

# H/B January 2022 Meeting Minutes

**DATE/TIME:** Tuesday, January 11 meeting at 7:00pm

**LOCATION:** Zoom Meeting (online)

0. **Introductions and Welcome:** In attendance: Keith Watling, Deb Conrady, Katie Bartel, Mark Warren, Jonathan Niehof, Chao Xie, Alex Nedzel, Rob Zoletti, Bog Vogel (guest), Sarah Frisken (guest), Eric Robbie (guest), Tom Kenyon, Alexandra Robinson, Mike Hanley (guest), Jess Halvorsen, Maddy Wharton (guest), Stephen Conlin, Elizabeth Ryan, Morgane Treanton
1. **Approve Minutes (December)** - Move to second half of meeting.

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 (Keith W.)

- Review of WFA training sessions
- ActDB will be replaced by “Outdoors Connector” in Q1 2023
- Registration for annual meeting (virtual) closes 1/20/22.
- John Judge, CEO, is stepping down. He will take over the Trustees. Interim CEO will be Susan Arnold, current VP of Conservation. First time AMC will be led by a woman in 145 year history.

Treasurer (Tom K.)

- ~\$12,000 in cash with some activities in and out; Chao made microspikes purchase.
- Budget was submitted in November. No changes.
- BOA red tape
- Cleaned up PP
- Working on audit of 2021 activities and submitted documentation.

WHP (Jess H.):

- Still in trip phase of WHP. Yesterday the trip coordinators released the last tranche of trips through end of winter. Many are full. 30 trips as of now!

SHP (Sarah F.):

- Thinking of hybrid program (virtual & trips), want to have a meet up in a local, accessible park to do breakout session. COVID conscious – smaller hiking sizes will likely mean more hikes and fewer participants.
- Special consideration: DEI. Looking at accessibility, checking presentation and manual language for inclusivity, offer more introductory hikes.
- Organization: working to fill key roles.

- Schedule is constrained by Cardigan (5/13-5/15)—payment due 4/10, so program will start 3/30 (a few weeks earlier than usual). Condense lectures into 4 nights and have one in-person Saturday demonstration day: 3/30, 4/6, 4/13, 4/20. Demo day: 4/10. Looking for Cardigan info.

Trip Approver (Morgane T/Katie B)

Technical issues being resolved:

- not receiving emails when trips are in our queue
- trips still being in our queue when we click on "save & reject back to reviewer". Furthermore, leaders cannot edit the trips after we click that button. Trip Approvers need to make those changes manually.
- Links are mysteriously "jumping" from one posting to another.

Harvard Cabin (Mark):

- New SOPs for the cabin – no trips planned yet. Some March weekends and 1 April weekend are available. Mark will send it to the listserv to gauge interest.
- New heaters!
- New officers are joining the committee.

### Discussion Items

0. Vote on 2022 Vice Chair (Keith - 5 min): Jess Halvorsen was unanimously approved as vice chair. Eric Robbie will be the new WHP Coordinator.
1. Update on HB Announce (Jim - 5 min) POSTPONED
2. 2022 Goals (Keith - 20 min)  
**Active Conservation:** how to quantify? E.g., total volunteer hours or number of events? Use events to gauge interest and come up with a more accurate number of volunteer hours. 10 events.

- Expand locations: springtime trail work in parts of the Blue Hills (Bob Vogel has tools and skills to do trail work in the Blue Hills); Davis Path (and other leaders' trail work locations); Bay Circuit Trail, which goes through various conservation lands. Aim to have # of trips that reach # participants with # of hours. Get people involved who have never done trail work before.
- It can be difficult to get approval to do trailwork. Would be good to piggyback off of our leaders
- Trailwork is good, but we should explore something new. E.g., a "conservation patch" that could include helping leaders better promote conservation themes during their own activities. There are things we could do to move the mindset in that direction. Trailhead talk; mid-trail talks (e.g., when erosion). Could have AMC choose or sponsor conservation education events and incorporate that into a trailhead talk. It would provide an informed basis for a trailhead talk.

*Action item: HB will commit to leading 50 volunteer hours of trailwork with a goal of involving new participants. KW will write and submit the goal.*

*Subaction item: Eric Robbie to pursue what a conservation patch would entail*

**Outdoor journey:** promote DEI environment by Nov 2022

- Chao: start self-learning now. Read and discuss 1 article per month. Also, HB has tools (HB Announce, Facebook) to promote DEI events, but Chao needs permission to promote these.

- Check other AMC resources: NY chapter, “unlikely hiker” podcast, Western MA. What are these events? They are virtual.
- NY: helpful to all AMC members because diverse members contribute to those meetings and you learn how people are impacted.
- Western MA: advertising; website writing; making the outdoor connector more inclusive
- Goal: Advertise 1 DEI event and/or item per month in HB Announce.

*Action item: KW will work with Chao to write and submit the DEI goal.*

0. WFA update (Elizabeth - 10 min)

- December decision was to extend WFA requirements to mid-2022 assuming WFA training would be available this year. Club hasn’t started yet, but the goal is to identify several individuals to serve as the liaison between SOLO and the club. A working group is being established at the chapter level.
- WFA reimbursement: pegged at 2019 levels. To update it for 2022, we need to identify the need. There are 16 WFAs listed on ActDB for \$200-\$230 pp.
- How to advertise to the HB list? Pending communication that needs to go out to HB leaders – extended WFA requirements, ongoing training, reimbursement rate (Feb/Mar).

5. Discussion/Approval of December minutes (Keith - 5 min)

- Seeking a clarification on the \$500 microspikes (MS) budget item
- MT’s understanding was that we aren’t putting any restrictions on them and are deferring to Chao to decide what is best. He can go forth with the \$500, rather than a certain number or type. So are we putting a number on MS or a dollar amount?
- Recap (TK): Chao initially wanted 3 pairs of MS. But the committee suggested that he request a dollar amount. CX bought 8 pairs and spent \$400, asked to wait to buy more and return to committee. He was told to spend what he thought he needed and be responsible with the money. TK was OK with CX buying 8. If he wants to buy more, he will bring it to the committee to reevaluate the budget.
- MT wants a clarification that there are no additional restrictions on how Chao should spend \$500 for microspikes. MT said that a maximum number of microspikes wasn't mentioned in the prior meeting (and it's not recorded in prior minutes). Part of the reason that no restrictions were placed on the maximum number amount of microspikes to buy is because Chao wants to buy less known brands than Katoolas and Hillsounds and hasn't finalized which brands yet so he doesn't know how many more pairs he wants to buy.
- Decision: As long as Chao remains within the \$500 budget that was previously approved, he does not need to come back to the committee for approval of the purchase of microspikes. The Committee is not putting restrictions on the brand or number of microspikes that Chao is purchasing.
- Add Alex to the attendees list

6. Act DB trip status (Morgane - 5 min)

- If leaders update a REGI status they should update the ActDB trip status as well.
- Send automated email to the L/CL who posted the trip to alert them if there is a discrepancy between REGI and ActDB. An alert would come from HB email address.

Executive session

0. Leader applications

- 4 season – Bob Mackin and Bob Vogel were approved as a 4-season leader.

a. Front Country – Andrew Therriault was approved as a front-country leader.

- **Next Meetings**

Tuesday, January 11th - Virtual

Tuesday, February 8th - Virtual

Tuesday, March 8th - Virtual

Tuesday, April 12th - Virtual

Tuesday, May 10th - ??

Tuesday, June 10th - ??

Meeting adjourned at 9:17pm.