

Adirondack Mountain Club Laurentian Chapter
Executive Committee Meeting March 23, 2011
Minutes

The Executive meeting was held at 7:00pm on Wednesday, March 23, 2011 in MacVicar Hall, Room 250, SUNY Potsdam.

Officers Attending: John Barron, Hollis Easter, Marianne Hebert, Bill Mueller, David Trithart, Tom Ortmeyer, Blair Madore

Appointed positions Attending: John Omohundro, Carolyn Kaczka, Armond Spencer

Agenda:

Approval of agenda of this meeting and minutes of previous meeting – H. Easter moved, B. Mueller 2nd. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes of Jan. 12, 2011 D. Trithart moved, H. Easter seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Proposal to Fund a Third Participant on High School Volunteer Trails (additional cost: \$250)

B. Madore reported he has had five inquiries for the ADK High School Trails program. The first teenager submitted references with the application form. The second query was from a parent, John Bodette with two kids (Amy and Jacob). The Bodette family is active in scouting and community work. Blair received two additional queries, that he re-directed to contact Wes Lampman who runs the trail project, to see if he had additional funding. Blair is recommending that the Chapter send three students this year, if the budget can bear it. Discussion ensued: H. Easter asked if we encourage families of scholarship recipients to become chapter members. It was noted that Camp Colby has hunter safety course. DEC requires the Chapter, as sponsors to provide transportation. Several options were proposed: fund all three kids, or just one from the Bodette family (e.g. the older kid, and have the younger kid apply next year), or give less money to the ADK General Fund Contribution. D. Trithart expressed concerns that the Chapter budget may not be adequate. Our income is equal to our expenses, and we currently have a deficit plan. J. Omohundro asked about the selection process for deciding, e.g. do we give preference for Chapter members? Blair argued against Chapter member preferences, as it would complicate the process. We generally send kids as they apply on a first-come-first-served basis. H. Easter advocated that the Chapter should send a third kid rather than send money to Club, and suggested we should prefer local needs rather than the ADK general fund. B. Madore asked D. Trithart as Director, about the ADK budget overall. D. Trithart reported the Club budget is pretty stable, and they are not running a deficit this year, even though that was planned.

H. Easter moved to transfer \$250 from the ADK General Fund Contribution to the Trail program to send the 3rd applicant. B. Mueller seconded the motion. 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Kaczka offered to personally sponsor a 4th child. B. Madore will contact the family to check references. H. Easter suggested we invite kids to give a brief report at the Fall potluck.

Possible Cooperative Project with the DEC – Access to the Raquette River near Sevey Corners

A. Spencer reported on his field survey of the canoe access area North of Moody Falls. He distributed a map handout of area. This is a potential Chapter/DEC project site to improve access to easement lands. There is a short trail from RT56 to the river that is in need of work. It needs ~120 feet of bridging, at a cost of ~\$900. It was noted there is no decent carry around Moody Falls. Currently portages are bushwacks, and very difficult. J. Barron thought a portage should be included in plans. A. Spencer argued against supporting the proposal, as it is not good canoe access site, only fishing access. B. Madore commented that it is a beautiful spot. It was noted there is decent parking nearby at Jamestown Falls. B. Madore queried whether this project could this be first step towards getting a portage around Moody Falls and Jamestown Falls? Consensus was, the field survey indicates this is not a project within Chapter means. B. Madore commented that he has a boy scout in his troop looking for an Eagle project. Blair thinks the scout could spearhead the bridging aspect of the Moody Falls project, but the portage projects would be more difficult, and beyond what a 16 year old could take on. Blair has suggested that the scout come on the upcoming Copper Rock Trail outing to scope out an alternate project. Consensus was chapter should not spend \$900 for site that has no hiking or paddling potential.

There was some discussion for an alternate proposal for Lampson Falls, including bridges for creeks for a proposed cross-country ski trail. Getting materials in would be more difficult, unless DEC gives permission for an ATV. Consensus this was not a project we want to undertake at this time. Note since the meeting – John Barron consulted with John Wood of the DEC about the Lampson Falls – Harper Falls trail, and the DEC does not want improvements done there at this time either, because it would be contrary to the Grasse River Wild Forest Unit Management Plan, so this option will not be advanced.

J. Barron suggested there may be another possible project at Copper Rock Falls. The Chapter has budgeted \$250 for DEC projects. D. Trithart suggested we focus on the Copper Rock Falls trail. We need to do a site survey. J. Barron said he would contact John Wood (DEC) and invite him to accompany B. Madore on the Copper Rock outing. A. Spencer volunteered to re-check the Sevey Corner trail configuration. There may have been a misidentification of the proposed conservation easement trail with an old DEC portage access trail located nearby on state land.

External Publicity – NCPR Desire to Post Start Times of Events on their Event Calendar

T. Ortmeyer reported on NCPR's request that all outings publicized have start times, similar to how the Audubon society announces their trips, including the location and start time, along with a registration contact. Logistically this would be difficult as leaders often set start times depending on trip parameters, weather conditions and participant's preferences.

