

## **TACONIC HIKING CLUB BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, October 3, 2019

Karen Ross's home, Lebanon Springs, NY

Submitted by Lori McCarron

**PRESENT:** Martha Waldman, Karen Ross, Leslie Siegard, Sue Jordan, Karen Cedar, Lori McCarron

### **MINUTES:**

Approved with edit, the club has increased by approximately 70 members since last spring.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Leslie Siegard submitted the treasurer's report for June through September. The checkbook balance is \$7,182.55, with most funds coming from the sale of maps and dues. Leslie requested that a stamp for endorsing checks which will state "Taconic Hiking Club...deposit to ... with the account number" be purchased to aid in banking tasks. That purchase and the report were approved.

Note that an email vote was taken and passed on 7/14/19 for up to \$200 for printing costs for the triptych, based on a \$160 estimate from AM&J Printing.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Sue Jordan reported that the club has 237 members. Martha Waldman reminded us that new members joining in October or later in the year will receive a membership expiration date for the following year (2020). Martha and Sue will coordinate on sending an email blast renewal reminder to members. It was decided that all new and renewal membership information and checks will initially be sent to Sue, who will then forward the checks to Leslie.

### **SOCIAL:**

Publicity for the upcoming banquet was discussed. It was featured in the Fall Bulletin, October Newsletter and is on the web site. Reminding friends was also recommended. The speaker will be Rich Guthrie talking about "Birding over 60 Years".

Note that an e-mail vote was taken and passed after the June meeting to approve the speaker Richard Guthrie, honorarium of \$100 plus the dinner cost for speaker and guest.

### **PUBLICITY:**

Karen Ross reported on the work on the triptych board for public displays. Recent photos are needed. We hope to have it done before the Grafton Park Winterfest. A regional map has been provided by CLC.

Karen Cedar has volunteered to contact local papers and organizations about advertising the THC outings and the End-to-End Challenge of May 9, 2020. Karen Ross will assist on the flyer and narrative to go out. Karen Cedar and Martha will work on the list of publications to contact. Registration for the End-to-End hike starts December 1 and is limited to 25 participants.

### **TRAIL WORK:**

The joint BNRC/THC trail workday is scheduled for 11/7.

The reroute of the Taconic Crest Trail south of Mattison has been flagged but needs final approval from DCR. Pink flagging between Southeast Hollow and Mattison Hollow needs to be removed, but this can be done as the trail is walked.

**OUTINGS:**

It was decided to use Eventbrite for people to sign up for the End-to-End Challenge (E2E). \$100 was approved to pay for this online registration system. The board agreed with the recommendation of the E2E committee to charge \$50 to register for the challenge. Approximately 50 volunteers are needed to do all the jobs necessary. Tom Hart is in charge of organizing the event.

The THC is involved in leading a hiking class through HVCC. There are currently 12 students. Upcoming hikes for the class are to Peebles Island, Kinderhook Creek, and the Snow Hole.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

We need to order new maps. The new edition will include the addition of the Class of 33 Trail, the WRLF Loop trail, updated directions the Robinson Hollow trail parking area. The board approved \$500 for cartographer Liz Cruz to make the changes. The location of the price currently on the front of the map was discussed. As we were told that the National Geographic Maps don't have prices on them then it was agreed that we can exclude the price from the new map.

Karen Ross will ask BNRC for a map of Perry's Peak and the existing ridge trail from Rt. 20 south to Hollow Fields in Richmond, including the newly purchased and conserved lands of Berkshire Farm to supplement an article Martha plans to develop.

Leslie Siegard asked if we would like a projected budget. It was thought to be useful and would contain items such as map reprinting, banquet and picnic costs, end-to-end costs, volunteer gifts, publicity costs, web costs, and mailing costs.

On Wednesday, October 2, Karen Ross attended the fall meeting of the Berkshire Taconic Regional Conservation Partnership to represent the interests of THC.

It was determined that the new waiver should be looked at by a lawyer who could also advise us about liability. Karen Cedar contacted a local lawyer, Carl Stewart (518 528-1892 or 518 854-8942, carlstewartlaw@gmail.com), who agreed to offer his services to the Club. The possibility of forming an LLC was discussed due to the possibility of lawsuits. In the interim Karen R. will change the waiver to consistently reference first person.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A new waiver and new rating system were both developed and approved via email vote since the last meeting.

Archiving old records was discussed, since storage is a problem. Bank statements are required for 7 years. Audits must be kept in perpetuity. Martha has most of the records. It was thought that membership lists going back to 1932 might be of interest to the Rensselaer Historical Society. Sharon Bonk will be asked by Karen R. to contact them.

**NEXT MEETING LOCATION AND DATE:** January 23, 2020, at Martha Waldman's home.