

NY Chapter ADK Meeting Minutes

Special Meeting of the Members

Meeting Date: September 14, 2019

Time and Location: 11:00 AM at Camp Nawakwa

In attendance –

Board Members

Lisa North, Marty Kellerman, Eve Mancuso, Suzanne Rocheleau, Guy Lingley, Dianne Booth, Teri Gabel

Excused – Bill Burns, Susanne Flower, Mark Fedow

Committee Chairs

Mary Hilley, Don Gabel, Jerry Flower

Sign-In Sheet is attached

Chapter Chair Report – Lisa North, Chapter Chair

The meeting was called to order with a Welcome greeting and Introduction.

Lisa announced the need for additional volunteers emphasizing the importance of all members contributing to the care and upkeep of the Camp.

The Guest Policy was briefly introduced for discussion later in Agenda.

Corporate Issues-

The Certificate of Incorporation needs to be consistent with the Bylaws. The new Bylaws were approved last year. Now we will update Certificate of Incorporation which was originally filed in 1931.

Specifically - The Certificate of incorporation currently says there will be 9 Directors. The current Bylaws state there may be 10 or 11 Directors. Thus, to resolve this inconsistency in the number of Directors, the proposed amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation will remove the sentence that calls for a specific numbers of Directors.

Lisa read a portion of the 1931 Certificate of Incorporation to demonstrate the goals expressed at that time continue to remain relevant for us today.

Motion – motion offered to accept the Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation to remove 1 sentence which noted 9 directors. Motion offered by Marty Kellerman, second by Teri Gabel. Vote in favor – unanimous.

Susanne Flower, Mark Fedow and Bill Burns submitted their affirmative vote for the Motion by e mail and allowed their vote to be cast at the meeting.

Treasurer Report – Suzanne Rocheleau, Treasurer

A financial report was submitted and is attached.

Suzanne noted benefactors' generous donations.

Guy Lingley and Suzanne Rocheleau are working together in exploring various investment options to maximize the return in a conservative manner.

As the financial situation has been substantially improved, discussion followed regarding utilizing the funds on various capital projects. The roof project was mentioned but Don Gabel clarified that the roof replacement is an obligation of PIPC.

Emily Crowell inquired as to the amount of the rent that is paid for Nawakwa to PIPC.

Ray Kozma offered a tribute to Bob Susser and his commitment to camp.

Membership Report - Jerry Flower, Chair

A report was submitted and is attached.

Jerry noted the number of members requesting mailed versions of the Trail marker has dwindled down to only 7 members.

Lockers available for members to rent.

The demographic of the new members has changed to a younger group.

Frank Bamberger noted there are many more clubs available and thus there is more competition with other clubs to recruit new members.

Camp Nawakwa Committee Reports

Hosting Report- Mary Hilley, Mary Ann Poris, Co-Chairs

A report will be sent.

Mary Hilley presented a brief breakdown of the usage of camp: there were 81 individuals utilizing camp over the 2019 season consisting of 53 keyholders and 28 passport holders. There were 48 people visiting mid-week.

More hosts are needed. There seems to be a core group of people who are repetitive hosts. They are not receiving enough help and as such, hosting may become a burden rather than an enjoyable experience. There needs to be a focus on training newer members or re-training existing members to embrace our long time values of stewardship of the facility and cooperation with the hosts.

The chores aren't being completed properly. More reinforcement/ teaching of the hosting requirements is needed. Again, the members are to all pitch in and help the hosts.

This information should be posted periodically in Trail Marker as a reminder that there are obligations that come along with the use and enjoyment of the facility.

Suse Wenzel noted the need for the Host to specify job assignments, seek that person, note time of arrival, and hold people responsible. While some members automatically pitch in and are aware of the chores that need to be completed, other members may need a bit more guidance and supervision to accomplish these tasks.

Activities Report – Marty Kellerman, Chair

A report was submitted and is attached.

Marty spoke of the success of the activities offered. Future activities were discussed.

Mary Hilley noted the timing of future events, afternoon events may be problematic.

Don Gabel suggested the Activities Committee set the agenda and let people who wish to participate accommodate their schedule to meet the activity timing. Certain activities may require daylight hours.

