

H/B Monthly Meeting Minutes

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, January 12 2021 meeting at 7:00pm

LOCATION: Zoom Meeting (online)

Introductions and Welcome – In attendance: Elizabeth Ryan, Keith Watling, Katie Bartel, Rob Zoletti, Morgane Treanton, Stephen Conlin, Alex Nedzel, Paul Terenzi, Chao Xie, Jess Halvorsen, Jim Robinson, Mark Gill, Tom Kenyon and one guest

1. **December 2020 Minutes – approved with no edits**

2. **Operational Updates** (if needed beyond the written updates) (10 min)

Functions (Executive Committee; Treasurer; Trip Coordinator; Harvard Cabin; Trip Reporter; Leadership)

Programs (WHP; SHP; WFA; Lecture Series; #BeOnline); active projects, Social Media

Executive Committee – Elizabeth Ryan

- Audit is due early February
- Annual meeting 1/23/21. Series of speakers and seminars and club business. Livestream all day.
- Goals are due soon
- OLDC reviewing training materials as well as published AMC Leadership Guide to expand viewpoint and add more examples to make it more inclusive
- Leadership recognition will go ahead at the chapter level
- Conservation and Trail Committees have merged. Looking for a chair for the combined conservation effort.
- COVID updates:
- phase 3 is undefined. Phase 2 status quo until then.
- Volunteer camps and cabins (HC, Coldwater Camp, etc.) have potential to open. August Camp will proceed in the Northeast. Mountain Leadership School is scheduled.
- No leadership training until phase 3. AMC will run trainings online monthly going forward.
- Any further direction regarding hike participants who have been vaccinated?

Treasurer – Rob Zoletti and Tom Kenyon

- BOA Balance: \$8900.96; PayPal Balance \$1109.82. Total Cash Available: \$10,010.67
- 2020 financial audit is underway
- Quickbooks will be functional soon
- New expense form is in progress. Version 1 will be ready for feedback at the end of January.
- Need to overhaul the financial rules.

Trip Approvers – Morgane Treanton and Keith Watling

- A few hiking trips in MA have been posted

- The Common Mistakes document is useful: <https://hb.amcboston.org/leader-s-corner>.

Winter Hiking Program – Jess Halvorsen

- Trips continue. Will relocate and reschedule the February trips to MA locations in accordance with the 30-day rule; travel restrictions aren't likely to change.
- January trips have gotten good feedback.

Spring Hiking Program: Elizabeth Ryan to take over SHP this year

Discussion Items

- BeOnline Events - Keith Watling and Morgane Treanton
 - Ty Gagne event
 - 300 people registered; participant capacity was at its max (103 on zoom + 80 on Facebook). Presentation received positive feedback; Q/A added value.
 - Facebook automatically recorded and posted the video. It was removed shortly after.
 - Ty has a number of upcoming events: www.fullconditionsnh.com/events
 - Goal: one talk/month
 - February: Katie Bartel on trekking in Uganda
 - March: Pam Wilmot & Jess Halvorsen on horseback riding in Mongolia
 - Looking for someone to take over scheduling these. Advertise to the leader list, HB Announce, and/or ask Julie, the slideshow coordinator
 - Still looking for someone to do a talk that's conservation focused
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- Proposed rule changes - Elizabeth (5 min)
 - The decision to update the term Chairman and Vice Chairman was approved by the Committee. Alex Nedzel to update throughout the rules.
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- DEI initiatives - Mark (30 minutes)
 - Ray Bridges of Berkshire Chapter founded a group called the Rusty Anvil, which aims to create a safe space for people of color and/or of queer orientation. Ray is looking to create that safe space in a hiking/backpacking environment as well. Challenges included gear, access/transportation, time, and money.
 - Goal is to increase diversity of HB in Boston
 - What does AMC have to offer as a partner? WFA events, informal leadership training.
 - Frannie Bui and Kumi Wauthier from the Mountaineering Committee presented a compelling argument for a space for women to participate in mountaineering. High degree of participation at the entry level, but there are few women in senior ranks of these different groups.
 - Several AMC Chapters have developed DEI committees and held regular meetings over last few years. Boston is just starting. Guest speakers present topics of interest.
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- 2021 Goals – DEI
 - Objective: form a group (DEI) and set a goal. What is in HB's reach?
 - Is there data on the diversity of HB's current membership? If the data is available, what metrics are we looking for? How does the composition of HB compare to that data, and how might we achieve a more representative membership?
 - ActDB for registrations
 - Need permission to advertise in marginalized communities
 - Need to make sure their goals are being met by what we are offering

- What are the major inhibitors? If it's gear, run less gear-intensive hikes. If it's access, run local hikes. If it's time, then do short, local hikes. If money, then don't make membership a requirement, etc.
- Broader context: is HB offering activities representative of the interests of the community that we want to attract? People experience the outdoors in very different ways; HB tends to experience the outdoors in a narrow way – by climbing mountains. Can start small –local. Some training is needed. Local examples (Franklin Park, Emerald Necklace, Fells, downtown Boston) are good first steps or end goals in themselves.
- Can do a survey to see if HB leaders are meeting members' needs
- Some communities may be more comfortable doing something together. Church, school. Create/advertise an outing for that group rather than seeking out individual members.
- Partner with another local organization
- Goal: break down barriers. Where else could we bring this message? Need to advertise – photos, video, blog stories?
- Executive Committee/Club could advertise outside HB's normal reach. Need to reach outside of our normal peer group (REI, universities, etc.). Might need assistance from the chapter.
- 2021 Goals – cont'd
- The Club's ask for 2021 is to focus on what we can accomplish. Focus on smaller objectives.
- Chapter has series of goals and objectives across 3 pillars: Active Conservation, Outdoor Journey, Recreational Network
- Chapter goals re: Conservation:
 - Tool to measure ridesharing/transportation
 - Encourage and promote carpooling in trip postings when possible due to COVID (e.g., <https://ym.amcboston.org/carpool-for-fun-and-profit/>)
 - Pursue transit-friendly locations for program events
 - HB will support this tool at a chapter level
 - Encourage people to carpool without a hard enforcement (after COVID restrictions end)
 - Crowdsource carpool locations outside of Boston
 - Conservation Stewardship:
 - Run a conservation-focused #beonline event.
 - Recruit a liaison
- Chapter goal re: Recreational Network
 - New Boston Chapter website live by Oct 2021 to improve communication
 - HB will pursue other options for hosting email and communications systems; inventory content and restructure information ahead of the move
- Chapter goal re: Outdoor Journey
 - HB can run more local hikes that are more accessible by public transit, shorter in length/time, and don't require specialized gear
 - Advertise for our programs outside our normal reach
 - Longtime chapter goal to harmonize leadership level definitions and guidelines. HB will participate.
- Executive session – N/A

1. **Next Meetings**

Tuesday, February 9th - Online

Tuesday, March 9th - Online

Tuesday, April 13th - Online

Tuesday, May 11th - Online
Tuesday, June 8th - Online