

Taconic Hiking Club Board Meeting  
April 14, 2021 4:00 p.m.  
Via Zoom

**PRESENT:**

Martha Waldman, Karen Ross, Leslie Siegard, Sue Jordan, Dave Pisaneschi, Margaret Parks, Lori McCarron

**MINUTES:**

The minutes from the January 14 meeting were unanimously approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- The audit was completed by Kirk Cornwell on February 25, 2021.
- The dues notice will go out again in the November newsletter.
- A vote was required for \$60 to increase the budget for the Squarespace Email Campaign annual fee. This was unanimously approved.
- Noted: An email vote to increase the budget for car window decals from \$150 to \$200 was unanimously approved on 2/20/21.
- Noted: An email vote for purchase of a Tribute Tree for Dick Hughes was unanimously approved on 2/24/21. The final cost was \$45.90.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Currently there are 189 members, 27 less than last April.

**SOCIAL:**

- It was decided to have a Fall Gathering on September 25th, rain date on the 26th, starting at 9:30 at Grafton Lakes State Park. (Note: Date was changed via email on April 16 to October 2nd, rain date on the 3rd.) As was done last year, it will start with an outdoor meeting, then a hike. People can bring lunch if desired and paddling is an option.
- Discussion followed about the Club's hosting a dinner on November 4th. Possibilities include an Italian Night at Bucca de Beppo, an interesting speaker or a short film on an outdoor theme, etc. Margaret Parks will do some research.

**PUBLICITY:**

The monthly newsletter has been very well received. The March newsletter resulted in 231 hits on the website the day it was sent out.

**TRAIL WORK:**

Dave Pisaneschi has the list of people who indicated an interest in helping. He reported that 3 large blow downs which he recently reported near the Rte. 346 end of

the trail were almost immediately chain sawed by Steve Jackson, the DEC Ranger. The DEC Forester for this district is Patrick McGarrity. Karen will check with MA DCR about blow downs on the Massachusetts side through Pittsfield State Forest.

A volunteer is needed to take over maintenance of Prosser Hollow.

**OUTINGS:**

As more people become fully vaccinated, we will relax our Covid protocols in accordance with CDC and state recommendations. If everyone on an outing is fully vaccinated, we can relax the facemask requirement. Carpooling will be optional again for fully vaccinated people. We can start increasing the number of participants. Martha will email leaders to encourage them to lead outings.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) has been found in Mattison Hollow. Some of the volunteers might be interested in checking for the HWA and reporting via NY iMapInvasives. Dave will contact Cathy Peddler about training.

**NEXT MEETING: JULY 15, 2021, Location TBD**