

Worcester Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Agenda: May 31, 2017  
Boylston Historical Society, 7 Central St. Boylston, MA

Attending: Dave Cole, Joe Massery, Pat Flanagan (minutes), Michele Simoneau, John Grote, Barbara Dyer, Jonathan Dirodi, Fred Mezynski, Kim Simpson, Steve Crowe, Steve Ciras, Zenya Molnar, Alexandra Molnar, Gina Shea, David Elliott, Karen Maki, Pat Lambert

GUEST: YM Christopher Bope

The meeting was called to order at 6:34pm

### **Normal Business**

-Approve Secretaries Report: April meeting minutes (Pat Flanagan)

Pat L requested changes: sent by email.

The changes were described and approved by the committee. The minutes were approved with these amendments.

Change to 30K in requests section – new language change to “youth programs”

When endowment began.... Change to “endowment established 2005....”

-Approve Treasurers Report April (Jose) – not attending

Pat L. reported that the March report looked fine. The March report was approved.

On the April report, the amount for the Maine House trip advance was dropped and needs to be added back in. Jose has said she will investigate. The April report will be revisited at the May meeting when Jose is back.

Otherwise, a budget discussion took place around policy that prescribes what event attendance will and will not be paid for by the chapter, for chapter leaders. Pat L reported that policy revisions and changes were discussed and approved in June. To attend events such as the Annual Summit, Fall Gathering, and Chapters Retreat the chair and chair elect’s registration is paid. For some events lodging is also included, however the Annual Summit was explicitly excluded from this, because it is felt the Norwood event is close enough for commuting rather than staying overnight. Dave and Joe had understood otherwise and charged their lodging at the summit, leaving that budget in the red. Steve Ciras noted that the list of attendees and costs should have been reviewed in advance, including attendees commitments at the event which might drive exceptions to the policy. Pat L suggests that for next year, people need to commit to going by December and Ecom should look at the amount vs the budget. Joe noted that this topic had been discussed in the budget committee. In further discussion it was noted that the amount in the budget didn’t match the intention accordingly. When one budget line is overspent the Ecom needs to approve any move of funds from one budget line to another, as would be required in this case. Dave and Joe will reimburse the chapter in order to adhere to the policy, but next year the issue might be revisited. Both had significant activities evenings and again early morning, so the committee may want to consider the level and timing of contributions in advance.

-Endowment Proposals review and Approval (Pat Lambert): -JUMP & PROJECT HEALING WATERS

JUMP (Just Understand My Potential): The request is for various programs to be run this year and WIFA training for JUMP leaders. Pat received no questions about it prior to the meeting. The amount requested is: \$1018.50. They have experienced growth in leaders and youth participants. The motion to fund the proposal was accepted.

Project Healing Waters: This is the second year they have requested funds. Bill Manser brings veterans to the Maine Woods for fly fishing. The trip has been successful. Last year he requested \$2000 and this year is requesting \$3000, because he was not able to obtain matching funds he obtained last year. Overall costs for the event are the same. A motion to fund the proposal was approved.

-Volunteer of the Month (Joe)

<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Nominator</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Many	Mike Foley	The whole group of volunteers for working at our spring workshops... leadership training, wfa, backpack workshop, LNT, etc.
Chris Fogarty	Deb Herlihy	Planning, preparing, delivering leadership education and training for AMC and Worcester Chapter.
Sharon Whalen	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Ingrid Molnar	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Walt Lazarz	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Debi Garlick	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Bruce Wester	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Gina Shea	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*John Grote	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Dave Cole	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Steve Ciras	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Karen Maki	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
Kristen Maki	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Kim Beauchemin	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Deb Herlihy	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
John Gau	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
Mike Jones	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Mike Foley	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
Dave Laska	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
Jean Langley	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
Don Wiser	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
Liz Browne	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
Joan Lattke	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Jose Schroen	Joe M/Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
*Pat Lambert	Steph K Murphy	For enthusiastic mentorship to 20s-30s leaders-in-training.

