

**Minutes of the Laurentian ADK Executive Committee Meeting
March 26, 2015 at the home of Tom and Eileen Wheeler**

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

Regrets: Mary Jane Watson, Treasurer; 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.

Announcements (Tom Wheeler)

National Trails Day will be held in Wanakena this year.

We don't yet have a confirmed speaker for the spring pot luck, so Tom asked if anyone could think of any possibilities. John Barron offered to try to have one of the EAP students give the presentation about the Leadership II expedition to the Gila Wilderness.

Minutes of last meeting (John Barron on behalf of Dana Chudzinski)

Bad luck with the weather has prevented Dana from attending two meetings this winter. Dana had circulated draft minutes of the October 21 meeting in the expectation of being here tonight but weather has led to another call-out so John Barron handled this item.

October 21 - Several typos were noted and John B will correct. Moved by Marianne H, seconded by John O to accept. Carried unanimously.

February 5 - One typo noted and John B will correct. Moved by John O, seconded by Marianne H to accept. Carried unanimously.

John B will send the final versions of October 21, December 11, and February 5 to Dana, Carolyn Kaczka, and David Katz for the permanent records.

Treasurer (Mary Jane Watson)

Mary Jane circulated a financial report in advance of the meeting. John O noted that about \$600 is expected from the RRAC to cover trail maintenance expenses already incurred.

Director (Tom Ortmeyer)

Next meeting in Lake George is this coming weekend.

2014 was quite a good year. A balanced budget was planned, a small surplus was achieved.

The board approved hiring a Development director. There is a search underway, now reduced to six finalists. Deb Zack is still here for now, at least part time.

A new Young Adult Outreach Coordinator position has been proposed, to be funded at \$56,000 per year.

Q: Is there any progress on the Foundation? A: There are two initiatives: finding large donors, and encouraging bequests in wills. Tom thinks staffing the Development position will help advance these.

Conservation (John Omohundro)

John plans to meet with Pat Whalen, who is in charge of the Potsdam DEC substation, to discuss conservation easements and recreational use thereof. This follows on a meeting a couple of years ago that led to construction of bridges at Lampson Falls and the portage trail above Moody Falls. There are still a number of areas showing potential, including the Grasse River Conservation Easement which Tom Ortmeyer and John Barron have reconnoitered for cycling

Outings (Marianne Hebert)

There were 17 outings scheduled for the Jan-Mar 2015 season. 5 outings were cancelled due to weather or lack of participants. Twelve outings ran successfully with a total of 48 participants and 12 leaders.

I have created a new Outings Trip Report form where leaders can submit their backtracks: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1m3u9BnEocG2UyMq7e1YqwT6BogzwD5auzVesEetXcjU/vi/wform>

I am still willing to take trip reports in any format (email or snail mail), but would prefer the google form, as it populates a spreadsheet, and streamlines the process.

The April-June 2015 schedule is final, with 11 outings scheduled.

Social Media

There are 85 Facebook friends.

Education

There were ten people for the talk about Pluto in March, which was lower than average. The March talk had a lower than average turnout last year too, and Jeff thinks it might be a difficult month. Maybe we'll have two in February and none in March next year. Jeff has a possible

presenter for next year, an experienced White Mountains hiker whom Jeff met in grad school.

DEC Sumer Camp: the two students the chapter hoped to sponsor both managed to register - but just barely. We have to start earlier next year.

High School Volunteer Trails: A scramble was needed to find candidates after students the chapter planned to sponsor couldn't participate. The newly-merged Potsdam/Massena Scout Troop was able to recommend two candidates, both of whom accepted and took the last two available slots. They will be installing stepping stones to control erosion on the Ore Bed Trail. The cost of this program has increased from \$250 to \$275.

Jeff was able to send an up-to-date report to the North Wind just in time for the Spring issue deadline.

Membership

Lila is exploring establishing a link between the chapter and 4H Clubs. Jeff Miller will help advise them.

Lila gave the most recent membership report. It is presented in detail in the Spring North Wind. Highlight is many new student members, through the EAP.

Educational Affiliate Program (John Barron and Marianne Hebert)

Marianne H and John B will run a table at the SUNY Potsdam Student Health and Wellness Fair on Earth Day (April 22).

Three all-student EAP trips have gone ahead. Two more, to Bear Mountain and Coney Mountain, are coming up.

Social Media (Marianne Hebert)

There was discussion of offensive posts on the Facebook page. There was one example - not yet a serious problem. It will be watched. "Unfriending" someone is an option if required. Marianne is watching the site for automated spam, which is easy to identify and prevent.

