

**Taconic Hiking Club Board Meeting**  
**January 16, 2023 at 6:30 pm**  
**Via Zoom**

**PRESENT:** Martha Waldman, Karen Ross, Leslie Siegard, Margaret Parks, David Pisaneschi

**ABSENT:** Sue Jordan, Michelle Filiault

**MINUTES:** Minutes from the October 17, 2022 board meeting were accepted and approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022:**

For the fourth quarter expenses exceeded receipts by \$106. The item most impacting the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter was the annual meeting (Banquet).

The surplus for 2022 totaled \$508, \$204 less than the \$712 surplus budgeted. Revenues were \$121 greater than budgeted due to donations (\$346) and End to End participant enrollments. End to End participant enrollments were partially offset by refunds to cancellations. Maps fell significantly short of budget (\$372). Annual meeting revenue also was short of budget though participation was in line with historical experience.

There were no miscellaneous charges in the fourth quarter. The website expense of \$294 reflects the annual hosting fee and domain renewal. The annual meeting expense was significantly over budget due to inflation and a committee vote to use Club funds to cover the added expense. Overall expenses for 2022 were \$375 greater than budgeted due to the annual meeting cost increase.

The 2023 budget was proposed with map revenue adjusted down to \$1,000 and postage adjusted up to account for the postage increase of 4%. The annual meeting/Banquet is budgeted for \$1500 and the Picnic for \$125 for pavilion rental. Insurance will increase by 10%. Miscellaneous expenses include member tributes and door prizes, if chosen.

Memberships will be continued by donations to other nonprofits working in the same arena with \$50 each going to Friends of Dyken Pond, GLSP, BNRC, RPA and RLT.

**TRAIL WORK:**

Trail crews logged in 736 hours of trail work in 2022 compared to 506 hours for 2021. This is an astounding and remarkable accomplishment for the Club.

Reroutes completed in 2022:

- Section on the northern end of the TCT north of the access road near Route 346. There was some discussion about the sustainability of maintaining that access due to wet conditions and ATV access and abuse.
- Section just south of the junction with the Robinson Hollow Trail. This bypasses the mud wallows created by ATVs. It also creates a wilder hiking experience.

This Year:

- DEC is looking into the feasibility of expanding the parking at Mattison Hollow.
- Many trail markers from Berry Pond south have started to grow into the tree. It was recommended that new ones be added rather than trying to get the old ones extracted.

- DCR needs to be notified about a series of tree trunks across the trail (at least 10 within the first ¼ mile) that need to be chain-sawed going north from Rt. 20. Karen agreed to call them.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

We ended the year with 258 members. As of January, 109 members have renewed, and 152 members still need to renew. We have 7 new 2023 members. Sue will send out email reminders for both 2021 and 2022 renewals.

A way to thank volunteers was discussed. The budget has \$400 for that item. Proposals included buffs or bandanas and Amazon gift certificates.

### **SOCIAL:**

The Spring Gathering will be held on Saturday, June 10 at Cherry Plain State Park in the Water's Edge Pavilion. There is great hiking and paddling! (Many thanks to Margaret for making the reservation.)

### **OUTINGS:**

No update.

**PUBLICITY:** Martha has 3 news articles for the February newsletter.

**OTHER:** not discussed at this meeting but added to help track from October meeting:

Martha will contact the park to confirm when the park plans to open the Berry Pond campsites and confirm the proposed 5/11/24 End-to-End date.

Continue to work on ideas to get more people active on boards & committees: Add weekend hikes to include working people. Consider advertising in newspapers. Consider posting some outings on the Facebook page with a link to the outings page.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** Monday, April 10, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen Ross for Michele Filiault