

OHA Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2023
Called to Order: 6:31pm

Attendance:

Steering Committee Present: Carter Bascom, Emma "EB" Brandt, Phoebe Howe, Jared Liu, Lawrence "Stroker" Rogovin, Kimberly "Schroeder" Steward, Gerry Whiting, Dawson Winch, Alex Ziko, Deirdre Vander Schaff, Bethany Taylor

Steering Committee Absent: Jeff Colt, Riley Steward

Guests: Josh Alper, Bill Barrett, Jesse Carlson, Brian Post, Doug Shaffer, Ray Welch, Bob White

Approve Minutes for 11/11/22 (Jared)

Action: Dawson motioned to approve the November 11, 2022 minutes as submitted, Gerry seconded, and the OHA unanimously approved.

Trails (Bob, Bill)

Bob was on Trail Crew in the 1970s and went on to be a landscape architect. He's been working with the World Trails Network on a four-year project to rebuild the Franconia Ridge trails. In particular, the power steps have to go away because they're not being used. Bob has gotten access to \$100,000 from Senator Jeanne Shaheen and is getting permits from NH State Parks. He's proposing some OHA or Greenleaf Hut alumni workdays in late July or August. Although the Trail Crew could certainly complete this work faster, there's great value in getting a larger collaborative effort and involve more OH, especially since maintaining trails is part of our mission. Given that AMC Trail Crew is predominantly contract work already, Bob believes that this will be a model for how significant trail work gets done in the future. Stroker underscored the benefits of OHA involvement with the Old Bridle Path rebuild, particularly for OHA membership development. Young members in particular have voiced interest in helping with this sort of volunteer work. Forming a partnership with the Trail Crew Association could (a) increase Y-OH involvement in the OHA, (b) offer older members fun volunteer opportunities with their buddies, (c) increase our trail building expertise and ability to maintain the two trails we manage for the USFS in the Whites, and (d) strengthen both organizations.

Email: rawwhite50@gmail.com

Action: Bob White will join the next Steering Committee meeting with specific dates and needs for the OBP project so the OHA can marshal the necessary support.

Action: EB will put something about this in the April Resusitator.

Action: Gerry made a motion to support the Franconia Ridge trails project, joining our name and volunteers, and in the hopes of encouraging greater coordination between the two groups in the future. Dawson seconded. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report (Alex)

Budget: Alex gave an overview of the budget he distributed ahead of the meeting.

- Although cabin fees are up to \$6000/annually in recent times, historically this has been around \$1500-2000 annually (25-33% of current income). Alex will adjust down and continue to monitor how this continues. There was some discussion about whether to increase cabin fees. Some felt that income and expenses should balance, while others felt that we've recently confirmed that we're comfortable with dues subsidizing cabin fees.
- AMC will talk about making an in-kind contribution for the end of season party and mid-season cabin usage. Bethany proposed that the Huts Manager come to the January or February

meeting to request what days the AMC needs the cabin, because they are seeing a greater need for Memorial Day weekend and other times.

Action: Stroker made a motion to provide use of the cabin to the AMC hut system for free instead of donating \$600 annually for hut system parties rather than requiring them to pay us for Cabin overnights (roughly worth \$600). Unanimously approved.

Investment Sub-Committee update: Opening a brokerage account with TD Ameritrade. They offer better rates and liquidity, so we're making some interest on our money and able to pull it quickly as needed when the Gervais land comes available.

Directors & Officers insurance: We are now paying for this policy, which is long overdue. The firm is based in New Hampshire.

Status of land gift: Bill Oliver is leading this. Phoebe will ask Bill Oliver to come to the next meeting or give an update that we can share with the Steering Committee.

Guidelines for planning and invoicing work: any work performed and billed to the OHA must be reviewed and approved beforehand by the Steering Committee.

Alex expecting his 2nd child this summer!

Secretary's Report (Jared)

Membership communications: Since January 1, we've sent two 2023 membership emails and are gearing up to send a snail mail request to anyone who has not paid yet. There was conversation around two points:

1. How many mailings is too many? The group largely circled around 3 messages (2 email and 1 snail mail) being the right amount. If people haven't paid after 3 messages, they know how to find us.
2. Do we want to send a second membership appeal by snail mail to members without an email address on file? This cost is about \$1/person. The group largely felt that one mailing at this cost was sufficient. We'll do our best to work the benefits of membership into other content throughout the year.

Thanks to Brian and Alex for helping to get these mailings out and keep the records in shape, as well as others who provided feedback about the content.

Cabin insurance update: No change. We checked whether the current property and liability insurance are a good value. Reached out to 7 New Hampshire agencies and spoke to 4. All of them declined to even make a quote through a combination of the distance from the road, wood stove, and hoteling. Thanks to Stroker, Schroeder, Peter Benson, and Moose for gathering the information needed to check on this quote.

Cabin (Stroker)

Going forward Mike Waddell will still look after the cabin, but will be getting paid \$55/hour for repairs that go above and beyond.

Joe Dodge Award (Bill)

The committee met in December. There were many nominations, but Charles Muller who is retiring from Construction Crew after many years will be awarded at the Annual Summit this Saturday, Feb. 4.

Merch (EB)

The awesome artwork from Morgan has been received. Using Printful, you can now buy merch with these images. Morgan will scan these to be higher resolution. (See pictures at the end)

Website (Schroeder, Brian)

Everything with the website is going fine. Currently working on processing membership payments.

As everyone knows, Tom Kelleher passed away recently. He was also the obituary writer. Aside from how sad we are about the loss of Tom, we're looking for someone to take over the job of writing obits. The time commitment should be reasonable.

Croo Photo Project (Phoebe)

Phoebe has been taking stock of what years are up there, and found that it's somewhat inconsistent. However, the lack of wall space and the inconvenience that's meant for CC are the larger problems, Phoebe requests that everyone email her between now and the April meeting with suggestions about how to move forward here, and then we can have a longer discussion in April.

Hut System (Bethany)

Caretakers are in residence, and the AMC is reviewing applications for summer. There have been 160 applications, and there are expected to be 12-15 positions for new folks.

Amanda is expecting a baby (!), so the AMC is looking to hire 2 hut field coordinators from April to November. This is the position that Riley and Rey held in recent years. Be in touch with Bethany if interested.

Resuscitator (EB, Riley)

Submissions are due by March 1 for the April 1 version. Hoping to have good gormings from the dues that have just come in, but be proactive and send content to EB!

New & Other Bidness (Stroker)

2023 meeting dates: 4/11, 6/13, 9/19, 11/14

Spring Reunion will be 5/20. That night and the day after- Sunday, May 21- the cabin will be used by AMC Huts for a WFA course. Bill will do some inquiries to see if the Spring Reunion date can be shifted earlier.

Next Steering Committee Meeting

Apr. 11, 2023, 6:30pm, via Zoom. Conversation will continue to see if the meeting can rotate locations like it did pre-pandemic or be on a Friday/Saturday from time to time.

URL: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3105879688?pwd=bW1NQXnNUZPaURCd9EdXBtM3hkQT09>

Or Phone: 929-205-6099, Meeting Number: 3105879688#, Passcode: 780291#

Adjourned: 8:15pm







