

Laurentian Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club Executive Committee Meeting Oct 22,2013

Meeting held at the Potsdam Town Hall

Officers attending: John Barron,Dana Chudzinski,David Trithart,John Omohundro,Bill Mueller,Mary Jane Watson
Appointed positions attending: Marianne Hebert,Dick Mooers
Guests: Tom Wheeler,Jeff Miller

J.Omohundro moved to approve minutes of last meeting,B.Mueller 2nd,passed unanimously
D.Trithart moved to approve agenda of current meeting,B.Mueller 2nd,passed unanimously

1) Mount Arab Fire Tower Committee-Laurentian Chapter Representative

- present chapter rep on the committee would like to step down at this point and a replacement is needed
- committee invites the chapter to have a member for the chapter on their committee
- the question was asked on how often the committee in fact meets each year
- was determined to the best of everyone's knowledge that it meets about 6 times a year, once a month spring to end of summer
- chapter members will check into more details on meeting information of the committee
- the chapter members came up with the name of Bill Brown as a possible replacement for the committee member
- chapter members attending agreed to contact Bill to see if was in fact interested in being on the committee

2) Outing Forms

- discussed that ADK want all liability forms to be turned in
- an e-mail has been sent to all trip leaders expressing such fact
- the chapter currently has 8 forms for download on the chapter website
- discussed that the group liability form should be put on the top of any such list
- also discussed was the fact that many forms are redundant and should be moved from the chapter website to a different location
- purposed to be kept on the website would be
 - group liability form
 - outing guidelines
 - accident report
- recommended that all forms be in PDF format
- discussed that the trip report form be eliminated
- discussed possible name change to the "take a hike" form
- discussed the chapter should incorporate the ADK liability into the chapters form

3)Educational Affiliate Program

- discussed the trial run for the program took place last year
- discussed that this years program going very well
- discussed that getting students in the program involved in leading chapter outing may result in better turnouts
- discussed the chapter should schedule an ADK leadership course for students in the program
- also discussed was a possible ADK waiver for such a course for students in the SUNY Potsdam wilderness leadership program

4)County Trail Program

- discussed the fact that T,Ortmeyer has resigned from the committee
- discussed fact that local town have requested permission from Brookfield Power to put an ATV trail down the penstock road on the Stone Valley Trail
- discussed a lawsuit has been filed to stop such a trail
- discussed that parts of the overall 205 mile trail would be to state highways , which is prohibited by highway law
- discussed that 160-170 miles of trail would be on roads
- discussed that the NYS Attorney General Opinion 2005-21 states that "roads do not constitute trails"
- discussed that all suits to date against such trail have been brought by individuals and no state organizations
- discussed that ATV groups have been at RRAC meeting asking Brookfield to open Penstock roads to ATVs
- discussed that failure at this point to open the road up may result in group trying to open Lenney Road up to ATVs
- Lenney Road is owned by towns and therefore a suit may be needed to stop such plans

Round Table

T.Wheeler

- no report

B.Mueller

- outing going well
- will work on liability form project

J.Omohundro

- attended two meetings representing the chapter since last meeting
- one was the Raquette River Advisory Council
- council working on problem of motorized vehicles on Stone Valley Trail
- second meeting was the Stone Valley Cooperative Recreation Partners meeting
- plan from the group should be out about the first of the year for public comment

M.Watson

- \$3,000.00 in savings
- \$750.00 owed to the chapter by ADK
- little over \$1,000.00 in North Country Savings Bank
- \$26.00 owed for sales tax
- \$600.00 received in grants
- YTD membership dues almost \$2,600.00
- t shirt sales \$374.00
- profit from spring outing about \$1,400.00
- \$1,600.00 to the good for the year

D.Mooers

- 86 e-letter subscribers
- photo contest winners have been picked
- total of 209 photos entered this year

M.Hebert

- up to 50 Facebook friends

D.Trithart

- represented chapter at Rotary Club of Canton and Step By Step meetings

- higley lodge almost done
- ADK discussed "meet up" groups
- ADK currently trying to set up a ADK Supporting Organization rather than a ADK Foundation
- work will begin on improvements to Heart Lake properties in 2014
- ADK discussed divesting in oil companies
- ADK had about 100 volunteers in the Ragnar Relay
- chapter can buy a bunk at JBL Lodge for \$650.00
- ADK always looking for volunteers for committees and programs

D.Chudzinski

- no report

J.Miller

- no report

J.Barron

- chapter will have to pay for web services and domain name in the amount of about \$200.00 for this point forward

Next meeting at home of the Omohundros on Dec 3rd at 7 P.M