

Adirondack Mountain Club Laurentian Chapter
Executive Committee Meeting Nov. 10, 2011
Minutes DRAFT

The Executive Committee meeting was held at 7:00pm on Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2011, at the residence of John and Susan Omohundro.

Officers Attending: John Barron, Marianne Hebert, Bill Mueller, David Trithart, Blair Madore, Ellie Menz

Appointed Positions Attending: John Omohundro. Carolyn Kaczka, Joann Ferris, Geri Ames, Susan Omohundro

Guests: Dana Chudzinski, John Wood

Approval of agenda and of the minutes of the September meeting
D.Trithart moved, B. Mueller 2nd. The minutes were approved unanimously.
B. Mueller moved, D. Trithart 2nd. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Adopt-A-Natural Resource Stewardship Agreements (AANRs) - Presentation by John Wood of the DEC

J. Woods gave an explanation of the DEC's Adopt-A-Natural Resource Stewardship Agreements. He has had discussions with B. Madore and A. Spencer about the opportunity for the Chapter to get involved. A description of the program, guidelines and application form is on the DEC website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/2568.html>

Individuals and groups are eligible to become active members of the program. Responsibilities of AANR members include completing proposed activities and projects in the manner agreed upon, collecting names and addresses of participants (i.e. HR3 form necessary for Workman's Comp, etc.), report annually on activities completed, report on accidents and injuries. The DEC is responsible for discussing problems and issues, and managing the agreement.

Although the ADK Club has an AANR, the Chapter is not covered. Friends of Arab Mountain have an AANR. The Chapter was not covered for the Lampson Falls work we did last Spring. An AANR is not necessary for litter cleanup or basic trail maintenance such as brush clearing or water bars, but would be needed for any construction work such as bridges. J. Woods noted that replacing structures in kind (e.g. water bars that have failed or bridges in disrepair) are not a big deal. AANRs are needed for new construction. AANRs are not needed for easement lands, only Forest Preserve work. AANRs are not needed for Stone Valley or the Red Sandstone Trail.

J. Wood is asking for one contact in the Chapter to be the point person for AANRs. J. Woods noted that Lampson falls is getting a lot of use (5,000 + visitors / year). He stated there were no criteria for the size of the project, but recommended that in order to be successful you need to take on what you can achieve. It doesn't help the DEC if you don't reach your goals. He thought that Lampson Falls and Harper Falls projects would be a good place to start.

He also noted that chain saw use was allowable, but there is certification you need to get. Very few adopters use chain saws.

C. Kaczka asked why the DEC has not put up official trail signs on Tooley Pond Road? J. Woods replied that it was because the DEC is still writing up the Unit Management Plans. In order to do anything new, such as handicap accessible trails, new trails, etc. it has to be in the UMP. If project is not in an existing UMP, then the UMP has to be amended. Amending a UMP is not as hard as writing a new UMP, but it is hard enough.

B. Madore asked about youth labor laws, e.g. for Boy Scout, and participants on other projects. It was noted that there are restrictions for participants under 18. Even volunteers have to adhere to labor laws, e.g. restrictions on operating chain saws.

J. Woods described the Cranberry Lake UMP, which includes a 1986 ski trail plan and a wetlands general permit. Projects that involve wetland, have restrictions, e.g. for trees to be cut more than 3 inches in diameter. He noted that the workload is huge. He gave the Gilbert tract as an example. The project started with AANR.

J. Omohundro asked about easements and acquired lands and if there were similar problems. J. Woods responded there were different issues with easements. Conservation easements are set up on private lands, for example, Moody Falls. They are usually adjacent to forest preserves. A conservation easement is an agreement with a private landowner such as the timber company to allow access for recreational use. The DEC meets with the landowner to make sure he/she is ok with agreements, for example, is the parking lot located where it doesn't interfere with landowner operation. J. Woods noted that the Mt. Arab trail starts on easement land, then crosses over state forest land, then easement land, then forest land again.

B. Madore noted that the DEC was instrumental in getting stuff done, and getting permissions for the Moody Falls project. Getting the landowner's permission was key. He asked whether the Chapter can go direct to landowner to get work done, or should we go to DEC first. J. Woods responded that the Chapter should go to the DEC first. If you do something illegal on private land, you can jeopardize the whole agreement.

