CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 11:04 by Brian Hoody. Those in attendance introduced themselves

Brian Hoody, President
Siobhán Carney-Nesbitt, Vice President and Office of the Historian
Lee Nesbitt, Office of the Historian
Laurie Rankin, Director
Tom Fine, Trailmaster
Joe Ryan, Website
Mark Simpson, Correspondent Program
Bill Brizzell, Director
Doug Varney, Director
Joe Bogardus, Trailmaster
Bill Lundy, OSW Co-Chair
John Barron, Recording Secretary
Leesa Arthur, Membership Coordinator
Julia Goren, incoming Director
Steve Shumway, incoming Director
Chris Sobik
Dane Kane, Director
Chuck Schwerin, Peeks Editor
Dan Stec, Director
Sam Eddy, Trailmaster
Hank Sondheimer, Director
Paula Selmer, Merchandise Coordinator
Phil Corell, Treasurer

Guests:
Zoë Smith, representing Wilderness Conservation Society
Tate Connor, representing DEC

This was the last meeting for both Dan Stec and Hank Sondheimer: they were offered our congratulations for a job well done. This was also John Barron’s last meeting as recording secretary and Sally Hoy’s as past president. Sally received a presentation from Brian for her many years of service.
SUMMARY OF E-MAIL VOTES:

Date of Motion: May 2, 2018

Motion: Approval of the Third Draft Minutes of the Winter 2018 Meeting of the Executive Committee
Discussion: None
Motion by: Hank Sondheimer
Seconded by: Dan Stec
Aye 8 Nay 0 No vote 1 Carried

Date of Motion: February 23, 2018

Motion: To Approve a Cease and Desist Letter for Adirondack Outlet in Lake Placid, New York for creating and selling bootleg 46er patches (see attached image)
Discussion: None
Motion by: Dan Kane
Seconded by: Bill Brizell
Carried (unanimous)

HISTORIANS' REPORT - Lee Nesbitt

735 finishers in 2017; 192 are here for tonight's presentations plus an unknown number of walk-ins is expected. After this meeting the office will resume monthly numbers assignment: this will avoid confusion at today's dinner.

PEEKS REPORT - CHUCK SCHWERIN

The latest issue was printed by a new printer in Pittsburgh costing us approximately 25% less than our previous printer from Albany.
The “water quality” letter from the fall magazine has created ongoing discussion including a letter from Doctor Tom Welch, not for publication, that was shared with the group. Chuck invited discussion from the floor; Hank offered to reply to Tom is he knows Tom well. It was generally felt that this topic and similar topics were better shared in this current letter to the editor format as this is represents sharing information without an opinion attributable to the organization.

TREASURER'S REPORT - PHIL CORELL

Phil noted that his report today was an interim report as the fiscal year does it end until the 31st of May.

Assets as of 2018 May 23: 225,090.85
Liabilities (same date) 16,037.05
Equity (same date) 209,053.80
We have one new bank account because we have acquired a “Square” credit card reader that feeds directly into this account.

Note on page 3 of the treasurer’s report the increases on “the Big Four” (contributions, dues, non-taxable sales, and taxable sales) of approximately 23%. Our biggest expense rise was in merchandise purchases, rising 21% overall.

Phil reminded us that the L2R (Lean-to Rescue) money is simply money we manage, holding it on behalf of the L2R group.

To date we have supported 5 WFR bursaries at $100. NB: our support covers the primary course only, not refresher or higher levels.

Donations from 2001 to the present total $460,374.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT - LEESA ARTHUR**

Leesa reported 6678 people are considered active. This leaves slightly more than 4,000 inactive members and she inquired whether we should reach out to these people to renew their memberships? It was felt that we should do so; however, not all at once. It was suggested we could perhaps do cohorts by year starting with a couple of hundred as a test, using bulk mail through PennySaver.

Tangential to this the question of mangled Peaks magazines arose. Leesa reported there's only approximately 5 per year that get identified as such and didn't see it as a big problem, certainly not one that would indicate we begin using envelopes or sleeves for all.

Any membership information updates should be sent to Leesa as they become known and she will handle as required.

**WEBMASTER - JOE RYAN**

There has been a big jump in work orders, these are mostly minor corrections to existing content. [Side note from Phil - web cost us $2,600 this fiscal year.]

