

September 27, 2017 Worcester Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Boylston Historical Society, 7 Central St. Boylston, MA

Attending: Dave Cole, Joe Massery, Kim Beauchemin, Jose Schroen, Pat Flanagan (minutes), Pat Lambert, Steve Ciras, Deb Herlihy, Fred Mezynski, Barbara Dyer, Bruce Wester, John Grote, Michele Simoneau, Steve Crowe, Karen Maki, Gina Shea, Dave Elliott, Jonathan DiRodi, Jean Langely, Jean Sifleet, Kim Simpson, Ingrid Molnar, Alex Molnar, Zenya Molnar, Christina Ferretti

The meeting was called to order at 6:40pm

Dave Cole presiding

Normal Business

- Approve Secretaries Report June Meeting (Pat Flanagan via Tim Loftus)
Approved.

- Approve Treasurers Report June, July, August (Jose)

June: One change suggested by Pat L. Items charged to the Endowment Committee that should not have been, for a total of \$251. Jose will correct. Approved as amended.

July: Approved.

August: Approved.

- Endowment Proposals review and Approval (Challenge Camp Dodge)
No new proposals. Previously Pat L sent the revised Endowment Committee Guidelines. The committee reviewed the entire guidelines and “cleaned up” for clarity and language consistency. One change was made related to how many accounts are needed for transfers of funds. Joe commented with regard to multi-year requests: The EC needs to review multiyear requests annually as part of approving that year’s budget. He noted this is about practice and doesn’t have to be in the guidelines. The motion to approve the revised guidelines passed.

Update on the Camp Dodge Challenge: The proposal is for renovation to this base camp for trails and trail restoration. The EC offer is \$10,000 over two years, contingent on matching funds being raised. The funds are close to being raised but not complete yet, with the deadline Sept 30. Dave raised the question of what to do if the matching funds aren’t achieved. Decision: We will give them more time and we will match what they raise.

- Volunteer of the Month (Joe)

JULY

Bill Zahavi, nominated by Walt Lazarz for leadership on the Moosilauke hike.

Bill Zahavi, nominated by Mike Foley for organizing the weekly paddles at Whitehall.

Sharon Whalen, nominated by Mike Foley for organizing the weekly paddles at Whitehall.

Claudine Mapa, nominated by Steph Murphy for organizing our Weekend in the Whites and helping continue our positive relationship with the Notch Hostel in Woodstock.

Dave Laska, nominated by Andy Wojcikowski for multiple contributions over the years, and recently, including co-leads at Nickerson and music at various venues.

Janice Melchiorre, nominated by Jean Langley for quick, decisive, and appropriate reaction to an incident on a trip where a hiker was incapacitated after an insect bite and needed Epi pen injection – may have saved the hiker's life.

Jean Langley, nominated by Janice Melchiorre for quick, decisive, and appropriate reaction to an incident on a trip where a hiker was incapacitated after an insect bite and needed Epi pen injection – may have saved the hiker's life.

JULY WINNER: Dave Brainard

Nominated by John Grote for helping out with the rock climbing trip to Crow Hill on Sunday June 11.

AUGUST

Annamarie Langan, nominated by Walt Lazarz for her lead on the Monadnock-Sunapee Greenway middle section backpack. Monitoring the weather, rescheduling the trip and executing a great trip.

Steph Keimig, nominated by Steph K Murphy for serving as a mentor leader for Chris Bope's Monadnock hike.

Steph Keimig, nominated by Steph K Murphy for serving as a mentor leader for Zenya Molnar's Mt. Moosilauke hike.

Chris Fogarty, nominated by Steph K Murphy for serving as a mentor to Mike Morin in backpacking.

Sharon Whalen, nominated by Steph K Murphy for serving as a mentor leader for Zenya Molnar's Mt. Garfield hike.

Bill Zahavi, nominated by Steph K Murphy for serving as a mentor leader for Alex Molnar's Mt. Jackson hike.

Bill Manser, nominated by Mike Foley for taking disabled vets year after year to Maine for a few days of fly fishing.

