

**Adirondack Forty-Sixers, Inc. (46ers)**  
**Fall 2019 Executive Committee Meeting - Minutes**  
**Newcomb Central School, Newcomb NY**  
**2019 September 28**

In attendance:

- Siobhán Carney-Nesbitt, President/Office of the Historian
- Lee (and Maebh) Nesbitt, Office of the Historian
- Brian Hoody, Past President
- Laurie Rankin, Vice President, Trailhead Stewards Co-Chair
- Chris Sobik, Director
- Chuck Schwerin. *PEEKS* Editor
- Bill Brizzell, Director
- Joe Bogardus, Trailmaster
- Paula Selmer, Merchandise Chair
- Phil Corell, Treasurer
- Bill Lundy, Recording Secretary/Co-Chair, Outdoor Skills Workshop
- Bob Rock, Director
- Hank Sondheimer (past Director, guest)
- Steve Shumway, Director
- Sam Eddy, Lead Trailmaster
- Mary Lamb, Director
- Don McMullen, Co-Chair, Outdoor Skills Workshop
- Fran Shumway, Trailhead Stewards Co-Chair
- Joe Ryan, Webmaster

Guests:

- Andrew Hamlin - ADK Trail Crew

Agenda ([link](#))

**Summary of email votes since last meeting:**

- A. Minutes of the Spring Executive Meeting
  - a. 2019-7-26 - "Moved to approve the May 26, 2019 Spring Meeting minutes.  
Siobhán Carney-Nesbitt
  - b. Second - Bill Brizzell
  - c. Aye - Bob Rock, Bill Brizzell, Chris Sobik, Brian Hoody, Mary Lamb, Steve Shumway, Julia Goren, Laurie Rankin, Siobhán Carney-Nesbitt
  - d. **Carried** 2019 July 30
- B. T-shirts for WOW (Women's Only Work Weekend)
  - a. 2019-06-20 - " Moving to obtain a modest supply (say 60 so we can be covered for a few years) of generic "I survived the WOW" t-shirts at a cost of up to \$500

to be awarded by the weekend organizers following participating in 3+ WOW weekends with extra shirts to be stored in the storage locker and/or with a designated organizer.” - Siobhán

- b. Second - Bill Brizzell
  - c. Aye - 5; no other votes
  - d. **Carried** 2019 June 24
- C. Water Bottles - inventory replenishment with changes
- a. 2019-07-11 -:"I make a motion to purchase 490 bottles with the mountaineer logo added for \$8.80 each.” Laurie Rankin:
  - b. Discussion -
    - i. See [PDF file with details](#)
    - ii. Steve Shumway noted, “...is it necessary to list East Dix parenthetically, since the peak has been named Grace for 4 years now?”
    - iii. Mary Lamb noted, “Have we always gone thru the Mountaineer to buy the bottles?”
    - iv. Does this set some sort of precedent for other businesses to attach themselves to the 46 name?
    - v. Laurie Rankin responded, “Good question Mary. As I understand it we did purchase our last order of the nalgene bottles thru the Mountaineer. They have of course changed hands. The bottles have gone up in price. The new owner offered us this option where we would actually save money as long as they added their logo. to me it seemed ok to support a local business in this manner in exchange for the offer to pick up the price increase.”
    - vi. No further discussion about the above points except that in giving her “yes” vote, Laurie did request, “... please do try to make that correction...”
  - c. Second: Chris Sobik
  - d. Aye 9; no other votes
  - e. **Carried** 2019-07-12
- D. Lean2 rescue (L2R)
- a. The president wrote a letter ([view here](#)) that was shared and vetted by various board members.
  - b. 2019-06-17 - “I make a motion to approve Final draft #3 to be sent ASAP. “ - Laurie Rankin
  - c. Second - Julia Goren
  - d. Shared with all board members; no objections stated.
  - e. **Carried** 2019-06-17
- E. Purchase of beer for trails crews
- a. Discussion:
    - i. On 2019-08-06 President Siobhán sent the following for discussion/vote: “Issue: In the past, when 46ers get together for projects (i.e. trail work, the OSW, etc.), at night when the work is done we might sit down and

have a drink. In the past, this has always been supplied by individual members and has never been purchased by the club using member donations.

1. "Proposal: The trail masters have put on a meal for work parties and beer has been supplied by Pete Hickey's "home brew." He is unable to continue the practice and the trail masters would like to purchase two kegs of beer for their Putnam Pond meal with 46er funds.
  2. "Question: Since this is setting a precedent for the use of club funds we wanted to pass it by the Board for approval. The club will be specifically supplying the beer. It will be purchased with funds donated by members.
  3. "Joe Bogardus pointed out that the ADK has supplied beer and food at the end of the day for trail workers."
- ii. Following a day of spirited discussion, the president posted the following:
1. "So what I am hearing is that we are not in favor of purchasing beer/alcohol following trail work activities. Individuals may bring their own adult beverages to events for consumption at the end of the day and assume the liability upon themselves.
- b. 2019-06-08, "I move that we not purchase beer/alcohol for consumption following trail work activities. Individuals may bring their own adult beverages to events for consumption at the end of the day and assume the liability upon themselves." - Steve Shumway
- c. Second - Bob Rock
- d. Aye: Chris S, Mary L, Steve S, Bill B, Brian H, Bob R, Siobhán
- e. Nay/Abstain: no other responses
- f. **Carried** 2019-08-07

F. Letter to L John Van Norden re: Esther plaque

- a. Discussion:
- b. L.John recently completed work on the Esther plaque as seen via social media (Facebook posts). While this action was not completed by the 46ers, a 46er who has been associated with our organization and Board did complete the work... We don't need to take "heat" from the DEC or general public for something we had nothing to do with! Joe B. brought this to my attention, and we have drafted a letter to L.John. We don't want to act on our own though, so before anything is sent, we are asking you all to weigh in and vote to either approve the letter or to step aside.
- c. 2019-08-29 - Moved by Chris Sobik that we [46ers] send the letter to L. John
- d. 2019-08-29 - Second by Brian Hoody
- e. Aye: Chris S, Brian H, Bob R, Laurie R, Bill B, Julia G, Steve S, Siobhán
- f. Nay/Abstain: No other responses
- g. **Carried** - 2019-08-29

- h. Footnote: L John notified DEC with a letter and resigned and revoked his life membership in the Adirondack Forty-Sixers Inc.

## Agenda Items

1. Meeting called to order at 13:02 by the president.
2. **Donation in Memory of Dan Kane**
  - a. The president reiterated the grief we all individually and collectively feel for the loss of Dan. Consequently, it was proposed that a donation of \$1500 be made in his memory, to top up the current donation of \$40,000 to the Summit Steward Program.
  - b. Moved: Mary Lamb
  - c. Seconded: Brian Hoody
  - d. **Carried:** Unanimously
3. **Historian's Office Report - Lee**
  - a. 204 new 46ers currently in the system, 163 have been assigned #s, 101 finishers still need to be entered, and 27 unopened pieces of mail
  - b. Historian's Office is in need of a volunteer to assist with mailing finisher letters (a task formerly undertaken with alacrity by Dan Kane)
4. **Treasurer - Phil**
  - a. The treasurer shared spreadsheets with the details of income, expenses, assets, and liabilities. Current bank balance is in the vicinity of \$178,000.
  - b. Our 990 has been filed. Footnote to this: Ken Cerini has volunteered to do this work, *pro bono*, and has done so for three years.
  - c. Should we place \$100,000 of Club funds into a 6 month CD currently at 1.56% - general agreement.
    - i. **Motion** to invest \$100,000 in a 6-month CD for higher interest
    - ii. Moved: Bill Brizzell
    - iii. Second: Laurie Rankin
    - iv. **Carried:** Unanimously
  - d. Receipt/expenses summary, (handout) note: Leanto Rescue (L2R) being removed as a line item, as L2R is seeking LLC status (thus, will begin operations independent of the 46ers). Also, the Estate of the late Bill Hester had sent the 46ers a \$10,000 bequest; also, a final disbursement of \$3,400 from Mr. Hester was received..
  - e. Operations are run from dues, contributions, and net sales - this year, net income is in the black (compared to 2018, when we were in the red due to major expenses for replenishment of inventory). This gives the organization total assets of approximately \$243,000.

- f. Phil has sent the last monies (approximately \$500) to L John to close out the 46ers' interest in his trust.
  - g. The third installment of \$15,000 for the Summit Stewards is pending.
  - h. New address for the treasurer's office: 29 Maine Rd, Plattsburgh NY 12903
5. **Membership** - Leesa
- a. No report - Leesa was unable to be present for the meeting.
6. **Merchandise** - Paula
- a. Spring sales in 2019 were in the order of 600 shirts alone!
  - b. Paula noted that the handling of special orders appears to be difficult for PennySaver to effect; consequently, she is handling them herself.
7. **Correspondent Program** - Mark
8. **Website Rebuild** - Mark
- a. Mark sent in a few comments by email, prior to the meeting, as he was doing trailwork:
  - b. The Correspondent Program is chugging along very well. We have had many new hikers join up over the last month. Many of these send inquiry to the Historian and they send said hiker to me. I have a form letter all drafted that I send . It introduces the program and has a link where to sign up. I also believe the THS Program has been very influential on sign ups . Thanks all! VERY soon, we will crown 1K hiker accts.
  - c. We lost our first data base convertor individual right after the approval. But busted out soon afterwards with a meeting at Leesa's house. Great momentum came from that! However, our second database convertor individual is MIA. No call backs and I don't understand it. The short story is that Neil and I realized ~ 30-40 days ago that we can and will do the work. However we have both been busy over the last month. I'll have a lot more to report at the Winter Meeting or even sooner.
  - d. The following was received by email after the meeting: "Just an update on the new website progression. We have been able to make 'code' that translates live FMP data to the new database house. This is a big deal. Better said, when we have the new database house all built with old/bad data, when all the tires have been kicked, rekicked and everyone likes it and we are ready to go live, it is a simple procedure to take the good FMP data and send it to the new 'house' database location.
  - e. [Attached](#) please find the new database house 'foundation' that Neil worked on over the weekend. There is a lot to do. And there will be plenty of chances to inspect the house before going live.
  - f. "Just know, that we are progressing."
  - g. Mark also sent in this request for discussion/approval. "We had some discussion over the early summer and I did request approval to award Correspondents with

4 CSA Hours per finisher. As I recall, there was general consensus for approval, but no vote. Know that the Correspondents work as hard as others that give back and I feel awarding per finisher is a good metric for the amount of effort they put in. This is in alignment with efforts and CSA awards for TrailHead Steward Program. So...can we put this matter open to any last discussion and vote on Saturday? This needs to be approved.”

- h. This and subsequent emails referred to the awarding of CSA hours for correspondents. Further to this, an *ad hoc* committee has been struck to review the current practice of awarding hours, and develop a framework for the future. Steve S, Bill L, Lee N, and Mark S will form this committee and deliver a report for the winter meeting. In the interim, Bill will share copies of the communications on this subject (dating back about 2 years or so) with the other committee members, as a basis for discussion. The group plans to meet face-to-face at some time, date tba.

9. **Peeks** - Chuck

- a. The publication schedule has been delayed by one month, so that all future issues will be November/May so as to better include summer activities such as trail work, TSP, and the OSW.
- b. Phil asked if we had looked into printing costs through PennySaver; Chuck acknowledged we are always receptive to better pricing.
- c. Phil noted as an aside that there are approximately 7800 individual active members. (In emails subsequent to the meeting, he noted that we mail to 77 family addresses and 405 combined addresses who represent 1137 of the aforementioned total of 7800.

10. **Outdoor Skills Workshop** - Bill L, Don

- a. The report for this was delivered at the spring meeting.
- b. Dates for 2020: 1-3 May
- c. Bill L has already sent in the copy for the “advertisement” to be published in the Jan and Mar *Adirondac* magazines.

11. **Campership Committee** - Siobhán per Pat Desbiens

- a. [See attachment](#)
- b. Our support is currently limited to Jay and Ausable Forks - should we expand coverage to Newcomb? Any school within the blue line?
- c. General consensus that we extend coverage to include Newcomb, as per the attachment.
- d. Mary Lamb volunteered to assist in identifying campers.
  - i. **Motion:** To authorize up to six (6) summer camperships to eligible students within the blue line. Motion by: Laurie
  - ii. Second: Bill Brizzell
  - iii. **Carried** - Unanimously

**12. Vespers** - Siobhán

- a. Barb Traver has stepped down- Need to secure a more permanent committee going forward. Chris Sobik has stepped forward to coordinate this for the foreseeable future; is asking for input.
- b. Additionally, a call will be made in Peeks for people to join the committee, to have a pool of individuals to handle the event.

**13. Website** (existing) - Joe

- a. Some updates are needed and are in progress.
- b. Work orders are about the same as usual.

**14. Founders Award Committee:** Joe Ryan

- a. This year's recipients include: Hank Sondheimer, Dan Stec, Laurie Rankin, John Barron, Fran Shumway, Dan Kane, Doug Varney, Pete Hickey
- b. Presented by Joe Ryan and John Sasso during the evening meeting.

**15. Trail Work** - Sam

- a. [See attachment](#) from Sam Eddy (detailed account of activities in 2019)
- b. Women's Work Weekend - third day added, and well attended; also, t-shirts were "a hit".
- c. Friday trail work - surprisingly positive response
- d. National Trails Day well attended
- e. West Carthage Fire Department have donated ice, and given other help to the trails crews.
  - i. **Motion:** Steve S - To donate \$200 to the West Carthage Fire Dept in recognition of their support of our trails program.
  - ii. Second: Chris S
  - iii. **Carried** - Unanimously
- f. Including some "easier" projects, e.g. Putnam Pond table painting, broadens inclusion
- g. Also discussed was the parking situation for trail crew. New parking regulations are causing a lot of hikers to get to trailheads early; thus, when we have a project scheduled, we are either going early or double parking or car pooling.

**16. Guest Presentation** - Andrew Hamlin, ADK trails crew

- a. See [attachment](#) for details
- b. Andrew requested, on behalf of the trails crew, that the 46ers continue funding their efforts. Our funds cover most of the costs of work above 3000 feet elevation.

**17. Trailhead Stewards** - Fran

- a. In 2019, 69 volunteers were trained (new and returning).

- b. This year, Fridays were added to the roster. Only one day had to be cancelled due to lack of volunteers (Sept 27).
  - c. Looking ahead, to 2020: Cascade likely to be the sole venue.
  - d. The Keene Town Supervisor, on behalf of ORDA and ROOST, expressed an interest in having a steward do ride-alongs on its shuttle bus from Lake Placid to Wilmington (Rt. 86), to speak to hikers regarding LNT principles, answer questions. This was sought for 2019, but couldn't get underway; it might be a consideration for 2020. No objections to this proposal were noted.
  - e. The deplorable state of the outhouses at trailheads (Cascade in particular) were noted. Laurie will contact the Ausable River Association, who is responsible for them, to get action; as well, to discuss if the 46ers could/should fund a second outhouse at the Cascade trailhead.
18. **Front Country Stewards** - Fran, Siobhán (on behalf of Zoe, who couldn't attend)
- a. The revised proposal, approved at the spring meeting, can be read [at this link](#).
  - b. The president sent a letter to Zoe on 3 June, advising her of the awarding of the grant and spelling out our terms. [See attachment](#)
  - c. Julia and Fran joined Zoe and her stewards at the Town of Keene Hall for their training.
  - d. Both Fran and Bill B saw front country stewards in action at Marcy Field and Giant (respectively) and reported positive impressions about what they saw.
  - e. Arising from this topic, broadly speaking: We need to develop our own PR person(s)/campaign(s) to ensure we get credit where it is due, and to inform the public of our good works. Asked hypothetically, without much further discussion: Hire someone? Temporarily? A student? It was suggested that we solicit the membership for someone to fill this role, e.g. through *Peeks*, the fall mailing, Facebook.
19. **Northeast Alpine Gathering** - Kayla White scheduled to present, unable to attend, covered by Siobhán
- a. We have 3 free tickets to the event, plus we have a [display] table.
  - b. Attendees, to date: Brian H, Joe R, Laurie R
  - c. Table: Brian one day, rep from TSP, rep from Trails Crew - names tba
  - d. Further discussion was a little muddled, leaving the exact details unknown.
  - e. It was also noted, with general displeasure, that we were left off of recognition as one of the supporting (\$) sponsors of the event, in their posters and print advertising.
20. **Full Page Ads** - Siobhán
- a. 2 Full page ads, to be run in Adirondac. These were one of the benefits of our sponsorship of the Alpine Stewardship event. The first ad to be submitted (full page) ad as a .pdf by November 15, second ad to be submitted by mid-January to [sunday@adk.org](mailto:sunday@adk.org)



- b. Subsequent email exchanges have been working to identify the content and layout
21. **Funding matters** - Laurie, from NY State, per Dan Stec
- a. New legislation was passed that will allow organizations to donate directly to DEC projects rather than having monies go to the general funds meaning we could choose a project like say, the trail to Colden and donate directly to the DEC to do the project rather than the ADK Pro Crew
22. **Adopt a Highway** - Lee
- a. See attachments:
    - i. [Program Info](#)
    - ii. [Correspondence](#)
    - iii. [Permit](#)
    - iv. [Map](#)
  - b. Lee noted some salient points:
    - i. The program permits volunteers as young as age 12 (compared to 18 for others)
    - ii. The signage and being seen raises our profile with the residents of Keene and North Elba
    - iii. No costs to us
    - iv. Can occur on weekdays (we have been getting requests for volunteer events during the week vice weekends)
  - c. Lee/Siobhán will look into whether we can get our logo added to relevant highway signage
    - i. **Motion:** Laurie R to adopt two sections as per Lee's notes and comments
    - ii. Second: Steve S
    - iii. **Carried**
23. **Trademarks** - Brian
- a. We have completed most of the process: our trademarks include all logos and the original "46R" logo
  - b. "Aspiring 46er" is the only remaining item not yet firmed up.
  - c. Note: Any and all letters re: trademark infringements need to be included in future minutes.
  - d. Committee: Debbie Melita, Brian, Bob R. and Tom F.
24. **Former member's letter** -Siobhán
- a. *This matter was discussed in executive session.*
25. **Committee Needs** - Siobhán
- a. The following were identified as some of the current needs. They include some matters already covered in these minutes.

- i. Legal Representation
  - 1. from the floor: someone we can put on retainer? Chuck will look to find someone
- ii. Help for the historian's office - [See above](#)
- iii. Vespers - [See above](#)
- iv. Membership/PR - [See above](#)
- v. Recognition - [See above](#)
- vi. 46R endowment/trust committee
  - 1. "Special stewardship program" proposed by Joe B
  - 2. Details (in no particular order, except as raised around the table):
  - 3. A new line in the budget, identifying contributions from the organization as well as individuals for this fund specifically
  - 4. This line would create a "pot" of funds for special projects
  - 5. There are organizations that handle the management side of this for non-profit organizations; they do the same things we would do ourselves, and it still belongs to us.
  - 6. We should commit to spend at least 5% (to start) of the value of the fund (this is a standard figure for this kind of thing)
  - 7. There was a general consensus that this is a good idea and that we should proceed with it, including publicizing it (when ready).
  - 8. Plan, going forward: Seed it with funds from our budget to establish the fund, then publicize it with the fact that it will be earmarked for projects, not operations. The aforementioned CD could become the seed money.
  - 9. An *ad hoc* committee was struck to present details at the next meeting: Joe B, Hank, Bob R, and Phil [Phil *ex officio*]

**26. LNT Hotspot - Laurie**

- a. Laurie noted that, from her perspective, this was a highly scripted event.
- b. The Hotspot representatives observed the TSP folks in action one day.

**27. Vespers at Spring Meeting 2020 - Siobhán**

- a. Note that we will receive a room rental charge for the room we use for this (a change from not having been charged in past). No objections raised.

**28. Funding request vote:**

- a. Moved by Chris S - We support the funding requests of \$41,000 as per [item 16 above](#)
  - i. \$6,000 spring training and patrols
  - ii. \$25,000 for Avalanche Lake to Lake Colden trail re-route and hardening
  - iii. \$10,000 for cairn construction on Mt. Haystack
- b. Second - Bill B
- c. Aye 8, Nay 0, Absent 1

**d. Carried**

**29. Adjournment @ 1630**

- a. Motion: Steve
- b. Second: Laurie