

OHA Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes, April 16, 2024

Called to Order: 6:32pm with Phoebe on the gavel

Attendance:

Steering Committee Present: Emma "EB" Brandt, Jesse Carlson, Phoebe Howe, Jared Liu, Anne-Laure "AL" Razat, Lawrence "Stroker" Rogovin, Kimberly "Schroeder" Steward, Bethany "Benny" Taylor, Deirdre Vander Schaff, Gerry Whiting

Steering Committee Absent: Carter Bascom, Al Kamman, Doug Shaffer

Guests: Bill Barrett (phone), Emily Benson, Ethan Daly, Bob "Apples" McIntosh, Brian Post, Ray Welch, Quorum established

Secretary's Report (Jared)

Minutes. There were two additional edits to the January minutes: Spring Reunion is now May 4 and the February meeting at Bertucci's was moved to Jasper White's Summer Shack.

Action: Stroker made a motion to accept the minutes from the 1/9/24 meeting, Gerry seconded, unanimously approved

Bylaws. SC members received the edited bylaws on March 31, which required at least 10 days notice before a vote.

Action: Jared made a motion to accept the proposed bylaws changes, Stroker seconded, unanimously approved

Membership mailing. Jared gave a membership update, noting that we're doing well with members who regularly pay annual dues, but where we really need to focus is on members who donate once every 3 years or so. So we will do some targeted snail mailings and continued email to the approximately 300 "pending" members in this situation at the cost of about \$1 per USPS address.

Separately, Brian will remove the MIA designation from the website membership list, although retain it for the mailing directory. We will continue to email these folks, but discontinue USPS mailings to them.

Treasurer's Report (AL)

Schroeder and AL have coordinated to get all 2024 membership checks to AL. That has mostly come to an end at this point.

AL has been in communication with the tax accountant to file the 990.

For anyone looking closely at the budget, there was a typo on the e-commerce fees line. We did not budget \$2000. We'll update that and send around a revised budget. There have also been marginal increases in the costs for Mailchimp and mailing, which will be reflected in future budgets.

The OHA will pass-through \$1300 of targeted member donations to The Old Man of the Mountain Legacy Fund. This will result in 3 large pavers. Apples thanked the OHA for helping to facilitate this campaign, which was more successful than planned.

Cabin Report (Emily Benson)

The good news is that there was no additional damage with the flooding in April 2024. Also won't have to order more wood next year!

Mike Waddell has walked the site with Mark Gervais, and we expect to do a 50-50 split of the estimated \$15-20K cost. The total cost will include both the work and design, with the design being done by Burr (the father of YOH Tyler). Mark requested the design work if we are going to spend this kind of money to best mitigate this happening again. We are also taking this opportunity to clarify parking and other joint use. Emily has also met the Jackson Town Engineer and 5 contractors. The work will be kept to a scope that does not require a wetlands permit. For folks attending Spring Reunion, note that the work will not be completed before then. So plan for a longer walk up.

LIMITED TIME OFFER! Emily will be asking some local folks for help getting the new 153lb fridge up the road. Plan for this to be the best pack day of your life!

Gala (Phoebe & EB)

Phoebe and Anna will take this on, and charge the AMC the bargain rate of \$11/hour!

OH Ambassador Program (Phoebe)

There are still a few slots open- Galehead, Lakes, and Greenleaf-, which SC members are welcome to volunteer for. We expect to have a full roster by the time this rolls out in June.

Spring Reunion (Emily)

Will be on May 4... sorry for the date change! There will be food, friends, and cabin chores from 9am and 2pm. The food will be grillables, and attendees should bring a side. There is no cost, but donations are welcome. Jesse will reach out to some friends about trailwork with him and Bill.

Fallfest (Phoebe)

Stroker has lined up a panel of women who were pioneers in the huts. Send Honorary member nominations to Phoebe, as well as suggestions for field trips, sideshows, and other entertainment. Phoebe is noodling with offering an art bazaar and a huts related yard sale. JM Field and Stroker might have t-shirt collections to display.