Chris Bope	Steph K Murphy	For active participation in 20-30s committee work, and for working toward completion of his leadership credentials.
Bill Zahavi	Pat Flanagan	For co-leading the May 13th Wachusett Loop hike for the Wachusett to the Whites series.
Steph K Murphy	Pat Lambert	For completing requirements for becoming an upcountry leader for the 20s-30s group.
Pete Lane	Mike Foley	For stepping up to fill in on 30 minutes notice for no-show 3rd Wednesday speaker.
Kathy Martin	Chris Fogarty	Kathy Martin from the Berkshire Chapter for all her hard work in learning how to train leaders. Well deserving because of her enthusiasm and dedication.
Faith Salter	David Elliott	For driving the families paddling and camping event at Barton Cove tentatively scheduled for July 14-16.
Steph K Murphy	Christina Ferretti	For hard work in obtaining her upcountry hike leadership, and helping with the Notch Hostel trip.

\* -= ineligible because previous 2017 VOM or EC member

The volunteer of the Month for May is: Sue Ostrowski

### **New Business**

-Creation of sub-committee to review chapter bylaws and report in (Steve Ciras)  
Steve's proposal is to table this. He will take a look at the bylaws and see if he notes anything that bears consideration.

-Endowment committee overview (Michele and Pat L)  
Michele reported the chapter was formed in 1918. On Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1920, a committee was appointed to investigate establishing a lodge and one was proposed for the highest point in Worcester. Through volunteer work they built "The Hut," which was used for 24 years. More space was needed, so down an adjacent summer camp was purchased that included a larger structure and four acres. Additional purchases brought the total land to eleven acres. The larger structure was used many years, after which an arsonist burned the building (and others in the area). HQ gave approval to rebuild. Because a larger lodge was needed at that time and one abutter would not agree to the plan, it went to court. After eight years of legal action, the AMC won its case, but HQ had changed its mind my then. A Worcester conservation group wanted the land, but it was ultimately sold and large homes built on it. Because of the anger from chapter members over this, HQ agreed to provide the earnings on funds they had, as an endowment. Michele is one of the original members of the endowment committee. She, like other members at the time, seriously considered leaving the club, but did now. She relayed the anger felt at the time, however. Many Worcester chapter members had only learned of the sale via the newspaper.

Pat L noted that the resulting endowment and committee to oversee it began in 2005. Pat sent documents to the Ecom mailing list so others can read them outside of this meeting. Seven committee members are possible, but currently there are five, which has worked well. Generally, the amount received each year, based on investments, is about \$25,000, though depending on the economy this

could vary significantly. Some of the earnings are reinvested or used by HQ. Steve Ciras asked if in lean years we could be sent more than our percentage and Pat reported she would check in to it. The requests come to Pat. She reviews them and asks for details and clarifications, then passes them on the endowment committee members. They in turn review and if no further information is requested make a recommendation. Before recommended proposals are brought to Ecom, Pat discusses the requests with Faith Salter, because HQ has final decision on funding if the nature of the grantee doesn't work with club policy. When Pat sends requests to Ecom, we should know that much thought has gone into the request already before the committee recommended funding it.

Because for many years there were more funds than requests, the fund was also used to help with chapter funding needs. However, more recently we receive more funding requests. This has led to more discrimination among the requests and some have been turned down. The endowment guidelines call for anything over \$250 to be approved by the HQ Financial Officer. Over the years, many proposals have been funded, including a number that benefit the AMC, such as Noble View, Madison Spring Hut, and other project assistance. Otherwise, HQ is helpful in using appropriate techniques to enable funding. To comply with IRS regulations, this requires them to consider how each pertains to IRS law. Pat reported that a lot of the requests come via word of mouth. Funds have to be used within a year, except in extenuating circumstances.

