

June 2015 Minutes

Wednesday, May 6, 2015 7:14 PM

Hiking/Backpacking Committee - Boston Chapter, Appalachian Mountain Club Minutes: June 9, 2015 - Monthly HB Meeting

Date/Time: Wednesday, June 9, 2015

Location: Lexington, MA, host, Alex Nedzel

In Attendance:

Alex Nedzel, Robert Freed, Stan Dunbar, Michael Swartz, Fred Smith, Casey Ajalat, Pam Wilmot, Bob Knudsen, Stephen Conlin, Elizabeth Ryan, Carl Gustenhoven, Jeff Carlson, Philip Werner, Keith Watling, John Lisker, Faith Pulis

Come to Order, 7:01pm

Introduction/Welcome - *Alex Nedzel*

May 2015 Minutes Approved

REGULAR OPERATIONS

Boston Chapter Executive Committee - *Fred Smith*

Of Note From Monday 6/1:

- Committee would like HB to adjust fees to members in order to offer members a benefit for paying their membership fee
- Discussion re: proposal to institute a program to rebate the cost of leader training, when a leader training graduate becomes a leader for an activity committee. The burden would be on the new leader to do at least 3 co-leads, be elevated to leader, and apply for the rebate within two years of taking the leadership course. The rebate would come from the Exec Comm, not the activity committee. The coordinator of the rebate program (probably the Exec Comm treasurer) would need to verify the leader's status and requisite co-leads with the activity committee.

Treasurer - *Philip Werner*

Balances as of 6/7/15

Bank of America: \$17,648

PayPal: 6,299.64

Philip oriented the committee to the types of reports available and gave an example of the 2015 HB Budget by providing a preliminary forecast.

Trip Coordinator - *Carl Gustenhoven, Robert Freed*

121 Trips in total - 75 Trips YTD through May, Additional 46 trips scheduled June through October

NOTE: Does not include SHP trips, or WHP trips

Harvard Cabin - *Bob Knudsen*

Sep 11-13 & Nov 20-22 still available at Harvard Cabin

Sep 25-27 - Map & Compass, Joe Comuzzi

Oct 18-20 - Judy Dillman, Deb Ireland

Dec 11-13 - WHP Weekend

Trip Reporter's Report - Yorghos Tripodos

No Report

Webmaster - Gary, Casey Ajalat

REGI Feature enhancement

- Modified REGI code and added a participant history capability (BETA)
- Once everyone blesses it then I'll formalize the code and announce to the general leader list

HB Website

- Coordinated with lyonshost.com to find a new home for the hbbostonamc.org website
 - ◇ New/faster servers with latest software technology
- WordPress is currently the test CMS (still learning it)
- Temporary home <http://www.bostonamc.lyonshost.com/>
- Updated Gear List
 - ◇ Need help finding originals
 - ◇ Modified 3-Season backpack to include Bear can (not posted yet)

Leadership Applications – Alex Nedzel, Michael Swartz, Bob Asch

Elizabeth Ryan - 4 Season Leadership, approved

John Schmidt - 3 season Leadership, approved

Jennifer Newland - 3 Season Leadership, approved

Dan Stone - 3 Season Leadership, approved

Stephanie Contino - 3 Season Leadership, approved

H/B PROGRAMS

Winter Hiking Program - Fred Smith

Preliminary Budget:

Revenue: \$7,500
Print: \$1,400
Food: \$1,000
Cardigan (net) (\$1,000)
Surplus: \$4,100

Discussion - Exec Comm would like to provide greater benefits to AMC Members, in order to a) be non-profit, and b) incent people to join AMC. As a result HB is challenged to not show "surplus" programs. Should consideration be given to increase fees to non-members? NOTE: a member pays their AMC dues & the member price for program. Overall a non-member pays disproportionately less.

WHP will consider widening the spread between member and nonmember fees for 2015 program. This strategy will be used as a basis for discussion when committee gathers in the fall to address

Spring Hiking Program - Elizabeth Ryan

24 total participants

- 8 Day Hikes
- 3 Backpacks
- 1 Lodge Trip (Cardigan)
- 1 Car Camp
- 3 Affiliated trips including two car camps and a day hike

Program Survey

Per survey: well received with the usual pain points around hiking speed and participant fitness. Including the breakout sessions was a positive change. Attendance dropped for the backpacking week.

Hike Surveys

No surprises. Overall feedback - lots of praise for the (co)leaders. Usual complaints about speed of the groups (too slow/fast, too big, too many/few breaks, etc.). Results will be emailed to each trip coordinator.

SHP 2015 Financial Report

Note 1: These are the numbers to date based on the coordinator's record keeping.

Note 2: Cardigan attendance was very low this year resulting in a substantial loss.

	Actual 2014	Forecast 2015	Actual 2015
Student Fees	6,460.24	7,500.00	7,935.00
Cardigan Fees	2,227.54	3,000.00	1,410.00
Trip Fees	240.30	0.00	0.00
Cardigan Lodge Rental	(4,600.92)	(4,900.00)	(4,820.80)
Cardigan Tip	0.00	(500.00)	(480.00)
Food	(380.00)	(1,030.00)	(849.12)
Printing	(650.00)	(650.00)	(594.00)
WM Guides	(2,400.00)	(2,400.00)	(2,232.28)
Subtotals	897.16	1,020.00	243.80
Total (Surplus-Costs)	897.16	1,020.00	243.80
Surplus % of Revenue	10.05%	9.71%	2.64%

Wilderness First Aid - Paul Terenzi

Discussion - while WFA certification operates on the honor system, as we do not "police" certifications - what do we do when we identify a leader who is leading and their WFA has expired?

Lecture Series - Julie LePage

Wednesday May 13th, Gary Munson, AMC Hike Leader, AMC's Cold River Camp, Baldface Region, NH.

OLD TOPICS

1. Add a Participant Feedback capability to our website - Casey
 - ◇ Casey will aim to accomplish by end of year.
2. Leadership application template - Michael Swartz
 - ◇ Deferred to September

NEW TOPICS

1. Atypical Leadership approval/disapproval scenarios - Alex
 - ◇ Trip Coordinator may use discretion to request a leader modify their bio particularly when there is some concern re: language which may be extreme or misunderstood.

NEXT MEETINGS

1. Tuesday, September 8 - Carl Gustenhoven, North Andover
2. Tuesday, October 13 - Alex Nedzel, Lexington
3. Tuesday, November 10 - Stephen Conlin, Belmont

MEETING ADJOURN, 8:55PM

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION, 8:56PM

Faith Pulis and Alex Nedzel