

TACONIC HIKING CLUB MINUTES

October 28, 2020 10:00 a.m.

Karen Ross' home

PRESENT: Board Members Martha Waldman, Karen Ross, Leslie Siegard, and Sue Jordan.

BUSINESS MEETING:

- Leslie made a motion to accept the minutes from both the July and September meetings, Karen seconded, and they were approved.
- The Bylaws changes proposed at the September meeting and voted on electronically have passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT (See attached)

- The balance in our account is \$8,134. There is a decrease of about \$1,000 since the beginning of the year because we printed new maps for a cost of \$2400 and bought hats for the volunteers, new patches, and gift certificates.
- We are holding \$1400 in End-to-End deposits for next year.
- We received the refund for the Grafton deposit
- We expect membership renewals to start coming in toward the end of the year.

The Audit Committee review of the financials was discussed, in particular how to carry out a 3-person committee review under COVID. The Board voted to ask one person, Committee Chair Kirk Cornwall, to review the books individually, if he would agree. This would be done in January.

Leslie will prepare a budget for 2021 for the next meeting.

MEMBERSHIP:

We have 227 members, with a handful of renewals so far. There are 8 patches left, so more must be ordered.

Lynne Nagengast wants to look at the spreadsheet to see how many of those who completed the whole trail then became members. This year, according to the number of patches requested, 54 finished the whole trail and 20 did it in one day.

Sue also provided these statistics:

- In 2018, we had 88 people join, of which 23 were still members in 2020.
- In 2019, we had 51 join, of which 26 remained members into 2020.
- This year, we had 73 new people join.

Our current member breakdown is the following:

- 8 Life Member Free Membership
- 5 Courtesy Mailing Free Membership
- 4 Honorary Member Free Membership
- 208 Regular Members

PUBLICITY:

For the November newsletter, Martha will include a notice about this season's hunting dates and about places to hike that do not allow hunting, Leslie offered to write the article.

It was proposed that for the December newsletter, a "Get to Know our Partners" series will be started. One important partner is Grafton Lakes State Park. Martha can write something up about them.

TRAIL WORK: Dave Pisaneschi is working on his report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Martha has been communicating with the Grafton Lakes State Park Trails Advisory Committee, which is working on new color codes for trails, better junction signage, rerouting trails off wet areas and drafting new maps. This is built on their Master Plan of 2012, for which they did a SEQ. The group reportedly has new energy and did an extensive outreach of partners and users. The new plan allocates a period of 5-10 years for full implementation.

Minutes submitted by Karen Ross