

## **Hiking/Backpacking Committee - Boston Chapter, Appalachian Mountain Club Minutes: November 10, 2015 - Monthly HB Meeting**

**DATE/TIME:** Tuesday, November 10, 2015

**LOCATION:** Belmont, hosted by Stephen Conlin

In Attendance: Stephen Conlin, Bob Asch, Bob Knudsen, Paul Terenzi, Jeff Carlson, Robert Freed, Elizabeth Ryan, Fred Smith, Pam Wilmot, Keith Watling, Anne Jarek, Casey Ajalat, Faith Pulis. Welcome to guest Harry Hayashi.

Come to order: 7:04 PM

October Minutes deferred to December 2015.

### **OPERATIONAL UPDATES**

#### **Recent Boston Chapter Executive Committee meeting**

AMC Funds are at 60 Million.

Committees should have their 2016 Budgets set.

The Slate for the Executive committee

- Chair: Joe Princi
- Vice Chair: Vacant
- Treasurer: Michael Swartz
- Secretary: Phil Walsh

Members at large:

- Carl Gustenhoven
- Keith Watling
- Elizabeth Ryan

November 14, Annual Meeting is sold out

Winter Mud deadline is Dec 1 for mid-January publication. Mudd is looking for someone to represent and write articles for H/B. Other committees are doing this.

H/B was thanked for a job well done on the third Wednesday social. Appreciation was shown for the numerous leaders who attended and talked about how they got started with the AMC . Anne did a great Job. Over 80 people attended.

Young Members looking for help to lead trips in the Whites

Jeff Carlson was Thanked for his role as Boston Chapter Chair.

### **Treasurer's ReportA**

Balances as of 11/7/15

Bank Of America Balance: \$13127.67

PayPal Balance: \$5284.02

### **Trip Coordinator's Report**

201 H/B activities scheduled in 2015, with 20 scheduled for November and 8 in December.

### **Harvard Cabin**

October Harvard Cabin net surplus \$438

Leaders have been assigned through March 2016.

### **Trip Reporter - No Report**

### **Webmaster's Report**

Casey would like more feedback on the User Feedback form & Main H/B Site. Feedback to date:

User Feedback Form

- Need word tweaking on the form content
- Place link in Contact Us, REGI, elsewhere

Main HB Site

- Looking to hire expert help in migrating site (still under investigation)
- Recruit from within to help content migration (Found 2 volunteers with experience)

## **PROGRAM UPDATES**

### **General Discussion**

Philosophy - to provide a service to members. Chapter feels "programs" are valuable and would support HB in any potential deficits/shortfalls.

For consideration - We can ask the chapter to purchase the AMC Guides which would provide a greater surplus to the committee.

Recommendation was made to keep a balance in the Committee account that would provide timely reimbursement to members who pay out of pocket for expenses.

Scholarships - these have been available on an ad hoc/as requested basis.

### **Spring Hiking Program**

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4. Cardigan 5/13-15

Approved Member & Non Member fees for 2016 SHP, in line with the current \$40/\$70 WHP pricing.

While operations at that revenue level are not sustainable over time, the committee resolved to finish 2016 as is, and then use the results of the full year as the basis for deciding on pricing for the next WHP and onward. If we decide that the \$30 differential is working well, we can continue with it, but with an increased base amount should the committee conclude that we need to garner additional revenue.

### **Winter Hiking Program**

11/4 first session went very well. 5th session confirmed at EMS.

## **WFA**

25 participants attended 10/31-11/1 class.

Next class December 5 & 6.

## **Slide Show Series**

Nov 16: Canyoneering Endangered Canyons of Utah - Harvey Alpern

Jan 13: Hiking the Alta Via 2 in the Italian Alps - Pam Wilmot

March 22: Hiking and Mountain Racing through Switzerland - David Loutsenhieser

April 13: Touring the Arctic Isle of Spitsbergen - Ashok Boghani

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Leader applications**

Mike Henry approved as 3 Season Leader

### **New role: Outdoor Community Liaison**

Jeff expressed concern that the "Outdoor Community Liaison Role" at a sub-committee level assumes an autonomy sub committees don't currently have. Outreach is done at the club level. Relationships with outside entities could blur boundaries between initiatives "Club" and/or Chapter may be cultivating. For example committee cannot develop its own advertising initiatives without the approval of Club/Chapter. This role might be better served at the chapter level. Discussion deferred until Alex can be present.

**3-season gear lists** - Stephen is looking for feedback in preparation for a vote to adopt at December meeting. He will also circulate draft versions of the 4-season lists ahead of the meeting so that the committee can discuss both.

### **Projects and Status**

Website content maintenance project - volunteer has been identified to assist with the migration

Capturing participant complaints - Casey will send link to form for feedback

Leadership mentor feedback form - draft will be resubmitted to committee to review. Focus is on the areas we want feedback on, and the actual questions.

### **Leadership applications from experienced leaders from other committees**

Discussion - rules permit us to approve leadership status to applicants who have the required experience but have not participated in HB Leadership program and/or the three required co-leads. Considerations: Should they have REGI training? How many current co-leads should they be required to have? How many recommendations/referrals should we require? Do we recognize the leadership training received through other committees? The consensus was that the committee should continue to handle these on a case by case basis.

Jeff offered that he perceives the NH Chapter to have the most difficult leadership approval process. In MA, HB has the most difficult approval process.

2016 H/B Committee officer slate

Nominations in December

CHAIR - Alex Nedzel

VICE CHAIR - Stephen Conlin (Note: Stephen will be taking a sabbatical March - Sept. 2016 to hike AT)

SECRETARY - Faith Pulis

TREASURER - Fred Smith

TRIP COORDINATOR - Carl Gustenhoven

Leadership Recognition/Appreciation Dinner - Stephen is looking for location recommendations  
Criteria: Private Room, T Accessible, Ample Parking, Bar, Good Food

ADJOURN 9:07pm

**NEXT MEETINGS**

Tuesday, December 8 - Keith Watling, Southborough

Tuesday, January 12- Fred Smith, Natick

Tuesday, February 9 -

Tuesday, March 8 - Casey Ajalat, Billerica