

**Minutes of the Laurentian ADK Executive Committee Meeting
February 5, 2015 at the home of Lila Hunnewell**

Present: Tom Wheeler, Chair; Jeff Miller, Education; Marianne Hebert, Outings; John Barron, EAP and Alternate Director; Lila Hunnewell, Membership; Tom Ortmeier, Director

Regrets: Mary Jane Watson, Treasurer; John Omohundro, Conservation; Dana Chudzinski, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Tom Wheeler. Due to weather and ground conditions Dana couldn't attend, so John Barron took notes and produced these minutes.

Minutes of last meeting

Tom Wheeler, who took notes of the December 11, 2014 meeting, asked for changes. One minor change requested where a few words were omitted concerning Deb Zack's planned retirement. Subject to that change it was moved by Tom Ortmeier, seconded by Jeff Miller, to approve the minutes of December 11, 2014. Carried. The minutes of the October 21, 2014 meeting are further deferred.

Donation to the Friends of Higley Flow

As budgeted in 2014, it was moved by Tom Ortmeier, seconded by Jeff Miller, to donate \$100 to the Friends of Higley Flow. Carried unanimously.

Director

The packet for the next meeting is not out yet. The next meeting will be at the end of March.

Directors are encouraged to join a committee. On John Gilewicz's recommendation Tom has joined the Education committee. So far there hasn't been much activity.

Conservation

No report

Outings

Nineteen outings have been scheduled for the Jan-Mar 2015 season. There have been no cancellations so far despite cold temperatures. Two outings have been rescheduled due to conflicts with leader schedules (the web page has been updated). The three Saranac 6 outings are being cross listed with the Northville-Placid Trail Chapter of the ADK. The third Saranac 6 outing on Feb. 7th has been modified to just one peak, Scarface, as the group felt that two peaks in one day was too much. Felicia Neahr may add a trip at a later date to include Ampersand.

Tom Wheeler indicated he thought it was a good decision to downscope the third outing in the winter Saranac 6 series.

Education

The first Outdoors/Indoors, Glenn Clark's talk about Antarctica, was very well attended, at least thirty people. The second is set for February 22 (Peggy MacKellar's talk about Kilimanjaro).

The DEC's move to online registration for camperships has continued to create a lot of pressure on Vice Chair, Education as well as guidance counsellors, parents, and students, because everything happens so fast. A start was made on January 4, 2015 and it may be early enough but barely. Jeff is interpreting the requirement for applicants to be from St. Lawrence County liberally and is accepting applications from nearby areas outside. Jeff has received eight letters of interest and selected two, one from Brushton Moira and one from Ogdensburg Free Academy. He has given the parents the registration instructions and codes and urged them to register immediately. Whether it will be in time is in doubt. It is stressful.

The call for this year's High School Volunteer Trails program is now up on the ADK web site. Jeff hopes to send Lucas Hanss and another. There will be a slight price increase.

Membership

A couple of new members and some rejoined in November. Laurentian share \$247.60. Three new in December, Laurentian share \$347.50. Levels holding approximately constant. About 11 or 12 affiliate members.

EAP

The first all-student trip has gone ahead. The student leaders are recognized as expert outdoor people and on-trail leaders; Marianne Hebert has undertaken to mentor them to maintain the same high standards with respect to trip administration, including pre-trip instructions and planning meetings and sending in trip reports and waiver sheets.

A number of procedure documents have been produced for the EAP and are available on a SUNY Potsdam/Wilderness Education/Moodle site. Two of them will be submitted for ADK HQ review (special versions of the liability release form and the ADK trip guidelines).

On the to-do list, we should make sure that student leaders have good procedures to cancel trips at the last minute when necessary for weather or similar reasons.

Social Media

There are now 83 Facebook friends.

Treasurer

Mary Jane circulated a financial report before the meeting. It was noted that much of the apparently-high expenditure on trail maintenance this year is expected to be reimbursed by RRAC. If so, it will allow the donation to ADK main club that was planned in the 2014 budget to take place.

Tom Wheeler will produce a draft budget for 2015 for the next meeting.

Immediacy of Posting Non-Urgent Information on the Web Site

Whether to post non-urgent information on the web site immediately or after publication in the North Wind was raised. Tabled until next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is planned for March 26, 2015 at the Wheeler's residence.