

## **Hiking/Backpacking Committee - Boston Chapter, Appalachian Mountain Club**

### **Minutes: January 12, 2016 - Monthly HB Meeting**

**DATE/TIME:** Tuesday, January 12, 2016

**LOCATION:** Natick, Hosted by Fred Smith

**In Attendance:** Bob Knudsen, Paul Terenzi, Jeff Carlson, Carl Gustenhoven, Robert Freed, Elizabeth Ryan, Fred Smith, Michael Swartz, Stephen Conlin, Pam Wilmot, Keith Watling, Casey Ajalat, Anne Jarek, Faith Pulis

**Come to order:** 7:02 PM

December Draft Minutes approved.

#### **OPERATIONAL UPDATES**

##### **Executive Committee Meeting - Paul Terenzi**

- Tickets are available for Annual Summit, Jan 30.
- Club is updating its website, roll out middle of 2016.
- Looking for help in putting in GPS coordinates at trail-heads.
- MUD: March 1st is deadline for the spring (mid-April) Mud edition.
- January 18 is deadline for the Mud's email blast on Jan 23
- Executive committee is exploring moving some reimbursements up to the chapter level to avoid double payments
- March 3rd Wednesday social is Local Walks, June will be Young Members
- Presidents day weekend - Mountains and Music committee looking for participants who can sing and play instruments ( Joe Dodge Lodge)
- Suggestion was brought forth that a \$5K donation be made to The Society for protection of New Hampshire Forests to help purchase the trail-head at Andrew Brook, Mt. Sunapee. more info [www.forestsociety.org/AndrewBrookTrail](http://www.forestsociety.org/AndrewBrookTrail). Vote in March.
- Minutes are not currently on website. What's the appropriate forum to communicate/pass along HB pertinent information to HB Leaders. Leader's List, HB Announce are potential temporary formats. Eventually we can look into linking to ExecComm Minutes.
- ExecComm is proposing hosting an info. table, in May, at top of Great Blue Hill, to get more members and broaden diversity. Would HB be supportive of this initiative? General consensus was yes.

##### **Periodic Communication with H/B Participants**

- Communicating with participants is primarily through e-mail. It is important to get our WHP, SHP participants into the HB Announce e-mail list. Recommendation is being made to change the registrations to negative consent (with an opt out provision).
  - Jeff Carlson will inquire whether this be supported by the Chapter.
  - Subcommittee of Casey Ajalat, Jeff Carlson & Robert Freed will determine how this might be accomplished utilizing technology.

### **Treasurer's Report - Fred Smith**

- BofA balance is \$14,639. PayPal balance is \$0
- Reflects lower surplus from WHP as a result of dues reduction and payment of some outstanding receipts (White Mountain Guides from 2014)
- Is the \$6K reduction from the typical balance of \$20K of concern?
- Jeff raised issue of having an overall HB budget. Fred needs some time to assess activity as fiscal profile of programs do not match up with Chapter Fiscal.

### **Webmaster Report - Casey Ajalat**

- REGI
  - The server hosting the REGI site has been compromised but the REGI application was not impacted. The entire app was migrated to a new server and is currently up and running. Total outage was approximately less than 1 day.
- Administrative
  - Leadapps mailing list updated
    - Removed Michael Swartz, Added Pam Wilmot
  - Treas mailing list updated
    - Removed Philip Werner, Added Fred Smith
- Website
  - No traction on website or feedback link

### **Harvard Cabin - Bob Knudsen**

- WHP Harvard Cabin weekend netted \$266.91 from the trip for a loss of \$173.09 to HB after the \$440 fee to HC Committee.
- 2015 Summary - 6 trips
- 23 Leaders, 63 AMC participants, 15 Non Member participants
- Income = \$5,105, Expenses = \$1,780.43, Cabin Rental = \$2,460, with a Surplus to HB = \$648.57

### **Trip Coordinator's Report - Carl Gustenhoven**

- 40 trips currently scheduled for 2016.

### **Leader Applications - Pam Wilmot**

Request was made for future discussion around whether the criteria/requirements for 4 Season leaders is sufficient. Is it too easy to meet the requirements?

Anne White, approved as 4 season leader

Pete Osler, approved as 4 season leader

Marcella MacKenzie - application deferred

### **Program Updates**

#### **Winter Hiking Program - Fred Smith**

Cabot Hall has been booked for the 2016 WHP program.

Dates are Wednesdays, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9th, 16th, 30<sup>th</sup> and December 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Spring Hiking Program - Elizabeth Ryan**

Registration is open. Notices have appeared in the mud and they will be in a future email blast.

Planning meeting scheduled for Jan 19th, 6:30pm at Joy Street. We will be reviewing the program schedule, dividing tasks, and talking about the plan for the 5th class.

Proposed 5th night plan:

At Joy Street for a series of breakouts. Looking for leaders to recommend topics. Topics will be selected based on relevance to the course and ability to accommodate in the hall. Participants will be able to choose tables for each of the three blocks. There will be a group first aid demo to start the night. Sleeping bags and tents would need to be covered as one or two of the table sessions.

Respond with suggestions & comments to Elizabeth at ryan.ej03@gmail.com

## Discussion Items

1. *Path for single-day leadership program grads* - Stephen Conlin  
Clarification was made that the single day teaches first aid, but not how to manage the accident scene. Committee has discretion to make determinations when an applicant comes forward based on their particular experience. The current expectation is to encourage candidates to take the full 2 day course.
2. *Leader appreciation dinner* - Stephen Conlin  
Committee agreed to increase spending up to \$30/pp to broaden potential venues. Common Ground in Arlington is being researched.
3. *Leadership application and mentor evaluation forms* - Pam Wilmot , Carl Gustenhoven  
What information would the committee require to make a sound recommendation?
  - Questions which would allow for more substance around safety.
  - Consider specifically adding: "Is there any other comment/information you would like to offer that may assist us in evaluating this leader?"
  - Opportunity to obtain content to determine whether the Leader and Applicant are in sync with regard to strengths, weaknesses, areas of improvement and the co-leader's performance.

Subcommittee to discuss technology - Pam Wilmot, Casey Ajalat, Carl Gustenhoven, Stephen Conlin, Elizabeth Ryan

- How can we use technology to avoid unnecessary duplication between application and recommendation and to simplify the process. Current .xls form is cumbersome.

## Adjourn 9:03pm

### NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday, February 9 - Bob Knudsen, Woburn

Tuesday, March 8 - Casey Ajalat, Billerica

Tuesday, April 12 ???

Tuesday, May 10 - Faith Pulis, Concord