Term Limits (Phoebe)

We talked about this in January. Younger OH are particularly interested in term limits to frame the extent of a commitment. The balance we have come up with is:

The term of office for Steering Committee members shall be three years and terms shall be staggered. Steering Committee members shall not be eligible to serve more than four consecutive terms. Steering Committee members who have served four consecutive terms are not eligible for nomination for two years.

Thus, the maximum you could go is 12 years, then you have to take at least 2 years off before running again. These will be the same terms regardless of whether one is an officer or not. Secondly, the terms would be staggered in thirds, with the President, Treasurer, and Secretary in different terms. These terms will be posted in the Tator. Thirdly, when this edit goes into place, we will allow current SC members to determine what term they are currently in.

Per the discussion, there was also interest in a clause that allowed the Steering Committee to override the two year ineligibility, which the Term Limits Committee will consider, and include in the proposal to the Steering Committee ahead of the June meeting.

It is important to have generational perspective on the SC and to pass along institutional knowledge to others so that the OHA continues to thrive. As always, OH are welcome to join SC meetings regardless of whether they are on the SC. We will vote on this change at the 6/11/24 meeting, with the proposed bylaws language being circulated at least 10 days in advance.

Secretary's note: With regards to nominations, note that the following is already in the bylaws: *At least three months prior to the succeeding Annual Meeting, the President of the Steering Committee shall appoint a Nominating Committee of at least three members, to recommend officers for the following year.*

Merch (Brian, Schroeder)

People have been buying shirts. We have stickers that can be sent, too, but are not including these with membership thank you letter due to that increasing the cost of postage. Please give some thought to how we want to distribute the stickers. Are they available at the cabin or reunions? Are they free with a self-addressed stamped envelope? Can they be purchased on the website as merch?

Website (Brian)

Working well

Croo Photo Project (Phoebe)

Phoebe will be pausing on this project, and happy to turn it over to someone to continue with. The photos are all securely stored on Google Drive. Deirdre expressed some interest, and a note will be put in the Tator inviting folks to even work on photos from the decade when they were in the huts.

Hut System (Benny)

We have EB! We are 98% hired for the summer, pending any late breaking injuries and mystery internships! For spring, Galehead won't open this May, and Jared will be at Greenleaf but without canned peaches. Meanwhile, Greenleaf's exterior east wall- the one facing Lafayette- is being replaced. And Galehead's kitchen cabinetry is finally being redone.

The Educator Coordinator and Field Coordinator positions are available. Please send folks to Benny if you think of someone who would be good!

The blanket toss happens tomorrow, whereby blankets are coming out of storage and dusted off.

OHA membership is open to other AMC staff, as noted on our website, and Benny will carry that message to other groups, especially our friends in Trail Crew!

Trails (Bill)

Our initial Trails Days for the summer will be (1) Saturday, May 4, Hutmen's Trail, 10am – 2pm, then adjourn to the Cabin for the Spring Reunion which starts at 9am (Bill promises to get the grill going again if it's shut down by then!); and (2) Sunday, May 5, Hall's Ledge Trail, 10am – 2pm. Meet at the trailhead(s) both days. On the Franconia Loop Project, this year there will not be a specific OH Day. Instead, there will be ten days open to the public (all on Saturdays), and OH are invited to attend any or all of them.

Resuscitator (EB & Ethan)

Sent the April issue. Ethan made some great contributions. Reach out to EB and Ethan if you have any gormings, areas where you regularly contribute, or if you know about talented OH with talents to share. Ethan loved the idea of the t-shirt collections, and is interested to write an article on this. Thanks to Josh for producing the 63 print versions.

There is an opening for an obituary writer.

New & Other Bidness (Stroker)

The next Steering Committee meetings for 2024 are: 6/11, 9/24, 11/19. Also: 5/3 at Shannon Door and 5/4 Spring Reunion... just show up!

Next Steering Committee Meeting:

6/11/24, 6:30pm ET

URL: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3105879688?pwd=bW1NQXnNUZPaURCdi9EdXBtM3hkQT09>

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

Adjourned: 8:25pm