

# AMC Worcester Chapter Executive Committee Planning Meeting 2016

## Saturday, January 09, 2016

**Attendees:** Kim Beauchemin, Joe Massery, Dave Cole, Tim Loftus, Mike Foley, John Grote, Michele Simoneau, Steve Crowe, Don Cunningham, Fred Mezynski, Bruce Wester, Susan Leo-Johnson, Jose Schroen, Christina Ferretti, Steve Ciras, Deb Herlihy, Pat Lambert, David Eliot, Jean Sifleet, Charlie Arsenault, and guest Colin Novick from the Greater Worcester Land Trust (GWLT).

**Official meeting called to order at 9:00 am.**

Dave Cole presiding.

### **Budget Discussion:**

#### **Income:**

Pat L. explained web membership – those who join the AMC through the Worcester Chapter website (\$100). Chapter Allocation – those who joined through normal channels (\$10,000). Tolman Fund – Olive Tolman left money to AMC in her will (\$500).

#### **Chapter Programs:**

Jose S. explained the projected income as follows: Annual Meeting (\$2740), Hiking/backpacking Workshop (\$390), and Hiking Winter Workshop (unknown at time of meeting).

Total deposits of \$13,730 anticipated in 2016 (in addition to cash in savings).

Note: (\$ amount italicized in parenthesis is the 2015 budgeted amount for comparison).

Executive Committee:

Dave C. requested \$3500 (*\$3000*) for Annual Meeting; and \$1200 (*no change*) for Executive Meetings (food and miscellaneous).

Vice Chair: Joe M requested \$200 (*\$150*).

Treasurer: Jose S. requested \$200 (*no change*).

Past Chair: Charlie A. requested \$400 (*no change*).

Secretary: Jose S./Tim L. \$0 (*no change*). All correspondence is electronic now rather than postal.

#### **Clubwide Meetings:**

Chapter Retreat: \$100 (*\$90*). Jose S. and Steve Ciras requested an increase from last year to send additional people.

Fall Gathering: \$1300 (*\$600*). Pat L. suggested an increase since last year's budget was for \$600 and the Chapter spent \$1263.56.

Annual Summit: \$300 (*\$210*). Pat L. explained that eight people have already signed up for this (at \$30 each).

Liability Insurance: \$300 (\$242). Pat explained that liability insurance in 2015 was \$261. Expects an increase in 2016.

Spring Picnic: Pat L. Suggested \$1500 (\$1100) for 2016. Joe M. explained that \$1100 was budgeted for 2015 but only \$800 was spent (unusual low costs that aren't expected to repeat in 2016).

#### Activity Committees:

The following were budget requests submitted either in person or by email to Jose S., Treasurer.

Climbing. John Grote \$100 (*no change*)

Conservation: Steve Ciras \$200 (*no change*)

Families. Susan L-J \$600 (*\$400*)

Hiking/Backpacking. Don C. \$2105 (*upcountry \$400 and local \$400 – total \$800*)????

Historian. Michele \$0 (*no change*)

Membership. Sharon W. \$300 (*\$100*)

Communications. Nancy C. \$0 (*no change*)

Paddling. David E. \$500 (*no change*)

Skiing. Jean E. \$200 (*\$0*)

Social. Mike F. \$200 (*no change*)

Trails. Steve Crowe \$300 (*\$254.50*)

Biking. Bruce W. \$800 (*\$500*)

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. Fred M. \$1500 (*\$1000*)

Mid-State Trail. Kim S. \$0 (*Not budgeted in 2015*) (income will be from sale of guidebook.)

Young Members. Christina \$600 (*Not budgeted in 2015*)

Programs. Kim B. \$250 (*Not budgeted in 2015*)

At-Large Social Media. Barbara D. \$0 (*Not budgeted in 2015*)

Endowment. Pat L. and Deb H. \$250

Pat L. suggested that we leave the following at \$0 since these funds will come from the Mega Request.

Operations

Leadership WFA

LNT

Leadership Training

Education

Jose S. and Pat L. will get a draft budget finalized and will send out the ExCom members the week of January 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Collective Brain Session:**

ExCom collectively discussed ideas for direction, improvements, new ideas, etc. for the following committees:

**Trails** (Steve Crowe and Steve Ciras):

1. Need to come up with a Trails plan for 2016. Meet every quarter to discuss plan/progress, adopt a trail progress.
  - a. Pine Hill Trail Plan
  - b. Adopt a Trail - Proposal is out on adopt a trail. Steve to send out for review. Then we establish next steps.
  - c. Lead a 'Trip with a Purpose' at Cardigan lodge. We have 2K in this budget for 2016.
  - d. Demo rock splitting at Spring Picnic and promote trails/conservancy.
  - e. National Trails Day - BBQ at the base of Wachusett at the end of the day. June 4. (Early planning for 100th anniversary 2018, ski lift, etc)
  - f. Women's Day/Crew event?