Agenda Items

Backtracks and the Net

David Katz had requested guidance on whether to post information as soon as available or if not time-critical to wait until after it appeared in the North Wind, as may have been the policy a number of years ago.

No one remembered that policy. It was considered that there are two audiences, one that uses the printed North Wind and the other that uses web sites. There may be some overlap. The consensus was that it is preferable to post information as promptly as conveniently possible. It was moved by John O, seconded by Jeff M, to establish the policy of timely posts where possible. Carried unanimously.

Budget

The draft budget was presented. In discussion it was decided to change High School Volunteer Trails to \$550, EAP College Weekend to \$120, and Membership to **\$20?** It was moved by Marianne H, seconded by Jeff M, to approve the budget. Carried unanimously. The approved final is attached as Exhibit A.

Funding Solicitation for National Trails Day

ADK Headquarters has offered the chapter the chance to sponsor National Trails Day in Wanakena. There are a number of options (listed on the main Club web site). The favored option was sponsoring one of the trail projects for \$500, for which our chapter's logo will appear on the event T-Shirt. It was moved by John O, seconded by Marianne H, to sponsor a trail project at National Trails Day at a cost of \$500. Carried unanimously. Funding source to be ADK General Fund contribution.

Massena Boys and Girls Club Request to Participate on Chapter Outing

Debra Donatto asked to bring a group of young people from the Boys and Girls Club on an outing. There was discussion about the implications. Of the trips on the spring calendar, only one is suitable (Bear Mountain). The possibility exists to run a custom event designed specifically for this group; a precedent exists in Mid Hudson Chapter which runs trips for inner city kids. It is believed that if a parent or guardian signs the waiver form a child can participate without being accompanied by a parent or guardian - that happens on trail maintenance for example. The best advice for Debra now is to contact the trip leader and ask to join.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is planned for Thursday May 28, 2015 at Marianne's residence.

Exhibit A - Approved 2015 Budget

Budget Proposal 2015

	2015 Budget	2014 Budget	2014 Actual
Income			
RRAC Reimbursement	\$ 600.00		\$ 439.99
Contributions	\$ 60.00		\$ 60.00
Membership Dues	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,320.00	\$ 3,571.25
Interest Income	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 1.18
Sales	\$ 0.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 295.61
Other	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
Total Income	\$ 4,170.00	\$ 3,480.00	\$ 4,368.03
Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 0.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.70
Expenses			
North Wind			
Newsletter printing	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 657.35
Postage	\$ 400.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 280.88
Total North Wind	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 938.23
Educational and Charitable			
ADK General Fund Contribution	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 0.00
Camperships	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 350.00
Friends of Higley	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
ADK HS Vol Trail program	\$ 550.00	\$ 675.00	\$ 250.00

EAP College Weekend Sponsorship	\$ 120.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00
Other	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 0.00
Total Educational and Charitable	\$ 2,720.00	\$ 2,325.00	\$ 700.00
Local Trails			
Red sandstone Maintenance	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 630.26
Stone Valley Maintenance	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 439.99
Other	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00
Total Local Trails	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,070.25
Offices			
Chair	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 0.00
Education	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 0.00
Conservation	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.00
Membership	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 106.44
Outings	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 0.00
Publicity	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.00
Treasurer	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 0.00
Director	\$ 360.00	\$ 360.00	\$ 360.00
Other	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total Offices	\$ 705.00	\$ 705.00	\$ 466.44
Programs and Hospitality			
Outdoor Indoor	\$ 80.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 80.00
Potlucks	\$ 300.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 246.00
Hospitality	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 73.78

Total Programs	\$ 530.00	\$ 560.00	\$ 399.78
General Expenses			
Prizes and Awards	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 180.00
Publicity	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 0.00
DEC Cooperation	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00
Internet	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 142.56
Miscellaneous	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 250.00
	\$ 590.00	\$ 590.00	\$ 572.56
Summary of Expenses			
Cost of goods sold	\$ 0.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.71
North Wind	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 938.23
Educational and Charitable	\$ 2,720.00	\$ 2,325.00	\$ 700.00
Local Trails	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,070.25
Offices	\$ 705.00	\$ 705.00	\$ 466.44
Programs and Hospitality	\$ 530.00	\$ 560.00	\$ 399.78
General Expenses	\$ 590.00	\$ 590.00	\$ 575.26
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$ 6,245.00	\$ 6,280.00	\$ 4,350.67
Deficit/Surplus	-\$ 2,075.00	-\$ 2,800.00	\$ 17.36
Assets (per P and L)	\$ 6,425.35		