

OHA Membership & Development Committee

Minutes

March 4, 2026

7:00pm ET

<https://yale.zoom.us/j/99380623573>

Attending: Joshua Alper, Emma "EB" Carlson, Stanley Cutter, Jared Liu, Lawrence "Stroker" Rogovin

Not Present: Luke Bartol, Gerry Whiting

Called to order, 7:03pm

Membership

Membership giving is in a very good place, with 1/3 of the mailing members contributing in any given year. For most nonprofit organizations, that number is generally below 10%.

Among the values of membership are:

- **Connecting.** This happens through social events, the Tator, social media, and local meetups. We're looking to expand some in-person events regionally, and will also see what data we can derive from social media.
- **Cabin.** Even though one needs to travel to Jackson for this benefit, there are many members who value preserving the experience of the cabin, even if they cannot partake at all or as often. Although trail maintenance isn't the same, there are also members who value that the organization advances this work.
- **Historical.** The OHA maintains an important collective of history with the huts, AMC, land, and more.

Action items for membership are:

1. Help members to renew more easily every year by setting up auto-renew. Jared will talk to Brian about this. We looked into it a few years ago, but it wasn't as straightforward as we had hoped.
2. Do more outreach to non-huts AMC alumni including trail crew, camps, and more.

Development

The priority is the cabin and the surrounding land. There was a detailed effort in 2020 to canvass the membership for what to do with the neighboring property, if acquired. Although the use was not resolved, the membership committed to first acquire the land if the price is reasonable and only later to determine the purpose. Emily is also assembling a capital improvements plan, so we know what have better visibility on the major expenses coming for the cabin in the next few decades.

Secondarily, we could look at a scholarship program for hut croo (any amount) or funding a summer hut croo (about \$7K). There would need to be a fleshed out program in place to deliver this.

Action items for development are:

1. Talk to the AMC about their interest in being a part of this. They maintain the Harvard Cabin with the Harvard Camp Corporation, and might care about the experience there. They have been approached the past.
2. Through posts in the Tator and on social media, ask members what their funding priorities would be.

3. Continue conversations with Lifetime members and those who give something extra for what their funding priorities are.
4. Think about restarting the conversation about the use of the land around the cabin.
5. Task the Programs & Outreach Committee with developing a draft scholarship fund proposal.

Adjourned, 8:04pm