AUGUST WINNER: Dana Perry

Nominated by Debi Garlick and Joe Massery for his gear presentation at the Winter Hiking Workshop, and contributing the Backpacking Workshop.

SEPTEMBER

Walt Lazarz, nominated by Debi Garlick for quick reaction in resuing another hiker who had slipped into deep, fast water.

Neil Schutzman, nominated by Debi Garlick for aiding another hiker who was stuck in the middle of a tough water crossing.

Pat Fanjoy, nominated by Fred Mezynski for covering for Fred at 3rd Wednesday while he was on vacation.

Dave Laska, nominated by Fred Mezynski for covering for Fred at 3rd Wednesday while he was on vacation.

SEPTEMBER WINNER: Paul Glazebrook

Nominated by Debi Garlick, Charlie Arsenault, Steve Ciras, and Joe Massery for contributing to the Winter Hiking and Backpacking Workshops, leadership on Monadnock hike, and completing AWFA training.

- Volunteer of the Year: Vote for this or draw for this? (Joe, Fred and open discussion)
The question of whether to continue selection of the winner by drawing a name was raised. After some discussion of alternatives it was decided that the name should continue to be drawn, but from the set of all names nominated during the year rather than just the 12 who won Volunteer of the Month. This is to both ensure that all nominated throughout the year have an equal chance of being selected and so that all levels of volunteerism are celebrated and encouraged. Joe removes duplicate names as a matter of course. After October's VOM selection, the Volunteer of the Year will be drawn.

All of the winners are recognized on FB and in the newsletter, and will also be recognized at the Annual Meeting.

New Business

- New slate of officers 2016 (Jose, Joe)
Dave thanked Jose for taking on this role while Charlie is hiking the AT. Five new members will join the EC. In October, there will be an orientation for new EC members an hour prior to the usual 6pm start time. All EC members are welcome to be there.

- Mentoring for the new slate and orientation for the new slate (Joe)

Claudine Mapa, Skiing – Jean Sifleet

Lauren Rothermich, Skiing – Jean Sifleet

Jeanne Langely, Membership – Karen Maki

Neil Schuzman, Biking – Bruce Wester

Janice Melchiore, Biking – Bruce Wester

Stephanie Murphy, 20s/30s – Christina Ferretti

Jon DiRodi, Conservation – Kim Beachemin

- Annual Meeting 2017: Planning-Who, What, When (Dave, Karen, Joe, team)

The meeting is on November 11th at The Manor in West Boylston. The flyer will be mailed and is online, as well. EC members should respond to and email Karen will send, letting her know whether you will attend. EC members are compensated by the chapter. Any guests must be paid for.

It was decided to forego a committee to plan logistics for the evening in favor of a sign-up sheet or Doodle Poll. Once EC members have volunteered, Karen will reach out via FB or other means to the broader chapter membership for interest.

Otherwise:

A photographer is needed. Karen Maki will ask her daughter. Barb Dyer will post a request for a photographer via Facebook page, if needed.

Mike Foley will be asked if he wants to do the slide show again this year. If he doesn't we will look for someone else, possibly beyond the EC.

Charlie Arsenault will be asked if he wants to again coordinate the speaker slides and beta test the sequence.

- Annual Meeting 50/50 Raffle: (group)

After discussion, it was decided to move away from raffling gifts. This year there will be items from the 100th Anniversary launch and developing the raffles is very time consuming and hasn't brought in much money.

- 100th Anniversary update from Sept 13 meeting: (Steve Ciras)

Steve reported on the leader kick-off event two weeks ago, which was well attended. At least thirty events have been planned. Not all are posted yet. A calendar of the events will be created to give out at the Annual Meeting. There will be a number of kick-off things associated with the Annual Meeting. Everyone should have a T-shirt; contact Deb if you still need one. Please wear them to help advertise the event, especially if you are at the Fall Gathering.

