Fred will send out e-mail to solicit interest in being on WHP committee
- Fred is looking for a coordinator to mentor and to introduce some fresh ideas to the program.

Wilderness First Aid: Paul Terenzi

- More economical for HB to host program than tie into NH SOLO
- Next course in September at campground in NH

Lecture Series: Julie LePage (Not in attendance)

- No report

Leadership Issues: Alex Nedzel

- Leadership Recognition & Trip Planning Event – due to confusion OLTL vs, REGI, “frequent” trip leaders will be identified using trip reports going forward (Carl)

Leadership Applications: Bob Asch

- Anne Jarek unanimously approved for three season leadership
- Question raised regarding reciprocity with other chapter leaders. Discussion deferred to June agenda.

Old Business:

Hike Rating sub-committee: Stephen Conlin

- Deferred to June

WFA rule change second consecutive vote: Michael Swartz

- Motion was made and approved to add section 1.17 Policies to the Standing Rules of the HB Committee
- Additional clarification was offered = Rules are our Constitution and Policies are our Legislation.
- Note: Rules are published on website and Policies will be added to website over time

Executive Session: Michael Swartz

- The Committee adjourned to executive session to discuss a Personnel matter.
- Following executive session, committee approved suspension of leadership rights of a leader until further action by the Committee. The vote was 9-1 with one abstention. Mr. Freed voted nay and asked that his vote be recorded in the Minutes as such.

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday, June 10, Fred Smith
- Tuesday, September 9, Carl Gustenhoven
- Tuesday, October 14, Alex Nedzel
- November TBD, pending WHP schedule (also conflict with Veterans Day)
- December TBD, pending WHP schedule

Motion to adjourn: 9:38pm

Submitted by Faith Pulis