**MERCHANDISE - PAULA SELMER**

During the current fiscal year there have been over $22,000 in mail orders. We now have a square reader to permit the use of credit cards when we have on-site sales such as today. We have purchased packing materials for the pint beer glasses which will be sold only on site due to shipping concerns.

The fall mailing in late August will include a special order for headbands and fleece hats. Those wishing the Winter rocker will be able to add that to these items for approximately $4 more.
Requests have been received to have women's sizes in t-shirts. This is being investigated. It may be possible to do women's t-shirts as a special order, partly because there are concerns about inventory storage.

There is a likelihood that the spring 2019 special order will be for polypropylene shirts in red or green.

Chris Sobik attended to seek support for a 46er logo ceramic pin. There was general agreement this might be a good idea and Paula will follow up. Another suggestion from the floor was for belt buckles which have been out of stock for a long time. Paula may resurrect these items, specifications and costs unknown right now. Please send input to Paula.

**Presentations to the board (2 follow)**

**BEAR STEWARD MEMO - ZOË SMITH**

To summarize the memo (attached as annex A), the current program is being disbanded at the end of 2018. As legacy items, the group is asking for money from us to test possible solutions: (1) hanging cables, (2) loaner canisters and/or bear lockers in specific locations. The present proposal is for the Chapel Pond area and is the first time this has been tried outside of intensive areas. It has been given a temporary approval by the APA as a three-year project as well as by DEC. The intent is to change the human culture; i.e., reduce bear and human interaction. There would be physical signage in the woods + online information. The cable pilot project would be in day use areas, and not intended to be for overnight use. These will be maintained by the DEC to avoid a repeat of the Marcy Dam bear hangs issues from the past. This hardware would be being installed near Chapel pond in Year One. The deployment of a second bear locker, location tba, would not likely occur until year 2.

A question from the floor was. “Will our [46er] logo be on the signage, etc. The response was, “...46ers name will be attached to the project.” Concerns were expressed about the canisters’ “walking away”. Both Tate and Zoe Smith indicated that they have lost virtually none in the years the bear canister program has occurred, largely because of record-keeping.

**Motion** arising from the above
To authorize actual cost up to $2,500 to support bear lockers and canisters purchase for the above pilot project.
Moved Sally Hoy second Hank Sondheimer
Discussion - (1) a written document will be prepared formalizing this arrangement (2) we will decide later the exact mechanics of the support: club officers will manage
Aye 6 Nay 0 Abstain 1 Carried

**DEC UPDATES - TATE CONNOR**
There was a recent release of a new proposed UMP for the area and Tate Connor offered some updates to this with comments by himself and questions from the floor.

The DEC will be working with the 46ers regarding herd path designations, signage. The intent is to use sustainable trail building techniques. most but not all herd paths will be in the same locations. Cliff Mountain in particular is likely to see a major change in the trail to its summit, principally to avoid its namesake precipices.

The designated campsite rule will change starting in 2019. Information on this will go on the DEC website as it is promulgated. Bear canister regulations will be extended to the entire Wilderness Area. The high peak zones will be renamed to inner and outer high peak zones.

Expect the permanent reroute for Cascade Mountain trailhead to the VanHoevenberg trail site by Columbus Day 2018.

A permanent trail is being planned for Mt Van Hoevenberg.

The DEC has monies for a paid trail crew but so far there have been no applicants. The intent is to use this crew for trail upgrades. On the subject of trail maintenance, a new direction is being envisaged: there necessarily always will be some Band-Aid actions taken, but more long-term solutions are to be explored; for example, reroutes and the use of more durable materials.

DEC approval for our Trailhead Stewards is ongoing. The state cannot do this so our efforts are considered incalculably valuable. At present the trailhead stewards are working at the Cascade trailhead only.

Broke for lunch at approximately 12:30; resumed at 13:00

CORRESPONDENTS’ PROGRAM - MARK SIMPSON

Approximately 20 people met in Schroon Lake on the 22nd of April. the discussions centered around improvements to the correspondents process. Action items: (1) a subcommittee of 4 to develop an updated and streamline model, and (2) Shannon K will be doing a media blast about this

TRAILMASTERS - JOE BOGARDUS ET AL

Mr Van lean-to has undergone several repairs: at least two owing to trees having fallen on its roof.

The 13 outings involving approximately 90 people from March 3rd to today. This includes March 3rd and March 31st at Mr Van lean-to as well as April 21st again at the same lean-to. Work was planned on the horse trail at Duck Hole but relocated to the Mister Van owing to the second tree incident. The Giant lean-to was re-roofed. May 7th Mr Van lean-to was again visited; also, there
was Pitchoff Mountain blowdown clearing. May 8th work on the Kagel leanto. May 12th and 13th were spent in the JBL area; also, a blowdown sweep in to Elk Lake. Yesterday there was a blow down sweep on Round Pond, today further work on the Kagel lean-to which is being moved to a new site. Materials have already been air-dropped at Marcy Dam for the replacement.

Doug Varney noted that chainsaw training has been done by several of the work crew: this is been coordinated through lean to rescue.

Brian is talking with two people from lean to rescue about their money situation (Paul De Luca and Pete Davis). At this point their money agreement with us specifies only materials to be purchased by them. They want to change the agreement (which currently is a letter) so they can purchase and upgrade equipment. (NB - we would own the equipment rather than lean to rescue.) [Side note lean to rescue is an informal group without officers it was described as being very nebulous by some.] Recommendation from the floor was that we need a list from lean to rescue as to their needs. Sam will follow up on this.

Work on the herd pads for 2018 has not yet started due to the snow and mud. The 2018 roster of trails receiving our attentions will be including the Santanoni Express and the Seymour trails.

**OUTDOOR SKILLS WORKSHOP - BILL LUNDY**

Report from Bill Lundy and Don McMullen is attached as Annex B

**OLD BUSINESS**

**TRAILHEAD STEWARDS - FRAN SHUMWAY**

Report from Fran on the TSP is attached as Annex C

**CENTENNIAL - JOE RYAN**

Events are coming together as planned: the entertainer has been booked for $200 and arrangements are being made with Paul Smith's college in case we exceed the planned 200 people. Details are being shared on social media and other outlets.
TRADEMARK AND COPYRIGHT UPDATE - BRIAN HOODY

Trademark request submitted on the 22nd of February. Debbie Melita reported this generally takes about three months to simply reach the trademark examiner, then another lengthy period after that for approval.

Two letters were sent to the ADK Outlet in Lake Placid regarding their sale of unauthorized 46er brand patches. As of the 26th of May they still had some in the store but which had been removed from inventory. Bill Lundy spoke with the owner who acknowledged the cease and desist and was expressing regret over the matter.

E-COMMERCE - TOM FINE ET AL

A new website will be happening in due course. We have four companies from whom we want RFPs. We’re looking for front-end and back-end sites with a database connecting all of it. Development costs will likely be 10 to 15 thousand based on comments from the floor. Two examples of major additions to the website would be online e-commerce and an online membership portal. Note one of the possible suppliers is the same company as who does the adk website although we want less “pretty fluff” than they have.

One thing that cannot be robotized will be climber numbers. It was generally agreed that this process should remain manual.

Next steps
1. time to reach out to potential vendors
2. more specifics will be required requested from the various departments and he requested that all departments enumerate the user requirements in as much detail as possible
3. investigate such things as updating contents namely who and how that could occur.

NEW BUSINESS

OUTREACH PROPOSAL - SIOBHÁN

Siobhán put forth a proposal about adopting a section of highway to do a spring cleanup. Pluses: advertising for us and would require large numbers namely 6 to 8 people for time. Minuses: safety training needed, safety vests, commitment to 3 times a year. At this time we’re simply starting the conversation as this matter needs further study to make us aware of all the requirements and restrictions. Approximately four to five people around the table have had experience with this already.

Siobhán suggested Route 73 between Tmax and Topo shoes and the ski jump. Julia suggested looking in Keene or Keene Valley. This would help mitigate the negative feelings of Keene and Keene Valley residents due to the large numbers of hikers and illegal parking. Perhaps the
section from Rooster Comb to the Giant Trailhead on Route 73 could be explored as a possible venue.

It was consensus about the latter location and the project in principle. Siobhán will be contacting Joe Bogardus and Tom Fine who have had prior experience with this program.

**Initial membership fee**

There's been confusion among new members particularly those joining late in the year that they are billed for $10 when they get their number and then a couple of months later they receive another $10 bill for the current year's membership. The proposal was put forward is that an initial application fee of $15 be applied during the year one finishes, then $10 annual dues start in the next year.

The discussion included two principal points:

1. apparently an inequity for someone who gets their number in February versus those who finished in November in that the former would get a mailing in the fall but the latter would be too late (this was addressed by staying on top of these people and giving them a special mailing).
2. establish a cut off date after which late applicants get an inclusion in the mail

**Motion** adopt $15 as universal application fee that applies for the for the year in which they apply

Moved Sally Hoy second Dan Stec
Discussion: Lee and Leesa will make contact at the end of each class year and determine who falls before and who falls after the cutoff date

Aye 7 Nay 0 Abstain 0 Carried

**Vanity license plate - Brian Hoody**

It was suggested by Todd Harris number 5297 that the state be approached to allow a 46er branded vanity license plate. The individual seeking this special license plate has contacted Brian Hoody many times and has sought support on Facebook. Despite our recalcitrance he won't let it go. In our view the logistics to start this and maintain it would be formidable, notwithstanding the $6,000 deposit we would have to put forward to show serious intent and support. Discussion was generally unsupportive of this proposal for a number of reasons, including that it would exclude out of state members as well as be undesirable for members who already have arranged their own vanity plates. Further discussion yielded a suggestion that we look at a license plate frame with both the old and the current logos. This was well-received.

Brian Hoody will follow up with Todd Harris.

**Adjournment**: 15:00
Next meeting: Saturday 29 September, Newcomb Central School

Annexes:

A - Memorandum and Proposal to the 46'ers - From Zoë Smith (reformatted from original PDF document)
B - Outdoor Skills Workshop - Executive Summary
   C - Trailhead Stewards Report for the 2017 Season (reformatted from original document)
Annex A - Memorandum and Proposal to the 46’ers

From Zoë Smith

May 2018

It is with great sadness that I write to tell you that after nearly 25 years the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) has made the decision to close down the Adirondack Program on September 30, 2018.

With the ongoing generosity and partnership of the 46’ers, we have made a considerable impact on protecting the natural resources of the High Peaks while allowing for responsible access to the backcountry. Bear – human conflict is common across North America and with your help, WCS has been able to successfully manage growing human-bear conflicts in the High Peaks. The Bear Steward Program has served as a model of public-private partnership that uses outreach, education and research to address a critical conservation problem in the backcountry. We couldn’t have grown this program without the support of the 46’ers.

During the summer of 2018, WCS is planning to leverage the funding you’ve granted to WCS and funding secured from Patagonia’s Environmental Fund to continue implementing the Bear Steward Program at Upper Works and along the Rt. 73 corridor, in collaboration with DEC, ADK and SUNY ESF. We are in conversations with those partners regarding transition of the Bear Steward program in the future. We hope the 46’ers will be participate in this discussion.

PROPOSAL

In addition to the Bear Steward Program this year, WCS is working with NYS DEC to implement a pilot program in and around the Beer Walls, Chapel Pond Slab and Giant Wilderness Climbing areas to prevent emerging bear activity areas from becoming established bear hot spots. WCS and DEC have identified these activities as the most important measures to be taken at this time for bear conflict mitigation in the High Peaks. We are requesting financial support for the infrastructure needed to test alternative food storage methods and educational messages in these climbing areas. We appreciate the 46ers consideration of this important work.

Currently rock climbers in the High Peaks, including summer camp groups with large numbers of children, have few options for food storage. The only effective options are to suggest climbers store food in their cars or carry it while climbing – both of which are impractical options and will likely not be followed voluntarily.

In September 2017, DEC presented a report to the Adirondack Park Agency at a monthly Board meeting on bear use and proposed ideas on temporary alternatives to help address negative bear interactions in the climbing areas. Since then, NYS DEC and APA have approved a work plan that outlines a framework to test and evaluate several different options of efforts to educate users and protect wildlife.

We are proposing to install various methods of food protection at the base of these popular rock climbing areas and test their effectiveness of decreasing human-bear conflict over the next 3 years. The program will also test several education and outreach efforts about bears and climbing in this area.

The program will include:

1. Bear Hangs. At multiple locations in the climbing areas the DEC will install bear hang
cables and signage for proper use.

2. Bear Lockers. A bear locker will be tested at one location in the climbing area as a comparison of the effectiveness of this method vs others. Another bear locker will be deployed in the High Peaks as needed.

3. Bear Canisters. An onsite, self-serve “loaner program” containing 4 bear canisters will be developed at the main entrance to the Beer Walls and will serve as an educational talking point and temporary food storage and bear canister dispensing and deposit location.

4. Education. DEC and WCS will install roadside and interior signage, develop additional messaging websites and social media, and work with Forest Ranger staff, volunteers, and local rock climbing guides and outfitters to present a consistent message. As possible we will conduct pre-education with summer camps, groups and colleges to help inform users.

5. Monitoring and Evaluation. When possible, surveys of rock climbers and day users will be conducted to learn the level of use, motivation for using various food storage options, perceived barriers, and effectiveness of communication around food storage. DEC will work with WCS’ Bear Steward in summer 2018 to implement the program and long term will engage multiple partners in the process.

We are requesting that the 46’ers consider purchasing the following equipment to be used by DEC to implement this program. DEC will provide labor for installation and maintenance of infrastructure and construction and installation of all signage.

**PROJECT COMPONENTS - TOTAL COST**

Bear Lockers
Two, 24-cubic foot capacity bear-proof food storage lockers (MODEL 16803-001, manufactured by Jamestown Advanced Products in Jamestown, NY.) $720 each with state discount, free shipping. - $1,440

Bear Hangs
Materials to install bear proof food hanging cables. - $500

Bear Canisters
Four loaner bear proof food canisters ~ $60 each with state discount and free shipping $240

TOTAL $2,180

Thank you for your long term partnership with WCS and your commitment to this effort. We appreciate your consideration of this proposal.
Annex B - 2018 OUTDOOR SKILLS WORKSHOP -
Report to Board of Directors
Executive Summary

The workshop by the numbers:

How participants learned about the workshop’s existence:
- Adirondac magazine, 40.0%
- Facebook (OSW page, 46R pages, Backcountry Hikers), 16.7%
- 46ers Website, 13.3%
- Attended previously, or got mailings as aspiring or registered 46er, 20.1 % (3 combined)
- Other (parent, spouse), 11.0% (2 combined)

Were Your expectations met?
- Yes, 70.0%
- Exceeded expectations, 16.7%
- Arrives without expectations, 13.3 %
- No, 0.0%

Participant Numbers:
- Signed up as of 2018 April 30: 44
- Withdrew with advance notice: 8
- No shows: 4 (included one “mystery applicant” - sent money but no application)
- Net attendance: 32

Program content:

Virtually unchanged, excepting two shifts due to inclement weather Friday evening.

LNT session, formerly “death by PowerPoint” by State Ranger, changed to active-learning, hands-on, session with participants using higher-order thinking skills (analysis, evaluation) rather than being passive listeners. This was in response to several years’ worth of comments from participants that bemoaned “too much sitting” on Saturday night.

Significant observations and remarks that will impact upon 2019 workshop:

1. Advertisement with Adirondac magazine occurred more or less as planned: a small glitch by the publisher gave incomplete information about how/where to sign up. This will be made very clear for the next round of advertisements.
2. Some key points raised by the staff were:
a. Revisit the role of the state ranger in our program;
b. Make it very clear what our signup and refund policies are;
c. Encourage, cajole, and/or hector people to refrain from cell phone use (except as a camera);
d. Make a video of Pete’s daypack presentation; and
e. Obtain an inventory of LNT pocket cards from LNT.org.

3. From participants:
   a. High praises for Pete Fish’s presentation, Ron Kon’s presentation, the LNT activity, and our map and compass sessions
   b. Many expressed wanting more map and compass work
   c. Many echoed the staff’s concerns about the State Ranger

And in other news:

We continue to need good people to be our cookgroup leaders. While we had 6 people on deck for our 5 groups, one had to withdraw for family reasons, leaving us with only one cookgroup leader per group. Two per group is ideal, permitting both larger groups (i.e., 8-9 rather than 5-6 per group) and allowing for us to accommodate last-minute issues such as the one leader’s last-minute cancellation.

We were fortunate that two current forty-sixers, Carolyn and Peter Von Schenk, (#7255 and 7256, respectively) said they’d like to join the staff in 2019.

We earnestly hope that our colleagues on the board can suggest other quality folks for Don and I to contact, so we may be able to continue to offer the kind of high-quality programming for which the workshop has become famous, if not infamous.

The full report, complete with eight-by-ten colour glossy photographs with circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back of each one can be accessed at:

tinyurl.com/oswreport

Respectfully submitted,, Don McMullen #244W, Bill Lundy #3310
Adirondack 46ers Trailhead Steward Program (TSP)
End of Season Summary—October 2017

TSP Steering Committee: Brian Hoody (46er President), Laurie Rankin, Fran Shumway

The Trailhead Steward Program (TSP) recently completed its pilot season, in which we placed 2-4 volunteer stewards (46ers) at the Cascade Trailhead (on Route 73) on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays throughout the summer. Stewards engaged hikers concerning three main themes—Education, Information, and Conservation—in an effort to preserve the resource and promote a safe and responsible hiking experience for all.

The following is a summary of the TSP program’s pilot season, including facts, stats, accomplishments and ideas for moving forward.

FACTS/STATS

TSP volunteers (2-4 at a time) staffed the Cascade Trailhead beginning Saturday, June 17 and continued every weekend/holiday through Columbus Day, Monday, October 9, 2-17.

Two day-long training sessions were offered by Julia Goren (ADK), Kayla White (ADK) and Ranger Jim Gigliento (DEC), on Saturday, May 6 and Saturday, July 15, 2017.

35 46er’s completed the TSP training; 33 of these also actively participated at the trailhead during the season, for a total of 1142 volunteer hours.

TSP volunteers encountered 13,074 hikers and 648 dogs at the Cascade Trailhead (staffed from 8 AM-4 PM each weekend day, plus holidays-July 4, Labor Day, Columbus Day/Canadian Thanksgiving).

ACCOMPLISHMENTS/OUTCOMES

- TSP volunteers referred many hikers to outings/hikes which better suited their level of preparedness, time restrictions, etc. (Alternate Hikes List; speaking to hikers about food, water, proper clothing, etc.)
- ADK Summit Stewards reported fewer dogs off leash, less trash on the trail, etc., which they attribute to the presence of the TSP volunteers. (Offering garbage bags, and doggie poop bags)
- Promoted LNT principles, including proper disposal of human waste by distributing LNT tags and showing the “Dig It” demo.
- In at least one instance, TSP volunteers assisted DEC Rangers and the Summit Steward with a hiker rescue/evacuation.
- Working with the Town of Keene Supervisor, Joe Pete Wilson, TSP was able to obtain free, secure storage space for supplies and set up items at Marcy Field.
• Two way radios: Though we received them too late this season to be useful, we now have two radios which are programmed and ready to go. Will need training next year on proper use.

SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT YEAR (FROM TSP VOLUNTEERS)

• Provide printed maps of the Cascade/Porter/Pitchoff trail system to hand out.
• Have a large, laminated map of the Cascade/Porter/Pitchoff trail system on display at the trailhead.
• LNT and Alternate Peaks information in French as well as English
• Updated Alternate Peak list to include both trails to Mt. Van Hoevenberg
• Improved signage for TSP presence, such as a banner, sandwich board, etc.
• Order more Hike Safe cards (very popular!)
• Notebook containing photos of the Alternate Hikes (views)
• Business cards containing ADK 46er website and correspondent contact info
• TSP armbands for folks to put on their sleeves when they have to wear a jacket over their uniform shirt
• Short-sleeved uniform shirts for warmer weather
• Volunteers should not stand behind the table exclusively; be out in front to engage hikers
• When possible, have some stewards walking the trail to engage folks along the way.
• Nametags or badges for stewards

NEEDED FOR NEXT YEAR [2018]

• New VSA agreement
• Help with volunteer coordination/behind the scenes work? (At least one person has expressed an interest in doing this)
• New shelter (better quality)—the one from this year is broken
• Replenish supplies, such as Hike Safe Cards
• Training for two-way radio use
• Folding chairs for volunteers?