- Request for Appie of the Year Nominations: (Dave)

Dave asked that EC members consider who they might want to nominate for Appie of the Year and send the names to him. This is the highest honor of the Chapter. Note that past winners are exempt. Previous winners are:

2006 Jim Walsh

2007 Barbara Dyer
2008 Pat Lambert
2009 Fred Meszynski
2010 Sharon Foster
2011 Deb Herlihy
2012 Steve Crowe
2013 Steve Ciras
2014 Debi Garlick
2015 John Grote and Mike Foley (tie)
2016 Bruce Wester and Charlie Arsenault (tie)

- 2017 Annual Meeting Speaker (Dave)
Doug Teschner is the speaker. He was a member in past, has been in the Peace Corps, and now is a leadership consultant in New Hampshire.
- Web migration for the chapter will begin shortly (Dave).
Barbara Dyer volunteered to coordinate.
- Who has food for the October meeting: TBD

Old Business

- Asset inventory
Dave Elliott noted that there are no longer white water kayaks. A few tweaks are needed. Jose is assembling and Dave will send the specifics to identify the whitewater kayaks to be removed. Steve Crowe has sent his assets list to Jose.
- Membership marketing card
Karen is getting mailing costs.

Steve (4/16): Photo workshop -open -sometime in 2017

Roundtable (all):

Joe Massery: Will email the EC calendar for the coming year to the group.

Steve Crowe: Working on a variety of projects, including Camp Dodge. The Forest Service lost eight staff members so the work has slowed down. Renovations should be completed in 2018. Other projects are planned including two Pine Hill Trail events, **AND ????** Sorry Steve, didn't catch all of this.

Deb Herlihy: A subcommittee is needed for volunteer awards and leader appreciation for 2018. Deb says the number of leaders is on the increase.

Steve Ciras: NH has been looking for leaders from Worcester to help with some of their hikes. He is leading a Mt Roberts hike for them.

Barb Dyer: Worked at the huts this summer and finally met Denise Guillemette.

Jon DiRodi: The Y/M group went to Acadia which was a great trip

Christina Ferretti: In October there are hiking and trail running events planned for Y/M; they are also starting a newsletter, which is going out to 40 people.

Jean Sifleet: Six months since her skiing accident and hopes to be back to regular activities this fall. The MLK weekend at the Blue Gentian Lodge information has gone out and has some sign ups already.

Bruce Wester: As many know, chapter member Colleen McLaughlin passed away in May. The Wayside Inn was one of her favorite spots; about 25 members recently had dinner there in her memory.

Kim Simpson: The Midstate Trail Committee dealt with a lot of blowdowns this year. John Burns has set up a meeting with a state representative from Fish and Wildlife about new regulations for trails. Specifically, they will discuss the Westborough area to start. The purpose is to understand what Fish and Wildlife is trying to achieve with the regulations.

Pat Lambert: Co-led a hike with Jon in August, his final mentoring step. He is now a leader. Also, met Bill Manser on the hike. Got to know him better and learn more about his volunteer work, which is extensive. Third, as part of 100th anniversary, she is organizing a bay circuit series of hikes. Ten leaders have volunteered to help with it.

Ingrid Molnar: Family events are planned on Oct 20th, Red Apple Farm hike and apple picking, and Nov 5th, a geocaching hike at Waschusetz Meadows.

Zenya Molnar/Alex Molnar: The fall edition of newsletter is due out in October, so please send any information to them by October 6th. Also, any flyers that should be included.

Michele Simoneau: Set up a new FB page for chapter history and began populating it with photos. She is looking for more, but they must be at least 10 years old. Barb noted there are some photos on the original chapter Facebook pages back to 2004.

Jose Schroen: Was contacted by John Gau about the Blue Gentian Lodge event. It brought up the question of how payments for self-funded events should work. These should be handled by the event organizers as having the Treasurer track them would become overwhelming for one person to handle.

Dave Elliott: Has the Worcester Living Magazine article that includes multiple photos of chapter activities, including four of Whitehall Reservoir paddling. He will speak to the author about copyright agreements made before scanning or linking to the text. Dave is also is trying to finish the retaining wall at the shed.

Gina Shea: Posted the winter hiking workshop on Nov 4th and the TG Hut trip, a 100th Anniversary event at the Zealand Hut.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm