

**Adirondack Mountain Club Laurentian Chapter
Executive Committee Meeting May 28, 2009
Minutes Developed by John Barron**

Meeting was held at Clarkson Center for Advanced Materials Processing (CAMP) room 149, beginning at 7 PM.

Executive Committee Members Present: Tom Ortmeier; Hollis Easter; Geri Ames; John Barron; Rose Rivezzi; Peter O'Shea

Appointed Officers Present: Betty Peckham

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes and Agenda
2. Officer Reports
3. Suggestions for Nominating Committee
4. Jamieson Fund Discussion

Minutes and Agenda

It was moved by Rose Rivezzi, seconded by Hollis Easter, to approve the minutes of the March meeting. So carried.

The agenda was approved.

Officer Reports

Vice Chair, Conservation (Peter O'Shea)

Peter presented a summary of his full report, which appears in the Summer 2009 issue of the North Wind.

Vice Chair, Education (Rose Rivezzi)

Logan Buckmaster is the Volunteer Trails volunteer.

Rose proposed a three-hike series for children and parents who have never hiked before (note since the meeting – it is now fully organized and publicized).

A photo was taken at the Leave No Trace workshop – it should be obtained from Hollis and used in publicity (note since the meeting – it was, and has appeared in several locations).

Publicity (John Barron) – Nil.

Secretary (John Barron)

John informed the committee members that he has been appointed Recording Secretary of the Adirondack 46ers. John will continue his roles in the Laurentian Chapter.

Membership (Geri Ames)

Ten new members joined in April. There are now 465 members.

Archivist (Betty Peckham) – nil.

Vice Chair, Outings (Hollis Easter)

Hollis is not receiving many Backtrack reports – he will encourage leaders to send them in.

There has been no reply from ADK Headquarters about what types of trips are in-scope of the ADK programming (as opposed to being too risky, for example).

Hollis is setting a conscious policy of trying to attract new people.

Nancy Kin, the CFO of Clarkson University, is new to paddling and wants to link up with paddling trips, notably Dick Mooers' series.

An "Introduction to Canoe Destinations" might be worth while.

The idea of subsidizing ADK memberships for students at local schools was lofted. It will be considered at the next meeting.

Treasurer (Ellie Menz)

There has been no word about payment for advertising by Wear on Earth.

Chair

Tom circulated a letter of thanks from the ADK for sponsoring a trail at National Trails Day.

Jamieson Fund Discussion

Tom Ortmeyer spoke with Pat Whalen about access routes that could be financed. Some ideas under consideration are:

- Little River in Star Lake (DEC is going to put in a canoe launch);
- Champion Lands;
- Conifer Easement;
- Stillwater Easement on the Middle Grasse in the Town of Clare – open to the public outside hunting season;
- Weller Mountain Club – you can now access the water and three or four canoe carries;
- Rayonier Easement on the Grasse – is open on the Middle Branch of the Grasse. They are going to build lean-tos and they should add parking;
- Ten to twelve miles on the North Branch of the Grasse in the Town of Clare – nothing done yet;

- White Road – comes out on the Clare Road near a farm;
- Ten miles on the St. Regis;
- 200, 000 acres of St. Lawrence County easements.

Pat Whalen needs to hear that we want signs, publicity, and improvements.

We must pressure the local region to place signage and encourage recreational use, as an alternative to hunting and fishing.

Advertising actions that have already been taken – we could underwrite.

We would like all rights conferred by easements to actually be implemented. We could publicize, place signs, lead trips – at cost, or even at no cost.

Acting as a devil’s advocate, Rose Rivezzi remembered a past case when DEC did not want the Chapter’s help in conjunction with a proposal.

There were favorable impressions recorded of John Wood (best conservation forester in decades), and Pat Whalen (very good too).

Peter D’Luhosch to work on easements focused on Conservation

Postscript – On 27 September 2009, Peter O’Shea, just returned from several weeks in California, gave John Barron an update confirming the above, giving the correct name of Peter D’Luhosch of the DEC Region 6 office in Potsdam, and giving the following additional details:

- Sevey’s Corners Tract of the Lyme Timber Company Easement, which includes canoe carries from Route 56, is an area in need of signage and activity.
- Maps and an information booklet(s) should be produced as well as signs.
- Confirmation that the Middle Branch of the Grasse has suitable markings on the Rayonier Easement, but nothing on the North Branch yet.
- There are roads open for multiple uses (hiking, X-C skiing, etc) in the town of Clare: six of them, of which two are open year-round and four are open year-round with the exception of deer hunting season. Maps and signage are needed.
- For clarification, Pat Whalen is in charge of DEC Region 6 in Potsdam, and John Wood reports to him.

Suggestions for Nominating Committee

A couple of suggestions were offered for the nominating committee. Time was running out, so it was agreed that any suggestions for the Nominating Committee – and furthermore for Chapter officers or trip leaders – should be sent to Tom Ortmeyer as Chair as soon as possible.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be September 10.