

Taconic Hiking Club Board Meeting
January 10, 2022, 6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.
Via Zoom

PRESENT: Martha Waldman, Karen Ross, Leslie Siegard, Sue Jordan, Dave Pisaneschi, Lori McCarron

MINUTES:

Approved minutes from November 15, 2021, meeting

TREASURER:

For the fourth quarter receipts exceeded expenses by \$792. The surplus for 2021 totaled \$1688.76, \$567 greater than the \$1121 surplus budgeted. Revenues were \$436 less than budgeted due to cancelation of the Annual dinner. This shortfall is more than offset by the elimination of the associated expense. Dues, maps, and patches exceeded budget.

There were no miscellaneous charges in the fourth quarter. The website expense of \$216 reflects the annual hosting fee. There were two refunds for End-to-End withdrawals. Overall expenses for 2021 were \$1004 less than budgeted largely due to the cancellation of the annual banquet and picnic.

The last line on the financial statement notes the amount of the End-to-End deposits received. These are a liability until the event is held. I will keep this note on the financials until next year when the event is held. This amount has been updated to reflect the three refunds issued to date.

Leslie will check with Kurt Cornwell who did the audit last year to see if he is willing to do it again. The Board agreed that with the pandemic so rampant it does not seem likely to find three people to get together for the audit again this year and agreed on having one person do it.

END TO END:

Date: May 14, 2022. Tom sent an email to the twenty-nine registered participants in mid-December. To date, eleven people wish to stay registered, four withdrew, and thirteen have not yet responded. Tom and Martha will follow up after the 1/14 response due date. Nine people are on the waiting list. Ranger Steve Jackson will be on duty the day of the race.

Martha applied for received a DEC Temporary Revocable Permit for the E2E from Patrick McGarity of DEC. If more than fifty people (participants and volunteers) were to take part that day the Club would need to apply two months prior for an upgraded permit requiring proof of insurance.

TRAILS:

Volunteers performed 506 hours of trail work last year. Dave said we need to find one or two stewards for the Berlin summit to Mattison Hollow section to replace Ed. He also said he needs to discuss with DEC having their assistance with planking delivery and installation at the RT 346 end as well as assistance with getting other trail work materials to the Crest.

Karen discussed the need for signage stating that the “THC maintains the TCT” at trail heads. She will work on the exact wording and layout. We will need approval from DEC and DCR for the signage.

Dave will contact Patrick McGarity, Forester 1, DEC to set up a meeting (Zoom) with Patrick, Steven Jackson, Ranger and Dave, Karen, and Martha. They plan to discuss the two items above as well as other topics. The overall concept of the meeting is how can we best assist DEC and how can they help us in maintaining the trail and protecting the Crest.

MEMBERSHIP:

130 people have signed up for 2022, 42 of them new members. Sue will send out reminders to those who have not renewed.

PUBLICITY:

Martha will include an article in the February newsletter for the 90th anniversary of the THC. The article will include history of the Club and the development of the TCT which is not on the website.

OLD BUSINESS: On 12/16/21 Martha, Dave, and Karen had a Zoom meeting with Jim Bonesteel to discuss potential projects or land purchases along the Taconic Crest which the THC could help fund. There was nothing at the time, but the conversation was started. We will continue to look for a small project in the Taconic Crest area in which we can use reserve funds in a manner to benefit membership.

The Rensselaer Land Trust (RLT) recently just obtained a large, undeveloped property in Petersburg, below the Snow Hole, north of Rte.2 and east of Rte. 22. On December 9, 2021, RLT requested a letter of support from the THC for their grant application to obtain the funds for the kiosk, parking area development, a bridge, trail building, trail signs, etc. Due to the short deadline, Martha sent a letter of support from the THC and subsequently emailed the Board. The Board all agreed that this was an important grant to support.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 10 via Zoom (E2E planning and general business)