

**AMC Worcester Chapter**  
**Executive Committee Meeting - Minutes: September 25, 2019**

Boylston Historical Society: 7 Central Street, Boylston, Mass.

**Attending:**

Joe Massery	Kim Beauchemin	Jose Schroen	Sue Serra (minutes)
Zenya Molnar	Alexandra Molnar	Jon DiRodi	Bill Zahavi
Ingrid Molnar	Debi Garlick	Paul Glazebrook	Jean Langley
Kim Simpson	Dave Cole	Don Hoffses	Claudine Mapa
Lisa Buckley	John Grote	Fred Mezynski	Stephen Crowe
Michele Simoneau	Michael Foley		

**Guest:** Incoming Chairs for EC 2020, Christine Crepeault, Peter Hinrichs, Lori Dethloff, Dave Brainard, Peter Eggleston, Dana Perry, Ruth Lanhg; and volunteers Nicole Giles, Jake Woloschin, Michael Hauck.

**[6:30 PM]**

**Meeting was called to order**

Joe Massery presiding

Opening remarks:

- Thanks to Ingrid Molnar for dinner
- Volunteer for food for next meeting is Dave Cole
- If you are on current Executive Committee, be on the lookout for email request for Annual Reports, due Oct. 18th
- Welcome to our guests; we have a combination of incoming Chairs for EC 2020 and volunteers — thanks for coming.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**[6:35PM]**

**June Meeting Minutes (Sue)**

Following updates were made:

- No additions/changes requested

**June Minutes APPROVED** with above changes

**[6:40 PM]**

**Month Treasurer's Report (Jose)**

- Received one question on Families budget regarding what an \$18 charge was for; this was camp fees for trip by Jeff Mayes

**Month Treasury Report ACCEPTED** with above changes.

**[7:00 PM]**

**Volunteer of the Month (Kim B)**

July Nominations (3):

- RICK CHIN nominated by Walt Lazarz  
For his solid leadership on the Wild River - Carter Range backpack. He very effectively dealt with 2 different issues on this trip.
- RICK CHIN nominated by Joe Massery  
For co-leading my Berkshires backpack in July.
- STEPH KEIMIG [not eligible] by Mike Foley & Ingrid Molnar  
For her Kayaking Fundamentals instruction on July 21. Instruction was fantastic and a lot of fun. I particularly appreciated Steph's individualized attention for improvement.

**July VOM winner: WALT LAZARZ**

Nominated by Ingrid Molnar for all his efforts in helping to plan and co-lead the Families Geo-Caching hike at TrailsFest that drew an overwhelming 21 participants.

**July VOM ACCEPTED**

August Nominations (4):

- KARYN MACKIN nominated by Dan Foster  
For making the new AMC Worcester bike-packing program a reality. She organized and lead three overnight bike-packing trips this summer, presented at the bike touring workshop, and introduced over twenty non-members to the Worcester chapter's cycling offerings.
- DIRK FLACHBART by Joe Massery  
For co-leading my Berkshires backpack in August.
- JOSE SCHROEN [not eligible] Mike Foley  
For leading a paddle trip on the Spanish River
- WALT LAZARZ by Joe Massery  
For organizing and leader hikes for the Gorman Chairback weekend in August.

**August VOM winner: DAWN FOSTER**

Nominated by Pat Lambert for Gala welcome table volunteer.

**August VOM ACCEPTED**

### September Nominations (3):

- **KAREN MAKI** by Jean Langley  
For lending her expertise (and better software) for completing the flyer for our Annual Meeting and designing the postcard to notify those who will not be getting the e-mail notices. She took the trouble to come to my house to put the draft of the flyer on a flash drive when I was unable to send attachments.
- **DAVID ELLIOT** nominated by Jose Schroen  
for doing an outstanding job in co-leading the 9day Spanish River trip. Besides making sure we had the best water to drink and enough wood to burn, their humor and laughter was unmatched. Thanks for helping out.
- **STEVE GABIS** by Jose Schroen  
For doing an outstanding job in co-leading the 9day Spanish River trip. Besides making sure we had the best water to drink and enough wood to burn, their humor and laughter was unmatched. Thanks for helping out.

### **September VOM winner: GINA SHEA**

Nominated by Kim Beauchemin for their enthusiasm and support in helping and teaching at the Intro to Backpacking Workshop

### **September VOM ACCEPTED**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**[6:43 PM]**

### **Onboard of New EC members (Joe)**

For those coming into new positions, or any who want to participate, there will be an orientation before our next meeting on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm

Asking for volunteers to be mentors for new members of the EC; see Joe if you are interested in helping

(Kim) Chapter Planning Meeting tentative date is Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup>

(Joe) Next EC meetings are October 30<sup>th</sup> & December 4<sup>th</sup>; no meeting in November due to holiday

**[6:47]**

### **Awards: Appie of Year Nominations; Club awards (Joe)**

There are three awards the Chapter gives out and presents at the Annual Meeting:

- **Appie of Year:** Chapter's highest, most prestigious award honoring those who, over multiple years, have gone above and beyond to help make our chapter great through long term contribution to the Chapter; please submit nominations; EC will vote on winners
- **Rookie of the Year:** Recognizes excellence in Volunteerism in his/her first year engaging with the Chapter; please submit nominations; EC will vote on winners

- Volunteer of Year: (Kim) Winner for year will be drawn from the pool of the 12 monthly winners

The Club presents following awards at Annual Summit in January; I encourage you to go to the website and vote:

- Distinguished Service Award and Volunteer Leadership Award: candidates are submitted and both are judged at club level
- The Marian Pychowska Award and The Warren Hart Award: both based on number of volunteer hours

## **[6:54]**

### **Nominating Committee Status Report (Dave)**

Thanks to a really engaged sub-committee — Mike M., Alex, Zenya, Paul, Joe, Fred, Jean, and Jose — the only open position is 20s-30s chair

New chairs for 2020:

- Vice Chair: Mike Morin
- Secretary: Peter Eggleston
- Hiking Chair: Dana Perry
- Membership Chair: Lori Dethloff
- Finance Chair: Christine Crepeault
- Ski Chair: Ruth Langh
- Technical Climbing Co-Chair: Dave Brainard
- Programs Chair: Peter Hinrichs

## **[6:57]**

### **Finance Committee Mid-Year Report (Joe)**

Operating Expense budget:

- Income: numbers based on latest spend from last treasurers report and the solicited inputs for projected spending through the rest of the year; made assumptions for those who did not respond
  - Projections show we will hit goal within a couple of dollars
- Expense: projected to be \$1780 under budget
  - Risk item (Delta) is annual meeting actual costs; Midstate Trail will be \$1700 under budget due to WFA training cost coming from Leadership vs Midstate budget; of that amount they would like to spend \$370 on tools and gear; will return remaining dollars

- Leadership \$2200 over (WFA for Midstate); \$800 deposit to book SOLO/WFA trainers for next year

(Jean) Last year I booked The Manor for Annual Meeting with a \$300 deposit; forget what budget I took it from; we need to do that this year too (pay in advance) for next year's Annual Meeting; the new Membership Chair should send check for 2020 event

(Jose) Need to forward contract to AMC for approval

(Joe) Do we need to do in 2019 or can it wait until 2020?

(Jean) It needs to be done in October of 2019 to hold the venue for next year

(Joe) Jean will work with Lori (new incoming chair) to get this done; we should also make sure this is incorporated into the 2020 budget for 2021 Annual Meeting

**[7:10]**

### **Endowment Committee Presentation, Vote on 2020 Grants (Bill)**

We have 5 items requiring EC vote. Items 1 and 2 go against the 2019 budget. Items 3, 4 and 5 will go against the 2020 budget.

(Kim B) How much is available?

(Jose) \$6500 available in checking today plus \$23,000 in reserves

#### **1. YOP: (2020) \$5,000**

This is the third payment of 3-year commitment; Executive Committee needs to reapprove each year; Jose will not send payment until 2020

Need to define submission, approval and payment dates for future; will take this to Finance sub committee

#### **2. JUMP (2019) \$2,500 -- Approved by Endowment Committee**

- AMC Lodge and Hut Fees for underserved youth not picked up by YOP. YOP covers a significant portion of our lodge and hut stays for underserved youth trips.
- Food, meals, and snacks on hiking trips for disadvantaged youth.
- Training, typically: WFA Part I and Part II, CPR, WFR, YOP Outdoor Leadership training (when not picked up by a YOP scholarship), First Aid/CPR Training (for leaders of after school hikes and other hikes that are inside the 'golden hour').
- JUMP polyester jerseys and Nalgene liter bottles for disadvantaged (grade school and teen) youth hikers.

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**4. Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail (2020) -- \$2,000 Approved by Endowment Committee**

**5. Mt Classroom (Spring 2020) --Annual request \$3,500**

- Late request

Kim B. moved, and was seconded, to approve total of \$15,500 for above requests to be paid out as needed by the requesting organization.

**Unanimously APPROVED**

(Joe) Where/how can we capture what we decided to keep track of when to pay?

Christine will keep track of this as Finance chair, and possibly add a field to the endowment request form to be filled in by the requester.

**OLD BUSINESS**

[7:52]

**Chapter Leadership Guidelines – Status and Plan (Paul)**

This is the closing of this edition of the document – it can be tweaked next year (no changes until next year); this is not a document to anticipate every exception, just provides a baseline of how trips should be led, qualifications for leaders, and how exceptions should be handled

(Jose) I'm speaking for biking committee; they put in a lot of time/effort, but the new doc did not include any of those submissions and they are requesting we postpone until next month

(Paul) At this time we are not putting in individual exceptions (e.g. exception of no co-lead for bike-packing); it is not perfect, we can amend this in future. We'll keep their requested changes in an action item for review next year.