-Update from the Chapters Committee (Joe & Dave)  
Not discussed

-Update Camp Dodge Challenge (Dave)  
Not discussed

-100th anniversary Committee update and Trip Criteria (Steve Ciras)  
Timeline – planning began a while back, with six or more sessions of brainstorming that is now reflected in a plan. Kickoff is at the Annual Meeting in November, followed by 12 months of events culminating in a Gala event on Sept 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Prindle Pond. John Judge will attend and speak, followed by various other events.

On Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, the planning committee hopes to have an activity chairs meeting with the anniversary committee, along with key leaders, and to coordinate the 12 months of events. The purpose of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events is to celebrate contributions of the chapter to the AMC and the Worcester community. To be qualified as an anniversary event, the event must promote the chapter, which could happen in several ways. Examples: an event could be on a trail that the chapter created, or could be a trip to a location the chapter has been heavily involved in developing (such as Madison Spring Hut), or could be traditional chapter events, such as the Main House trip, the Midstate Trail series, or Flags on the 48. Leaders of the events need to educate participants about how the chapter developed the location or why it's significant to the chapter. It must be approved by the leadership chair as appropriate for the anniversary event designation. Swag will be provided to participants and leaders will get shirts and patches. Karen created a logo for the event that will be put on a pint glass and a shirt. Zipper pulls will be one of the swag items. A bandana may also be created.

Next steps include: Ecom members should please speak to leaders and identify two events with dates to begin building a calendar for a flyer. The flyer of events will be distributed at this year's Annual Meeting. Steve wants each Ecom member to report out on the two they have found people to lead at the June meeting. Those leaders may be invited to the Sept 13<sup>th</sup> Ecom meeting. Also, this summer other possible

events should be discussed with leaders. An email blast will be sent to spread the word. Ideas will be shared on Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, at the Northborough Historical Society.

-Update on staying on the executive board - timeline (Dave, Jose)  
Not discussed

-Chapter Assets log (Dave)  
Not discussed

### **Old Business**

-Action Item: Membership marketing card (Karen)  
Not discussed

-Getting info on mailing costs Deb, Mike, Steve (4/16)  
Not discussed

-Photo workshop -open -sometime in 2017  
Not discussed

### **Round Table (All)**

Michele: next newsletter will profile the house in Worcester that was the first headquarters.

Dave E: preparing for the boat shack

Barb: Mountain Classroom is next week, with 7<sup>th</sup> graders attending. One full bus with seven teachers. Also, she attended a meeting recently about the Bay Circuit Trail, where the AMC was brought up as a significant participant. It was on cable TV in Northborough.

Steve Crowe: National Trails Day is this weekend and various events are involved – MidState work on Saturday and Pine Hill on Sunday. A meeting at Colby College will also take place.

Gina: Intro to Three Season Hiking was attended by 17, six were non-members and at least one signed up. Having success signing leaders up on Midstate Trail hikes.

Kim S: Rumors of a trail closure near Paxton Road, near the 4H. Hoping to resolve the issues.

Pat L: Took the endowment committee to dinner, since most of their work is by email.

Zenya: Still time to submit items for the newsletter, hopefully by June 10<sup>th</sup>. More write ups and photos are needed.

Alex: AMC will have a booth at the Soular Jazz Festival on June 10<sup>th</sup>, featuring green technologies. They are looking for volunteers to staff it.

Jonathan: someone from a Worcester university is interested in wifa training so Jon will contact Deb H about when/if doing it through the chapter makes sense, but SOLO does other trainings that could work for them.

Chris Bope: Central Rock Gym in Worcester on Thursday event is looking good.

Joe: Inner Backpacker series is off and running. Events have begun and continue through the month and beyond.

Dave: The Barton Cove paddling event is upcoming. It will be combined with the Berkshire Chapter and Faith Salter will attend.

-Food and Planning for June EC meeting – Dave will bring the food, because it's the BBQ, but if others want to bring side dishes they can.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm