

# **NH AMC Excom Meeting February 6, 2020**

**Date:2/6/2020**

**Location: via Zoom E-Meeting**

## **Executive Committee Members Attending**

### **Officers**

Chair	Rick Silverberg <b>X</b>
Vice Chair	Jim Kent <b>X</b>
Treasurer	Kerry Landry <b>X</b>
Secretary	Debbie Marcus <b>X</b>

### **Committee Chairs**

Bike	Hiel Lindquist <b>X</b>
Communications	Christina Cozzens <b>X</b> Jen Kimball <b>X</b>
Conserv/Educ	Paul Hopkins <b>X</b>
Excursions	Larry Yetter <b>X</b> Dan Heon
Membership	Jamie Gillon <b>X</b>
Mountaineering	Kathleen Upton
Newsletter	Bob McLaughlin <b>X</b>

Paddling                      Robin Diamond **X**  
   Roscoe Diamond **X**  
   Paul Berry

Ski                                Paul Pinkham  
   Valerio Viti **X**  
   Thor Smith **X**

Trails                             Richie Holstein **X**  
   Bill Foster

Website                         Stephanie Howes **X**  
   Paul Berry

20's & 30's                      Jamie Cullinane

**Ex Officio**

Past Chair                        Frank Miller **X**  
Reg Dir North                    John Mullens **X**

**Guests**                         Kevin Foster **X**  
   Hannah (AMC) **X**

**Call to Order**                 7:00 pm

Rick opened the meeting and reminded everyone of Excom's need for a new Programs Chair.

Minutes from the December meeting had been edited and supplied to all Excom members prior to 2/6/2020. A motion to

approve the Minutes was made by Frank, seconded by Paul H., and voted unanimously.

Stephanie updated everyone on progress with the new website. The switchover to the new website will occur soon. The connection to the AMC website is set and Stephanie is setting up the navigation settings to facilitate navigation on the site. Permission settings for administration (and a backup to that person) will be created. Stephanie recommended that each Committee Chair should submit a nice photo and short Bio for their respective pages. Discussion ensued about how the access will be handled so Committees can update their pages content, photos, etc. directly. Stephanie will advise Committee Chairs and provide instructions for logins and passwords. This may utilize the Chapter's respective committee emails. Debbie mentioned that Minutes of Excom meetings in 2019 to present are available. Stephanie said she could utilize the flash drive which has 2019 Minutes to get them properly published on the website. Stephanie responded to questions about the site's general appearance and usage buttons. She is using set-ups that reflect her current firm's best practices. Once the site is launched, Stephanie wants to modernize the Home Page, what folks see first, to match how people use websites in 2020 with the best ways to promote committees and activities. Additional questions arose from Valerio (Ski activities list) and Rick (Winter and Spring Schools), Jim (Mountaineering is missing and needs work). Rick suggested the new website could go live after the edits Stephanie mentioned this evening, and then committees will actually see where they may need to make changes. Stephanie requested the formation of a subcommittee to explore additional website topics such as registering for events and activities and payment vehicles with

new technology beyond PayPal. Jamie, Larry, Robin, Kerry, and Rick stepped up to form the subcommittee.

Kerry provided the financial statement and 2020 Budget. The Chapter had a balance in checking of \$39,612.74 on 12/31/2019. Rick summarized the officers' recent meeting on the budget. Mountaineering did not submit a budget. Prior to the officers' budget meeting, Jim had reviewed Mountaineering's 2019 expenses and revenue and proposed the budget figures for 2020. Newsletter expects to publish 5 issues (not 4) in 2020. The 2019 budget for 6 issues was \$11K, but only \$8K was spent. The 2020 budget will be \$9K for 5 issues which includes a 25% buffer. A motion to approve the Chapter's 2020 budget was made by Frank, seconded by Jamie, and unanimously approved.

Discussion ensued about the budget process. Larry prompted that we should be creating accurate budgets, not inflated budgets. Rick responded that, yes, Committees could and should fashion more realistic budgets and not just repeat the previous year's budget. This was a key topic during the officers' budget meeting. Kerry would like for Committees to start earlier and submit budgets more in line with expenses. Kerry suggested that some Committees do not have the personnel to actually provide the programs/activities they are including in their annual budgets. Kerry suggested using the Communications Committee to work with one Committee at a time to promote their programs and activities.

Rick next brought up the use of the Chapter's Cash Reserves. Three projects had been mentioned during previous meetings: Rumney Rocks Mountaineering Interchapter project; Paddling Interchapter project; Cardigan Accessible Trails Interchapter project. Robin and Roscoe indicated the Paddling Interchapter

initiative will not have any information until after a March meeting. Richie indicated the Cardigan Interchapter Trails project has nothing substantive as yet. John encouraged Richie to communicate with Interchapter Trails to do the work to get a Master Plan for the Cardigan project underway. Rick and John informed the group that the Rumney Rocks project is the only Interchapter project with a Master Plan in place to direct donated funds sent by Chapters or individuals. A motion for a donation of \$10K from the NH Chapter to the Rumney Rocks project was made by Paul H and seconded by multiple people. In discussion, Larry asked about our access to informational materials on the project to review before we vote to give over Chapter funds. Rick tabled a vote on this matter until the March meeting so that informational materials could be reviewed by all. Rick emphasized that we need to spend our Cash Reserves on projects that further our mission.

Annual Meeting for 2020 has been scheduled: Saturday, October 24, 2020 at The Grappone Conference Center in Concord, NH. Author Ty Gagne (“Where You’ll Find Me: Risk, Decisions, and the Last Climb of Kate Matrosova”) has been engaged as the keynote speaker. Debbie made these arrangements before the end of 2019. A new Programs Chair will need to be recruited to complete the Annual Meeting tasks. Christina suggested completing a job description write-up for the Newsletter. Rick suggested defining Programs responsibilities. Robin and Roscoe said they could help with some of the 2020 Annual Meeting tasks, such as letters to the 25 and 50 Year Members. Re the 2021 Annual Meeting, the Chapter’s 100th year: Rick and Frank both recommended the formation of a separate committee (similar to that formed for the Fall Gathering) to

engage in planning for 100th Anniversary activities. Every effort should be made to engage volunteers beyond Excom members.

Paul Hopkins proposed Kevin Foster as a new Co-Chair of Conservation Education. Kevin will be invited to the March meeting to introduce himself.

Paul brought up Earth Day 2020 in April as an opportunity for AMC-NH to engage in outreach to members and the public on the 2020 theme of climate change as it relates to transportation. Paul also sought feedback on how we could use NH Wild Day as a way AMC-NH could engage the public who attend with this theme. Hiel and Jamie reminded everyone that most attendees are families with young children who look for physical activities at NH Wild rather than in-depth environmental education. Rick suggested that Paul and Kevin could seek to do an indoor program on that day, and Jamie recommended contacting NH Fish & Game right away. John referred Paul to Heather Clish AMC Dir. of Conservation and Recreation Policy as well as Susan Arnold at AMC for resources/handouts on the subject.

Jim provided a copy of the AMC NH Chapter Goals for 2020. These general chapter goals can be used by committees as they create specific goals and execute them. Jim requested that committees review the Goals listed and make sure committees feel these goals reflect what they are planning for activities. A motion to approve the Chapter Goals for 2020 was made by Larry, seconded by Jamie, and unanimously voted. Jim reminded all that not the Goals are approved, the budget and expenditures should reflect our goals.

Rick and Jim shared issues raised at the AMC Summit meeting in January. Richie reported that the Trails folks discussed leadership responsibilities requirements. Larry commented on the

Excursions' committees response to the Club's recognition and promotion of staff-led excursions and activities at the Summit, when chapters host many, many more hours of volunteer-led excursions and activities. John responded that the Club recognizes this issue. John also thanked Jim and Rick for developing NH Chapter goals which reflect the AMC 150 initiatives.

The March meeting will take place on 3/5/2020 at the Society for Protection of New Hampshire Forests in Concord, NH. Food will be by Ski Committee.

Frank entered a motion to adjourn. Seconded by several. Passed unanimously. Adjourned at 8:55 pm.