2. Meet with Colin - GWLT

Schedule a meeting with GWLT - establish engagement model as pilot for repeating next year.

3. Plan LNT training for leadership in 2016.

**Potential helpers:** Ed Bajakian, Emerson Grant, Bill Zahavi, Dave Sensenig, Mike Foley, John Grote, Walt Lazarz, Bob Gilchrest, Don Cunningham, Steph Keimig

**Young Members** (Christina Ferretti and Charlie Arsenault):

From group discussion sheets and white board.

Question 1: What would you envision as a successful year for 2016?

Full group of core members with jobs and descriptions.

Regular monthly socials with large turn-outs.

Increase in members.

Partner with Activity Chairs.

Co-run National Trails Day with Trails, and Co-run Earth Day with GWLT.

Increase repeat YM participation.

YM meet-up and other social media.  
Other chapter's ideas – NH outdoor activity, for example.  
More leaders.  
YM Summit.  
Easier to become a leader. Pre LT – mentor.  
Survey past attendees, what they liked (BINGO)  
Cooperate with other leaders for events  
YouTube videos of leadership & what the course offers

Question 2: What are the hindrances?

Core group of people not being able to meet regularly.  
Not training enough people willing to take the steps to be a YM leader.  
Current leaders- generational gap

Other:

Club-wide YM Partner

Bos YM meet/eat

Communication

Try to do too many activities

Focus on one or two different activities

Out of the ordinary

Learning element

Food/beverage

Old way of doing things

New

2016 YM vision

Dedicated YM LT

YouTube intro video

Video tape next LT

Theme of AMC - how are we different from other groups, what is our message?

What do YMs want to do?

What will success of YM group look like? How do we measure it?

Planning - think in the future

**Families** (Susan Leo-Johnson and Joe Massery):

Create the “event.” Examples: Climbing w/John and Michele, Ice skating, Utilize meet-up, Families pot luck using Colin's facilities.

Get vice-family chair to assist Susan w/coordinating, reaching out to leaders.

How to make existing events ‘family’ friendly – ask committee chairs to consider and identify leaders who would like to assist with family

Paddling  
Camping  
Walks

Consider guidelines for 'family' friendly activities

Volunteer leaders need to know that when children are on a trip the waiver must be signed by the parent/guardian, not the grandparent.

Goal: 1 local activity a month

Inter-generational activities

Target audiences through advertising  
Create events

## **Break-Out to Break-Down:**

Three groups formed to break-down topics into Probable – Actionable – Significant-Simplified – Doable – Non-Irritable.

Action Items developed from the Break-Out to Break-Down discussion:

### **Trails:**

Discussions included Mr. Colin Novick of the Greater Worcester Land Trust.

1. Create a plan and to have quarterly meetings to discuss progress of : Pine Hill Trail work, Adopt-A-Trail, Rock splitting at Spring Picnic, and Lead a trip with a purpose (includes Cardigan Lodge, Women's Crew Event).
2. Partner with the Greater Worcester Land Trust (GWLT). Work out an engagement model with Colin Novick of GWLT, and how to expand on this partnership in the future.
3. Leave-No-Trace (LNT) Training to more people and to expand marketing on LNT. (Steve Ciras and Kim to work on this.)

### **Young Members:**

1. Define core group of individuals to help.
2. Develop guidelines/job descriptions for YM leaders. Research other AMC chapters for similar models.

3. Increase leader base and assign smaller tasks to leaders (spread out duties).
4. Create aggregate calendar, possibly including other YM groups.
5. Plan 12 activities per year: 6 outdoor activities and 6 social events.
6. Communication plan – may include email list, conference calls.
7. Suggested leaders to assist with YM focus: Sharon W. paddling, Charlie A. –co-leading, Pat L. co-leading, Jose S. – snowshoeing, Bruce W. – biking, Jean – ski night.

### **Families:**

1. Identify a Vice-Chair (for Families committee) to help Families Chair with scope of work (Dave Cole and Deb Herlihy will assist with this action item).
2. Work on a set of guidelines to help leaders identify what makes an activity "family-friendly" (Joe M. and Fred M. will assist with this action item).
3. Offer 1 family-friendly activity/event a month (Susan will be responsible for this action item).
4. Help with posting on social media.

### **Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm**

I'd especially like to thank Deb. H, Christina F., Kim B., and Susan L-J for taking notes during the individual break down sessions and during my mid-day absence. I'd also like to thank everyone else who corrected/filled in the gaps for the pre-final review. Their contributions make these minutes complete. I'm grateful for their support. TL