Paul G. moved, and was seconded, that the current edition of guidelines, as sent out in email on 15<sup>th</sup> of September, be voted on.

**The motion PASSED** with 22 in favor and 1 against.

[7:58]

**Annual Meeting Status (Jean)**

The Annual Meeting will be held on November 9<sup>th</sup> at The Manor in West Boylston

- Those who have requested that AMC not send them emails will get flyers mailed to them; Karen Maki will have flyer completed tomorrow
- We need to create a PayPal link on website; deadline to purchase ticket is Oct 21; same price for members and non-members; \$15 for Exec Committee and past Chairs
- Looking for volunteers to help with setup (center pieces on tables, displays, cleanup, etc.)
- Registration table needs 1 or 2 people to check list to see they have paid; this is not a show and go event, people must pay in advance
- There is no raffle, but we will have door prizes; if anyone has contacts for gift certificates, swag, equipment, etc., let me (Jean) know
- We will also hand out flyers at 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday and other social events

(Jose) PayPal button can be set up with dropdowns to select how many to purchase so they don't have to do process multiple times for multiple tickets; will discuss how this should be set up after meeting

**[7:40]**

**Action Items (Joe)**

Update Chapter Position Description document to add Finance Chair. [Joe] **OPEN**

Develop plan to include Midstate Trail Committee in Chapter financial governance. [Joe, with Kim S, Don H, Steve C, Kim B] **OPEN**

Mid-year income/expense review. [Joe] **DONE in prep for this meeting.**

Update and approve Chapter Leadership Guidelines. [Paul] **DONE as of this meeting.**

Propose or clarify Chapter's requirements for leaders taking WFA; propose reimbursement policy. [Paul, Jose] **DONE in LG document just voted on.**

**[8:02 PM]**

**Round table (All)**

(Joe) Fall Gathering is coming up in October; great for all of us to get together have fun, find out how club works; there will also be a meeting of the Chapters Committee made up of chairs from all chapters

- (Jose) Already sold out

(Joe) Member retention rates for club 71%; Worcester Chapter has consistently been 3-5% above average

- Planning meeting is January 11, 2020; Faith Salter wants to attend
- There is momentum for building a second shelter in Maine Woods; we are among groups pushing it so expect to hear more in coming year (expect to deliberate on funding, etc.)

(Paul) March 28 & 29 is WFA training at Leominster Boys and Girls Club; will reach out to those who need it

(Sue) Interested in organizing potential Trail Magic events next season

(Ruth) Thank you to Joe, Deb and Paul for all their hard work on hikes and backpacks

(Deb) Winter Workshop for Saturday, Nov 2 at Blackstone Heritage Corridor Visitor Center; series of hikes lined up from Nov-March

(Paul) Need thoughts on leadership requirements for base-camp trips (multiple activities operating out of a base such as ski weekends, August Camp, etc.); WFA cert training is good for 2 years and is biggest part of budget; should we be doing it? Or can we extend to more years to cut down cost and burden on leaders (thought/discussion starter); LT 2020 will be done by Berkshire chapter in April (don't have specific date)

(Dana) I really look forward to working with team

(Jean) Thanks to Joe for support with the Annual meeting

(Alex) Send newsletter fall edition submissions; deadline is September 30th

(Claudia) Myself and 3 other leaders are holding YM specific leadership training; trips geared towards YM; registration live now; will be last weekend in October (Friday-Sunday, 26th-28th)

(Steve) Massachusetts Trail Conference is Saturday, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>; leading field trip on Pine Hill trail on Friday; will be opportunity to advertise TrailsFest

(Kim B) Kudos to new members for coming; thanks Paul for hard work on Leadership Guidelines; if interested in working on TrailsFest please let me now; will start meeting soon to prep for June

(Kim S) Midstate ultra-trail marathon still on (see email); have 125 people signed up – things haven't gone smoothly, but have agreed to route around sensitive areas; GWLT & Mass Audubon has not authorized use of property

(Zenya) 20s & 30s Social for September is tomorrow at Seaboard at 7pm

(Ingrid) Thanks to Deb for dedication and commitment over last year as Hiking Chair

(Jon) Thank you to Joe for invite to Isolation backpack

(Dave) Thanks to Fred for another great year of 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays

(Jose) Will be away and miss next 2 meetings; for those who have expenses that need to be paid, they might be delayed (until end of January) so put in requests/receipts ahead of time

(Mike F) I have 7 hikes from now through Christmas; Oct 29<sup>th</sup> will start to hike Midstate starting in Douglas; Dec 6<sup>th</sup> is Christmas stroll; following Saturday will be in Leominster State Park; would like to have multifunction winter day (ski, fun races, run in show shoes, survival skills, etc.) potentially in middle of January.

(Joe) Thanks to all of you, especially new members for stepping up, for what you do

**[8:34 PM]**

**Meeting Adjourned**