D. Trithart asked what should be our first step, and whether we should contact Wes Lampman? J. Woods encouraged the chapter to establish our own AANR. It won't be needed for cleanup of litter, but it would be needed to do any bridge building like we did last year.

J. Barron asked about work at Tooley Pond. J. Woods noted that there was no UMP for Tooley. We could do brush work, but not bridge building or other construction. J. Barron asked about what standard of care is expected? J. Woods noted that that type of information will be in the manual that Wes Lampman is producing. He suggested that the Chapter use the manual and request Wes or J. Woods as an instructor.

It was asked whether the AANR member had any sort of sway over how UMPs were development? E.g. whether new trails could be established at Lampson Falls? J. Woods responded that AANR members had no sway over the UMP. The AANR is agreement to do work, and does not include management of land.

Financial Status - Possible Grants to ADK, Friends of Higley Flow, Others

There was discussion on the status of the budget and how multi-year memberships to the ADK are distributed the Chapter. E. Menz noted that things are tighter this first year, but should iron them selves out over time. She also reported that we are taking in less than budgeted, primarily in membership dues. Purchases for resale are not accounted in the inventory.

E. Menz commented that Camperships cost more this year, we were over budget on the volunteer trail program, more funds were spent on miscellaneous items, e.g. matting of photos. The Chapter hasn't donated to the Friends of Higley Flow yet.

There was a brief question on the Hospitality expenses. E. Menz will correct the line item and move the expenses from the Potluck line to Hospitality.

Overall, the budget is positive at this point. North Wind newsletter expenses haven't come in yet. They should be expended in next years budget. We are roughly \$700 in the black for the year.

B. Madore suggest the Chapter could make a donation to the Friends of Mt. Arab. Vandalism repairs will cost \$6000. It was noted that the Friends group is working to raise the needed funds and they should be close to their goal. It was suggested that club members could make donations as individuals instead.

C. Kaczka suggested the Chapter should channel funds back to the Club. It was noted that the Club was finishing in the black, as they have a stringent budget. Hurricane Irene is causing revenue losses for the Loj and JBL and the bad economy is presenting fiscal challenges to the Club. C. Kaczka recommended that the buck of the discretionary budget be donated to the Club. J. Omohundro strongly supported her suggestions.

D. Trithart reported on the Friends of Higley progress to raised \$120,000 for a ski lodge. He noted that they had submitted another grant proposal with the NY Parks and Recreation and that they should be getting close to their goal. They are hoping to begin building the structure next summer.

J. Barron asked if there were anything else the Chapter could do to promote the facilities at Higley. It was noted that publicity could help, and maybe we could mention the Friends of Higley website in the Chapter newsletter.

B. Madore asked if there were any opportunities for Chapter members to participate in Higley events. It was noted that Higley had a Winter fest, and the Empire state games needed volunteers. Last week was trails day at Higley.

D. Trithart noted that they weren't sure how the structure will be built, or whether they would need volunteers. He thought that they may need volunteer labor for interior work.

B. Madore suggested if we go to help as group, should we identify ourselves, and asked if people prefer hats, vests, etc. J. Omohundro suggested participants could wear Chapter loon logo stickers.

B. Madore noted he had discussions with H. Easter about the Chapter's fiscal state, and asked why the Chapter carries such a large balance. J. Barron stated that the cushion gave a comfortable peace of mind. Last year the Chapter gave \$1000 more in donations. If we experience further loss of members we would continue to experience a loss in revenue. He felt that moderation was warranted.

E. Menz suggested that if we donated \$500 to the Club, \$100 to Higley, and \$100 for Arab or other need, basically we would break even.

B. Madore made a motion to donate \$500 to the Club, \$100 to Friends of Higley, and \$50 to the Friends of Mt. Arab. B. Mueller 2nd the motion. J. Barron made a friendly amendment to the motion. He offered to make a personal donation of \$100 to the Chapter, so the Chapter could donate \$600 to the Club.

Motion passed unanimously.

Round Table

Merchandise Coordinator - G. Ames.

G. Ames reported that she received \$35 donations at the Potluck, and made ~\$60 in sales.

Vice Chair Education – B. Madore

B. Madore noted he was happy to have a replacement. C. Kaczka suggested it would be good to get feedback from the teen trail volunteers and to include a report in the newsletter.

B. Madore reported on the Moody Falls project with DEC. If the road and parking lot are completed next year, there will be something to celebrate. J. Woods suggest that we put an article in the newsletter to publicize what we have accomplished, but we should wait until we have our AANR before we report on the Lampson Falls work.

Social Media Coordinator – M. Hebert

M. Hebert gave an update on the Chapter Twitter and Facebook pages. She has been posting upcoming outings and news. We have very few Facebook members and we should try to publicize the service.

Newsletter Editor - J. Omohundro

J. Omohundro reported that the next newsletter Deadline was Dec. 5th.

Hospitality – J. Ferris

J. Ferris reported that the News Year Day Potluck would be held at Clarkson. \$125 costs have cleared. She asked if anyone had any suggestions for hospitality. She reported she did some research on alternate sites. The Zion Episcopal in Colton has space we could use for a donation. J. Barron suggested the \$125 we pay for Clarkson would be a good donation for church.

Outings Chair – B. Mueller

B. Mueller reported that outings are going forward. His report is appended to these minutes.

Archivist – C. Kaczka

No report.

Director – D. Trithart

D. Trithart reported that the next Director's meeting was scheduled in early December. He noted that the timing of the meetings made it difficult to get his reports in the newsletter as the deadlines were before the meetings or soon afterward.

E-letter Editor – D. Mooers

J. Barron reported for D. Mooers. He is planning a distance outing at Acadia next September.

Membership – H. Easter

J. Barron reported for H. Easter. His membership report was sent by email and appended to these minutes. Total voting members are 363. We have 405 total members. Numbers are slightly down.

Chair – J. Barron

J. Barron reported on the Educational Affiliate Program. He reported that only one applicant SUNY Potsdam had taken advantage of the payment mechanism through SGA. He plans to subsidize the student if there are no more applicants. John noted there was lots of interest at the Affiliates meeting at SUNY Potsdam and a good turnout on maintenance days. He is continuing to try to recruit through the campus representative. Lists at meeting, email turnout on maintenance days. Trying to recruit through representatives.

J. Barron reported that the presentation by Heidi Kretser of the Wildlife Conservation Society "On the Scent of Moose in the Adirondacks" at the Potluck went very well.

He received notification that the Packbasket in Wanakena has great rates. We won't publicize in our newsletter, but suggested we tell our friends.

J. Barron reported that he was contacted by the Genesee Valley Chapter, which is doing a Flat Stanley workshop. Flat Stanley is a children's book character. Schools and other programs host Flat Stanley projects where kids make their own "Flat Stanley's" and mail them to friends and family members who document where Stanley has been, and what adventures they go on. J. Barron reported that the Genesee chapter was looking for volunteers to take Stanley on a Chapter event. If anyone is interested in participating, they should contact John.

Next meeting - Thursday Jan. 19th at Marianne Hebert's house in Potsdam.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

12:29 PM
09/16/11
Cash Basis

Adirondack Mountain Club, Laurentian Chapter
Balance Sheet
As of September 16, 2011

	Sep 16, 11	Sep 16, 10
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
North Country Savings-Checking	1,420.86	2,013.37
SeaComm FCU CD 12/15/11 1.34%	3,106.32	3,084.75
SeaComm FCU-Regular Shares	5.00	5.00
Total Checking/Savings	4,532.18	5,103.12
Other Current Assets		
North Country Savings-Money Mkt	1,077.89	1,571.09
Total Other Current Assets	1,077.89	1,571.09
Total Current Assets	5,610.07	6,674.21
TOTAL ASSETS	5,610.07	6,674.21
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Sales Tax Payable	2.24	13.22
Total Other Current Liabilities	2.24	13.22
Total Current Liabilities	2.24	13.22
Total Liabilities	2.24	13.22
Equity		
Fund Balance	5,319.28	6,300.80
Net Income	288.55	360.19
Total Equity	5,607.83	6,660.99
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	5,610.07	6,674.21

8:24 PM
10/29/11
Cash Basis

Adirondack Mountain Club, Laurentian Chapter
Balance Sheet
As of October 31, 2011

	Oct 31, 11	Oct 31, 10
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
North Country Savings-Checking	1,511.84	1,395.74
SeaComm FCU CD 12/15/11 1.34%	3,106.32	3,084.75
SeaComm FCU-Regular Shares	5.00	5.00
Total Checking/Savings	4,623.16	4,485.49
Other Current Assets		
North Country Savings-Money Mkt	1,077.89	1,571.09
Total Other Current Assets	1,077.89	1,571.09
Total Current Assets	5,701.05	6,056.58
TOTAL ASSETS	5,701.05	6,056.58
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Sales Tax Payable	2.24	13.22
Total Other Current Liabilities	2.24	13.22
Total Current Liabilities	2.24	13.22
Total Liabilities	2.24	13.22
Equity		
Fund Balance	5,319.28	6,300.80
Net Income	379.53	-257.44
Total Equity	5,698.81	6,043.36
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	5,701.05	6,056.58

7:18 AM
10/30/11
Cash Basis

Adirondack Mountain Club, Laurentian Chapter
Profit & Loss
January through October 2011

	Jan - Oct 11	Jan - Oct 10
Income		
Advertising Income	375.00	175.00
Interest Income	1.20	87.06
Membership Dues Received	2,790.15	2,949.10
Product Sales	31.91	213.69
Other Income	530.20	330.63
Total Income	3,728.46	3,755.48
Cost of Goods Sold		
Purchases for Resale	38.85	0.00
Total COGS	38.85	0.00
Gross Profit	3,689.61	3,755.48
Expense		
ADK General Fund Contribution	0.00	500.00
Campership	700.00	975.00
Friends of Higley Donation	0.00	100.00
ADK H.S. Vol Trail Program	750.00	0.00
General Expense		
Cooperation with DEC	0.00	251.99
Publicity Flyers	0.00	384.00
Prizes and Awards	160.00	0.00
Total General Expense	160.00	635.99
Local Trail Maintenance		
Red Sandstone Maintenance	33.50	497.72
Total Local Trail Maintenance	33.50	497.72
Newsletter		
Newsletters & Brochures	636.19	509.86
Postage	710.36	455.16
Total Newsletter	1,346.55	965.02
Offices		
Conservation	0.00	5.02
Membership	0.00	71.59
Total Offices	0.00	76.61
Programs		
Outdoor-Indoor Programs	20.00	41.58
Potlucks	300.03	221.00
Total Programs	320.03	262.58
Total Expense	3,310.08	4,012.92
Net Income	379.53	-257.44

ADK-Laurentian Outings-September 19, 2001

Summer Outings-We had 23 events scheduled for the period July-September. Two are yet to go, but of the 21 trips behind us, 18 were completed, for a success rate of $18/23=78\%$. This summer we have been blessed with good weather. Three trips were cancelled; one each for weather, no-takers and last-minute family emergency of the TL. In general, there was a good turn-out for each trip, although for four of the outings only one other person was present with the trip leader.

Fall Outings-We have 15 Outings scheduled for Fall Quarter, October-December, including the Fall potluck on November 6. Four of these are trail work days, 1 bicycle trip, 6 mountain climbs, and 4 trail explorations from mild to strenuous (Leary Trail, Long Pond Loop, and snowshoes at Higley and Indian Creek Nature Center).

I owe much thanks to trip leaders and their generosity in giving their time and energy on behalf of the Laurentian chapter. Thank you!

Bill Mueller-Outings

Membership Report – Email by H. Easter on Nov. 10, 2011

Here are the figures from this month's ADK report:

As of September, 2011:

14 new members, for which we'll receive \$213.20 in dues

11 total affiliates

77 adult members (same as August)

85 family members (-3 from August)

40 senior members (same as August)

35 senior families (same as August)

3 lifetime members (same as August)

3 student members (same as August)

this leads us to:

243 total households (-3 from August)

120 spouses/partners (-3 from August)

363 voting members (-6 from August)

405 total members (-6 from August) (i.e., we lost three families, with both spouses as voting members)