AMC NH Chapter – Minutes

Meeting Date:       June 6, 2013

Meeting Location:   Holiday Inn, Manchester, NH

Members in Attendance:
✓ Karen Thurston                  Chair
✓ Wayne Goertel                   Vice Chair
✓ Bill Warren                     Treasurer
✓ Beth Zimmer                     Secretary
✓ Gene Harding                    Bike Chair
✓ Paul Hopkins                    Conservation
✓ Eric Savage                     Education Chair; Past Chair
Jennifer Varney                 Excursions Co-Chair
✓ David Ross                      Excursions Co-Chair
✓ Patty Anderson                  Hospitality Chair
✓ Mitch Manseau                   Membership Co-Chair
✓ Marianne Page                   Membership Co-Chair
Jim Kent                        Mountaineering Co-Chair
✓ Tom Sintros                    Mountaineering Co-Chair
✓ Ron Janowitz                   Newsletter Editor
Michelle O’Donnell               Newsletter Editor
Susan Englert                    Newsletter Editor
Sally Leonard                   Paddling Co-Chair
Marcy Stanton                   Paddling Co-Chair
✓ Paul Berry                     Programs Co-Chair
✓ Marie Berry                    Programs Co-Chair
✓ "Sam" Ruth Jamke               Regional Director, North (NH & ME)
✓ Tony Schmidt                   Ski Co-Chair
✓ Valerio Viti                   Ski Co-Chair
✓ Richie Holstein                Trails Chair
✓ Tom Todd                       Webmaster
✓ John Green                     Young Members Chair
✓ Roger Scholl                   Guest / AMC Staff Liaison
Rick Silverberg                 Guest / Outdoor Leadership Development
Guest
Call to Order

K. Thurston called the meeting to order at 7:00.

Approval of May ’13 Minutes / Beth Zimmer

B. Zimmer had sent out minutes to ExComm members via a prior e-mail. A motion was made by R. Janowitz to approve the minutes as presented; it was seconded by R. Holstein; there was no discussion or comment and the motion was approved unanimously.

Review of May ’13 Treasurer’s Report / Bill Warren

B. Warren had sent out treasurer reports to ExComm members via a prior e-mail. The reports were received without question or comment.

ExComm took the opportunity to thank B. Warren and W. Goertel for their presentation regarding our fiscal practices at the Chapters’ Retreat. The presentation was based on our sub-committee’s work that took place in January 2013. The other Chapters were interested in the efficiency of our model.

Directors’ Meeting - Report Out / Sam Jamke

S. Jamke attended a meeting in NYC on May 16. This took place at the YMCA on Central Park where there is AMC office space. AMC’s YOP’s office and gear is stored there (train the trainer model). In attendance at this meeting was a Board of Advisors, comprised of about 100 individuals who have a vested in AMC in some fashion. Discussion centered around two focus topics:

1/ Medowisla – direction of this Maine Woods facility; what model will it be?; self or full serve?; family focus?; year-round?, etc.

2/ Vision 20-20 – What should the focus of AMC’s future fundraising be? Future capital campaign focus?

There was a review of the fund and of membership (over 87,000 ). There was also discussion describing a strong emphasis in reaching out to young members via college outdoor clubs, etc.

Next Meeting: Date and Food
The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 5, 2013, as we will be recessing for the months of July and August. When we return we will have to jump into Annual membership mode.

Thanks go out to the Skis and Trails Committee for tonight’s terrific dinner; September’s food will be provided by the Young Members Committee.

Transitions and Open Positions

Newsletter member David Phillips stepping down, and Michelle O’Donnel will be stepping into this role. M. O’Donnel responded to an announcement.

Hospitality – An individual is interested

Every committee has at least one member

Young members would like a co-chair and is considered in ‘rebuild’ mode.

Membership co-chair M. Manseau is stepping down and ExComm would like a co-chair for this committee.

Trails would like a co-chair.

