

H/B Monthly Meeting Minutes

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, December 13 - meeting at 7:00pm

LOCATION: Zoom Meeting (online)

1. Introductions and Welcome. In attendance: Stephen Conlin, Keith Watling, Deb Conrady, Chao Xie, Sarah Frisken, Elizabeth Ryan, Ed Batutis, Rob Zoletti, Morgane Treanton. Guest: Keith Johnson. Late: Majid Ali, Bob Vogel, Alex Nedzel. Absent: Jess Halvorsen, Eric Robbie, Pam Wilmot, Tom Kenyon

2. Approve Minutes (November): Approved with amendment of May and June meeting dates.

Review Action Items: Action Items from November 2022 Meeting:

- Action item: Alex Nedzel to ensure HB leader list is current. *IN PROGRESS*
- Action items: Rob to update the finance worksheet and will post on Leaders' Corner, & Tom to send updates to the committee. *UNSURE*
- Action items: Tom to send a reminder in mid-November, and Morgane to update Common Mistakes with the financial cancellation policy. *MORGANE DONE*
- Action item: Jon Niehof will compile the COVID rules and send to Elizabeth for approval. *POSSIBLY MOOT BECAUSE OF CHAPTER EMAIL*
- Action item: Keith, Stephen, Jon, and Alex will get in touch with their relevant contacts regarding expanding HB's trail work – *KW COMPLETE, SC IN PROGRESS*
- Action item: Keith & Chao to finalize the carpooling metric. *COMPLETE (decision: report on the total number of cars at trailhead and incorporate that into current trip reporting system.)*
- Action item: Jess to email Alex B to update ProDeals section of the website. *UNSURE*

3. Operational Updates

Functions

- a. Executive Committee (KW)
 - 11/13 meeting went well but only 60 attendees showed despite 200 registrations.
 - Club initiative to determine leader levels across all chapters and activities. Scheduled for Q1 and Q2 of 2023. These are LIT, L1, L2, L3. They will be aligned with existing activity difficulty levels. E.g., 4S HB Leader will be considered L3 and won't need to do any further training.
 - WFA requirements will be determined by each committee, but there's probably going to be a firm request to decide whether we will require active WFA or to walk back from that premise. Goal is to come up with chapter standards.
- b. Treasurer (TK/RZ)
- c. Trip Approver (MT/KB): Lots of trips!
- d. Trip Reporter (EB): Great month; participants per trip increased but still below 2019. 96% of the trips that ran have a trip report submitted. Carpooling metric is now part of the trip reports. Trending toward 180 trips for the year (currently at 168 trips through November 2022 vs 194 in 2019). All numbers based on trip reports.
- e. Harvard Cabin (MW): N/A
- f. Leadership (AN/SC): N/A

Programs

- a. WHP (ER): classroom sessions are completed. Conservation talk by Jen Parkos was very well received, suggestion to include in SHP. 126 participants this year, 41 hikes and counting. Winter hiking program social event is still in the works.
- b. Winter Leader Development (ER): In progress and going well.

- c. FLP (JN): N/A
- d. SHP (SF): Reserved space for 4 nights at CRLS starting 3/30/23. \$600/night @ CRLS but advantage is accessibility, and the cost can be absorbed by splitting among participants. Resounding approval to try this.
- e. HB Announce (MA): Published with regularity.
- f. Social Media/Website (AB): N/A

4. Discussion Items

- a. 2022 Goals Update (KW)
- b. 2023 Goals (KW):
 - Active Conservation: Undertake 150 volunteer hours of trail work within New England; record locations/regions; total number of volunteers; total hours and engage 10 volunteers new to trail work
 - o Concern: Bob Vogel can run trail work trips but cannot guarantee attracting new volunteers. KW will work to promote trail work in the Whites more than we currently do – host trail work days just like we do for hikes. There is interest – we just need to reach them.
 - o SHP will add 2 conservation-focused trips as part of SHP offerings
 - Outdoor Journey: Host 3 social events for volunteers (leaders, leaders in training, non-leader volunteers) and BC community (WHP Social, Leader Appreciation Event, SHP Social)
 - Recreational Network: (1) Determine and implement at least 2 strategies to increase number of hikes and number of participants; (2) increase the number of hikes offered in 2023 by 10% (i.e., increase by 18 hikes) with a 10% increase in the number of participants; (3) Embrace the new Outdoors Connector as the go-forward registration and activity management technology (target Q2 2023)
 - o “Boots on Trail” (BoT) Subcommittee will provide 2 strategies to increase number of hikes and participation
 - **Action item: Committee unanimously agreed on 2023 goals. KW to submit to ER.**
- c. Carpooling (KW/CX)
 - Suggestion by guest Keith Johnson to promote carpooling by setting the location for the meeting point for a hike as a park ‘n ride. From there, participants determine a carpooling strategy. Get everyone to an intermediary location and then carpool from there. Withhold participant details like trailhead, time, place to encourage carpooling. It’s up to each leader whether they would like to post the trip in that manner, and leaders would need to do the legwork to determine the meeting location based on where their participants are coming from.
 - o SC has experience doing this (e.g., Dascomb Rd). Would still suggest providing trail information to participants.
 - o What’s the best-case carpooling metric? E.g., least number of cars at trailhead? What about the social aspect of post-hike dinners that won’t have 100% buy-in?
 - o Concern: the BoT working group is trying to decrease the burden on leaders, and this seems like it would increase the burden. There is clear environmental benefit, but it might harm leader retention.
 - Email that went to HB Committee: discuss why/how to carpool and provide suggestions to leaders to encourage carpooling. E.g., (1) provide a general monetary contribution suggestion of \$20-30 pp to avoid the difficulty of initiating that conversation; (2) include park ‘n rides around Boston

- **Action item: Committee will comment on email. Following that, KW and CX will sharpen, finalize, post, and disseminate to HB Leaders.**

- d. Loaner microspikes (MS) logistics update (CX)
- Question at hand: how to distribute MS to those who need them?
- Currently there are 14 pairs are distributed among 4 leaders. Trying to get to a process or system to be self-serving. Google spreadsheet needs work.
- Central repository?
- **Action item: table this topic for next meeting, and KW/CX will discuss idea re: logistical challenges of maintenance and distribution.**
- e. Boots on Trail (BOT) update (PW)
- f. WHP Social/Leader Appreciation Event in 2023 (KW): Kate Benson and Jesse Waites will organize the WHP social for 1st of 2nd week in February. **Action item: KW will spearhead the leader appreciation event.**

5. Executive session

- a. 3-Season Leadership Applications
 - i. Anna Goodheart was approved as a 3-season leader.
 - ii. Jesse Waites was approved as a 3-season leader.

6. Future Meetings

- a. Tuesday, January 10
- b. Tuesday, February 14
- c. Tuesday, March 14
- d. Tuesday, April 11
- e. Tuesday, May 9
- f. Tuesday, June 13