

Minutes for the Adirondack Mountain Club Laurentian Chapter Executive Committee Meeting
September 8th, 2021

Present: Marianne Hebert, Blair Madore, Joan Trivilinho, David Katz, Tom VandeWater, Eleanor Menz, John Barron, David Trithart, Thomas Ortmeier.

1. David Katz will post minutes of July 7th meeting.

2. Fall meeting and elections

Joan moves (Ellie seconds) that we hold elections electronically as last year and hold an outdoor fall informal meeting on November 7th at noon. Passes without dissent.

It will be held under the pavilion at Higley Flow State Park at noon and people can bring a bag lunch. It would also allow people to first participate in the Higley Trail clean up that morning.

Elections details: As soon as possible, email chapter members with the Nominating Committee's report and ask for additional nominations by October 10. As soon as possible after Oct 10, email out ballot and voting information with a due date of Nov 15. Announce results as soon as practical after Nov 15.

3. Ad hoc committee formed to discuss complementary memberships.

Marianne Hebert, John Barron and Blair Madore agreed to meet and discuss.

Background: At the July EC meeting, we discussed John Barron's proposal that we allocate funds for up to two adult memberships per year for young people who have graduated in the last five years and willing to take an active role in the chapter. Marianne discussed how the EAP program is on hold, so it may be hard to find the right people for this. We discussed how other local people who are related to the club would also be good targets. David suggested we need not limit this to two people, maybe 10. Marianne offered to start a list of what they could do to "earn" this opportunity.

4. Adk Covid guidelines: The Club has issued new covid guidelines and a new liability release form to be used by chapter outing leaders. The liability release form is on the chapter website (https://adklaurentian.org/pages/pdf/outing_forms/Liability-Release-Form-8-27-2021.pdf). We had a robust discussion about the many challenges of implementing a strict vaccine requirement for trip participants.

5. Bicycle Outings. The club suggested that until they can clarify our precise insurance coverage (and there is no timeline for fixing this problem) they recommend we not hold formal bicycle outings. Blair suggested we need to insist that the club get insurance that will cover bicycle outings. It was suggested that we buy our own chapter bike insurance. Ellie opined that bike insurance might be more expensive than we realize. David agreed to follow up and report back.

6. Nominating Committee Report was received from David Trithart and John Barron. The third member of the committee was Mary MacKinnon.

There is a copy of the report at the end of the minutes. The committee was thanked for their very good work. David Trihart said it was less challenging to find good candidates than expected.

7. Chapter 50th anniversary:

Ideas: Midsummer event with hikes, meals, chapter history, etc. do 50km paddling or 50 miles hiking to earn a t-shirt, make a year book of past events and pictures, etc. David Trithart agreed to co-ordinate with everyone agreeing to pitch in.

8. Qualifying trip leaders: Blair made a draft of some possible ideas. Blair's list of formal qualifications was said to be very intimidating. We discussed not taking any action on this topic as we have learned that the club will be preparing their own guidelines. Marianne suggested running our leaders workshop in spring would be a good idea. Joan suggested contacting the membership (via email or Northwind) to ask them if they would like to become an outing leader.

9. Representatives for Advisory Council –Tom Ortmeyer reports that the AC's representative on the Board need not necessarily be a member of the Advisory Council, but apparently could be. We can nominate someone if we have a candidate in mind.

10. By laws committee suggested we wait before making any changes to our chapter bylaws as the Advisory council is developing model bylaws for chapters. John Barron suggested our bylaws are in good shape with a couple of simple changes needed. One area for discussion is whether our new Advisory Council member should be appointed or elected.

11. Photo Contest has not been announced. Needs to be continued.

12. Trail Work: Blair reports interest from Clarkson Timber Bridge Team and SUNY Potsdam Wilderness Ed Program in doing trailwork. Blair will be co-ordinating work.

13. Next meeting December 8th at 6pm over zoom.