Non-Comm Committee

Nominating committee members are needed. This committee is in place for 3-4 months, with ideally 3+ people. Their role is to find individuals for committees. Presently, there is no nominating committee in place and ExComm members are finding individuals to volunteer.

Discussion ensued about how to elicit help in this area. Invite them to Monthly meetings? Per our by-laws, we need to get a committee in place to approve the Nomination slate.

Discussion: should we consider a permanent nominating committee? Some names were suggested: Tim Kennedy, Rick Silverberg, Anne Melville and Wes Tucker.

Membership Update / M. Manseau & M. Page
We still have a lot of AMC tri-fold brochures which directs individuals to our website and encourages membership. Please use them, as it is a ‘tangible’ to give prospective members.

We have not been handing out 25 & 50-year membership pins and we are going to resume this practice. Membership will invite these people to the annual meeting as our guest. The Chapter will purchase pins from AMC store. The list comes from Joy St.

There was a reminder from Programs that no monies were budgeted for free meals. This needs to be a consideration. This expense may have to fall under Membership.

**Calendar Items**

- June 27: deadline for online trip submission for September/October activities; August deadline for November / December.
- August 1: deadline for Mt. Passages; slate due at this time
- Excursions Holiday Party December 8
- All committees encouraged to talk up Fall opportunities across all activities: paddling, hiking, biking, huts, etc.
- September 5: Annual Reports due to B. Zimmer, Secretary
- September 25: Annual Reports to Printer, Website, and Joy Street
- October 26: Annual Dinner Meeting

**Volunteer Appreciation**

From our last meeting we had generated three ideas related to Volunteer APpreciation: do as we did last year, provide volunteers with a drink ticket, mug, and LLBean gift card; sponsor an August potluck/cookout at a venue or someone’s home; or dovetail onto an existing event, such as the Dec 5 “First Thursdays Live” at the Currier (5:30-8PM, free snacks, live music, and cash bar. $10pp + drink ticket).

Discussion continued:

1/ Having a repeat of last year (the drink ticket and gift card) was well received (13 ExComm votes)

2/ Regarding a pot luck, finding a venue that could accommodate a wide range of volunteers from different committees could be a challenge; we might wish to consider holding and outdoor event for volunteers at Cardigan, or at some place that would allow volunteers to engage in the activities they enjoy (7 ExComm votes)
3/ Regarding holding a event, such as at the Currier? First Thursday of the month, free music and free food. Maybe consider some trinket: AMC whistle, notepads, nominal gift; drawing for a free weekend at one of the facilities? (12 ExComm votes)

T. Todd inquired if we should give fleece jackets to all volunteers as they spend a lot of money on gas.

There was consensus that trying something new for volunteer appreciation was worth a shot and that we will aim towards the Currier evening or some event like that.

Excursions and mountaineering may want to discuss purchasing White Mt. parking passes for their volunteers.

R. Scholl noted that we have to recognize volunteers all of the time. A pat on back, small bandana, parking passes... all of these things generate esprit de corp and morale. It is challenging to get volunteers and to also agree on how to recognize them.

It was agreed that we would form an ad hoc group to discuss the above. They could advise ExComm on objectives and ideas, and this in turn would advise us with any implications for the next budget cycle. B. Warren offered to move this ad hoc group along, and he will reach out to try to get members from the various action committees.

Future Topics

• Finalize volunteer and ExComm annual appreciation
• Membership Update: 25/50 year membership pins; qualifiers; etc.
• Microsites vs. Orphan Sites: What’s the best structure to balance both committee content and chapter website?
• Mountain Passages: what is the future direction of our newsletter.
• Ad-hoc Education Committee report
• Clothing and fleece, vision of branding
• How to or “if” to offer CPR to trip leaders
• Huts Nights: to what degree the Chapter should continue to underwrite these events and where in the budget should this event be placed

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 5, 2013.
Adjournment

At 8:35 a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by M. Page; it was seconded by W. Goertel; and it was approved unanimously.

Minutes: Beth Zimmer
6/6/13