Deidre Tourin noted an interest in wanting to reach out to Maya to participate in their environmental efforts.

Marty received much positive feedback on the live animal presentation.

Environmental Committee Report– Marty Kellerman, Chair

This new committee will be a political activist group.

The first meeting will be held later in the afternoon for interested parties.

NYS will seek an amendment to introduce environmental rights. The Bill will first need to be passed by 2 consecutive legislative sessions. In the 2019 legislative session it passed. It now need a second positive legislative vote. After the second positive legislative vote this amendment proceeds to a ballot vote by NYS residents.

Camp Chair Report- Don Gabel, Chair

Don stressed the need for all members to contribute towards the maintenance of camp. There are many different types of jobs available for varying levels of skill, ability and endurance.

The fallen tree removal was a major issue with the swim dock being temporarily closed for a short time. Many people pitched in to help. A special thanks was made to Ray Lustig who was instrumental in removing the submerged tree branches alongside the swim dock. He was determined to get the job completed with repeated dives to cut the underwater branches despite the cold water.

Don outlined some of the various projects that need to be completed and again stressed the need for volunteers. The project list includes but is not limited to: skirt around perimeter of lodge needs repair/ replacement, the rails to the steps need to be added. Due to the age of the facilities much maintenance is continually needed and the work is not getting completed. All members must help.

Members need to be reminded that trash and recyclables must be removed from the lodge. Ants were becoming an issue due to the lack of proper sweeping and clean up. Recyclables must be rinsed clean.

Suggested perhaps incentives be offered to entice people to work. Everyone needs to participate

The gravel project has continued all season and continues to be worked on. The exhaust fan was fixed by Steve Adams.

Some suggestions were made to facilitate alerting the members to projects that needed to be completed. Perhaps set lists for "To Do Projects" on the bulletin board so when a member arrives in camp they have a clear idea of what is needed.

Yajing Li suggested this list may be posted electronically, goggle docs, or other means so a member may view the chores in advance and come to camp prepared with the proper supplies to accomplish that task. A member with the appropriate skill set would need to volunteer to assist with implementing this idea.

To facilitate keeping the lodge tidy there are 2 vacuums and many supplies available. If supplies are not available, the host should alert MaryAnn Poris, Commissary Chair, who will replenish the supplies as needed.

Rosemary Irving investigated the condition of the beds and cabins and will provide her findings in a report.

Everod Carter suggested a policy for members to carry in - carry out for all recyclables to avoid the problem of a large accumulation of recyclables during the un-hosted periods.

Ingrid Strauch noted that there were existing rules about leave no trash/ recyclables. A reminder should be issued or signs posted over the trash and recycling receptacles.

Gladys Sotomayor suggested to formulate and schedule workshops to train new members as part of the applicant process or for those members who may need/ seek reinforcement.

Conservation Committee – Don Gabel Chair

A report was submitted.

Planted resistant hemlocks and released beetles to eat insects that attack hemlocks.

Secretary Report- Eve Mancuso, Secretary

A report was submitted and is attached.

The method in which information is disseminated was discussed. The NY Chapter would prefer to move towards electronic communications as much as possible for both environmental and economic reasons. It is critical for members to keep their e-mail contact information current with both the Main Club list and with the local Nawakwan list. If any member continues to have a problem with receiving e mails, please first check your spam or junk folder. If that is not the solution, contact Eve M to confirm the information on record is correct.

A brief update on the status of the web site was presented. Brandon Hunt is the new webmaster. The Board anticipates having the website available for public access within a few weeks. The submission of data to Brandon for posting to the site will be limited to 4 entities – Chapter Chair, Editor, Secretary and Hosting. Any member wishing to post information or photos to the web site should send them to Chapter Chair, Lisa North or Editor, Ray Kozma for review of accuracy and content. They will then forward the information on to the webmaster. The need for the website was emphasized as a means to

allow new members to learn about the organization. Relevant keywords will be utilized to bring the ADK website to the forefront of web searches.

There were a few suggestions offered to increase visibility and membership. Please submit your ideas or suggestions to any Board member in writing so it may be discussed at the next available Board meeting.