Consensus was to continue listing trips as "all day", as there are issues that contribute to last minute decisions. T. Ortmeyer will continue publicize outings as he has been doing, and not try to pin down start times with leaders.

Progress on Proposed New Outing Sign-Up Sheet

J. Barron reported on the New Sign up Sheet used at the Pinnacle snowshoe outing. He distributed a sample handout. He noted that few participants filled out the form correctly. Most of the scrawled signatures were not readable. He thinks it is too early to

approve the form. It was noted the Chapter form is at variance with the ADK form. The Chapter needs to adopt the standard ADK text and add the Chapter photo release text. The version of the form on the Chapter web site is still the official form to be used. H. Easter suggested we add the DEC emergency number to form so it is readily available for trip leaders.

Chapter Basket for A Black Fly Affair -

J. Barron asked for volunteers to participate in donating items for the basket and putting the basket together. D. Trithart has a handout listing of what types of items work best. The event is May 21st. Last year B. Madore visited local businesses and solicited donations. J. Omohundro suggested Joann Ferris would be a good candidate to coordinate the project if she were willing. J. Barron announced the theme of the basket is "Where the North Country Meets the Great White North".

Officer Reports

Newsletter Editor - J. Omohundro:

No report

Archivist - C. Kaczka

No report

Director - D. Trithart

D. Trithart reported the ADK was making modification to the guidelines for chapter outings. What were previously "recommendations" are now "requirements". For the process for formally determining chapter outings, they are requiring that chapters screen and authorize outings. B. Mueller has been sending outing schedules to Chapter leaders.

D. Trithart reported that "pick up" trips that have not been approved by Chapter leaders are not covered by ADK liability. There was some discussion as to whether outings should be approved by Chapter leaders or by the coordinator of outings.

D. Trithart reported that according to the ADK, trips are deemed to begin and end at the trailhead. It was noted that participants often sign the waiver forms papers in the rendezvous parking lot rather than the trailhead. Most people would assume the liability begins at the time and place they signed the waiver.

D. Trithart reported that every outing must have leader who is an ADK member. Trips to environmentally sensitive areas (e.g. the high peaks) must be limited to 12 participants. B. Madore reported that some environmentally sensitive areas have limits of less than 12. J. Omohundro suggested the wording be change to follow established limits set for the area.

D. Trithart reported that every outing should have a minimum party size of 3 in summer, 4 in winter trips, and a minimum of 3 boats for white water outings. There are also recommendations on outing participants conduct and that they must accept leaders authority.

D. Trithart also reported that proposed revised guidelines state that Chapters must consult with the ADK headquarters for scheduled outings outside contiguous 48 US states. This is problematic for the Laurentian Chapter, which includes members and outings on both sides of the St. Lawrence River. D. Trithart will bring the Chapter's

objections back to ADK, and he will ask if ADK plans to have a consultant readily available to expedite request for outings in Canada.

D. Trithart read some further excerpts from the proposed guidelines, and will bring Chapter feedback back to ADK.

D. Trithart reported that there was a resolution on hydrofracking in the State Senate and Assembly that the ADK will vote to endorse in Saturday. It is a water withdrawals bill. Currently there are no laws about taking water from any NYS water body. The law will allow only 100,000 gallons per day in a 30-day consecutive period.

D. Trithart announced there were a few changes to ADK Committees. Membership is merging with another committee, a new conservation committee is being formed, and there are a few new chapters.

Publicity –T. Ortmeier

No report

Education Vice-Chair – B. Madore

Two outdoors/indoors events are scheduled (a movie on hydrofracking and on may 15th, Debbie White will report on hiking in the Alps).

B. Madore announced he has asked to resign his position as Education Vice-Chair, as he needs to focus his attentions on his family. He has asked J. Barron to find someone to take on his role.

B. Madore reported on the village committee that looking into Raquette River Blue Way Corridor. He is planning to resign that committee as well, but suggested it would be good idea for the Chapter to stay connected with that group. J. Omohundro attended the last meeting, and is planning to continue to attend.

Chair – J. Barron

J. Barron reported he regrets B. Madore's resignation, but was glad that Blair will still be available to lead outings.

J. Barron reported on The Educational Affiliate Program (coordinator John Gilewicz), which enlist members of college outdoor clubs to join ADK chapters at discounted rates. J. Barron is exploring possibilities. The Affiliate program could involve running outings and courses for the affiliate members. The College and Universities will sponsor the program, and they will want major value in return. Courses could be offered in wilderness education, leave no trace, cross-country skiing, etc. Mark Simon would be a contact at SUNY Potsdam. Clarkson University has cut their outdoor program. They still have an outings club.

D. Trithart has discussed the program with John Gilewicz, and thinks this could be a whole lot of work. J. Barron will continue to explore the possibilities, and report back in the future. B. Madore suggested that a separate meeting with representatives from each college may be in order.