Thom Duffy suggested Instagram or twitter be utilized to attract potential new members. We currently have a twitter account. The site will post the 5 most current tweets on the home page.

Stephanie Lai suggested a survey be sent out to determine the needs of new members- how to attract them and how to accommodate their needs so they join ADK.

Yajing Li suggested google docs may be a form of communication. This was previously investigated by the Board but as an "opt in" was needed the Board was not confident all members would take this route. To utilize e mail as the primary means of communication we must have all e-mails of the membership.

Frank Bamburger suggested a meet-up group type of arrangement.

Deidre Tourin voiced an interest in assisting with the website.

Volunteers are needed. Any member wishing to implement an idea or concept should present it to the Board in writing for discussion. Ad hoc committees can be formed to further explore and address specific issues.

Porch Railings Report– Guy Lingley -Director

There is a need to replace the wood rails on the porch. They are still serviceable but meeting the end of their useful life. The building code requires a 42 inch height rail. The goal in determining the new design of the railing system was to provide the minimum necessary as not to change rustic character and not to block views. Guy researched different companies. Saugerties NY company will perform turnkey operation and replace horizontal rails with unpeeled pine members. Acawoods, Minn. Company is another company that was researched. The code also requires a maximum post spacing of 4 inches. Thus an infill material is needed. Wood infill was too intrusive and blocked views. As a result the Board opted for infill metal frame with mesh. Ponderosa Pine or Eastern red cedar were suggested materials. Cedar has taper. 3 to 5 inch thus would be more intrusive. The rails would have a square cut.

The pulley system was addressed.

The stair rails need a bit more work. It is proposed to add a speedrail system onto the existing dimensional lumber to provide a code compliant handrail and to add additional vertical posts. The stairs will also require an in fill mesh as fall protection with a maximum 4 inch gap. The same methodology as incorporated on the porch rail will be utilized for the stair rail.

Main Club Report -Mark Fedow- Director

A report was submitted and is attached. Lisa North read the report to the Members.

Hikes Committee Report – Glen Nison, Chair

A report was submitted and is attached. Marty Kellerman read the report to the Members.

Trails Committee Report - Bill Burns, Chair

A report was submitted and it attached. Diane Booth read the report to the Members.

Archives Committee – Ellen King, Chair

A report was submitted and is attached. Lisa read the report to the members.

Ellen King will present a program on Oct 12 at Anniversary weekend.

The ADK archives are posted in NYS Library in Albany. We hope to also deliver the original copies of ADK NY Chapter documents to the Albany Library for safe keeping after the scanning process is completed.

Further Comments and Discussion Topics

Guest policy-

Discussion followed regarding the number a guests a member may bring at one time. Various opinions were offered. The goal is to introduce new people and potential new members to camp thus many agreed an increase in the number of guests was acceptable. It has become apparent that new members are needed to assist in the maintenance of the infrastructure and facility and to ensure the long term viability of Camp Nawakwa. Flexibility and common sense should prevail. For instance if a potential guest is a family of 5, it would make sense to allow the entire family of 5 to visit.

Large groups should continue to be handled as an Invitational as per the current regulations.

Everyone agreed it is solely up to the member to supervise their guest. Any infraction or abuse of the flexible system should be noted immediately and that member warned. Sanctions may be imposed upon a specific member: i.e. – lose privilege of having guests.

Hosting Guidelines-

To encourage additional hosting, whether it be for one night, a weekend or a mid – week, there are many options available. The prior Saturday afternoon to Sunday afternoon model may be modified. The hosting commitment does not have to be for the full weekend. It has become apparent by the decline in hosted weekends that many people do not the available time to commit to a full weekend thus have not hosted. The potential host can coordinate with the Hosting Committee and advise them of their availability. The host may opt for a simple meal, BYOB, Saturday dinner only – the Hosting Committee is very flexible.

AMC

AMC will have boat rentals at Sebago Beach.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was offered by Eve Mancuso, second by Suzanne Rocheleau, Vote – in favor, unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 2:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Eve Mancuso, Secretary- Initially approved by e mail vote, Re-approved October 16, 2019 by teleconference Board meeting.