J. Barron reported that the Chapter last ran an ADK Fall outing in 2006. He suggests that maybe the Chapter would sponsor the Spring outing in 2013. A potential site could be at Cranberry Lake. Event dates would be at the discretion of the Chapter. Spring outing doesn't always happen. J. Barron suggested maybe have the Spring Outing in

May or June, and use the area colleges as the site. Catamount is too small. Paul Smith's was also suggested as an option.

Merchandise Coordinator – G. Ames

J. Barron announced that G. Ames can't attend the potluck dinner and that volunteers would be needed to man the merchandise table. D. Trithart and B. Madore volunteered.

Outings Chair – B. Mueller

B. Mueller reported there was a great response from trip leaders. There are six outings being led by first time leaders, and twenty-seven events overall. He received twelve backtrack reports. B. Madore advocated that we run a how-to-be-a-leader workshop. B. Mueller announced that the "Tips for Trip Leaders" document has been sent around. There was some discussion as to who is available to teach the workshop. Suggestions included Dick Mooers and Mark Simon. M. Hebert suggested the ADK Community Outreach Coordinator (Thea Moruzzi) would be a good candidate to do the workshop. C. Kaczka suggested she might be a good potluck speaker.

Membership – H. Easter

H. Easter announced he received a letter from the ADK on the membership database changes and issues. There are newly designed chapter reports. The letter explains why he hasn't been getting membership reports. The Laurentian Chapter currently has 10 affiliate members from other chapters.

Next meeting

May 18th Place: David Trithart's home

Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm.

5:36 PM
03/20/11
Cash Basis

Adirondack Mountain Club, Laurentian Chapter
Balance Sheet
As of March 20, 2011

	<u>Mar 20, 11</u>	<u>Mar 20, 10</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
North Country Savings-Checking	713.03	1,719.17
SeaComm FCU CD 12/15/11 1.34%	3,085.59	3,000.00
SeaComm FCU-Regular Shares	5.00	5.00
Total Checking/Savings	<u>3,803.62</u>	<u>4,724.17</u>
Other Current Assets		
North Country Savings-Money Mkt	1,577.89	1,571.09
Total Other Current Assets	<u>1,577.89</u>	<u>1,571.09</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>5,381.51</u>	<u>6,295.26</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>5,381.51</u>	<u>6,295.26</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Sales Tax Payable	2.24	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>2.24</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>2.24</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Liabilities	2.24	0.00
Equity		
Fund Balance	5,626.46	6,300.80
Net Income	-247.19	-5.54
Total Equity	<u>5,379.27</u>	<u>6,295.26</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>5,381.51</u>	<u>6,295.26</u>

5:41 PM
03/20/11
Cash Basis

Adirondack Mountain Club, Laurentian Chapter
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
January 1 through March 20, 2011

	<u>Jan 1 - Mar 20, 11</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income		
Advertising Income	150.00	200.00
Interest Income	0.23	125.00
Membership Dues Received	580.00	3,500.00
Product Sales	0.00	250.00
Other Income	0.85	0.00
Total Income	<u>731.08</u>	<u>4,075.00</u>
Cost of Goods Sold		
Purchases for Resale	0.00	185.00
Total COGS	<u>0.00</u>	<u>185.00</u>
Gross Profit	731.08	3,890.00
Expense		
Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.00	0.00
ADK General Fund Contribution	0.00	500.00
Campership	700.00	650.00
Friends of Higley Donation	0.00	100.00
ADK H.S. Vol Trail Program	0.00	500.00
General Expense		
Business Cards	0.00	0.00
Cooperation with DEC	0.00	250.00
Publicity Flyers	0.00	50.00
Director	0.00	330.00
Website Maintenance	0.00	0.00
Prizes and Awards	0.00	160.00
Hospitality Committee	0.00	125.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00
General Expense - Other	0.00	0.00
Total General Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>915.00</u>
Local Trail Maintenance		
Red Sandstone Maintenance	0.00	200.00
Stone Valley Maintenance	0.00	200.00
Local Trail Maintenance - Other	0.00	0.00
Total Local Trail Maintenance	<u>0.00</u>	<u>400.00</u>
Newsletter		
Newsletters & Brochures	173.27	580.00
Postage	0.00	780.00
Newsletter - Other	0.00	0.00
Total Newsletter	<u>173.27</u>	<u>1,360.00</u>
Offices		
Chair	0.00	75.00
Conservation	0.00	0.00
Education	0.00	50.00
Membership	0.00	90.00
Newsletter Editor	0.00	0.00
Outings	0.00	75.00
Publicity	0.00	25.00
Secretary	0.00	0.00
Treasurer	0.00	25.00
Offices - Other	0.00	0.00
Total Offices	<u>0.00</u>	<u>340.00</u>

5:41 PM
03/20/11
Cash Basis

Adirondack Mountain Club, Laurentian Chapter
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
January 1 through March 20, 2011

	<u>Jan 1 - Mar 20, 11</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Programs		
Outdoor-Indoor Programs	20.00	55.00
Potlucks	85.00	400.00
Programs - Other	0.00	0.00
Total Programs	<u>105.00</u>	<u>455.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>978.27</u>	<u>5,220.00</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-247.19</u></u>	<u><u>-1,330.00</u></u>