

**AMC Worcester Chapter**  
**Executive Committee Meeting - Minutes: September 26, 2018**

Boylston Historical Society: 7 Central Street, Boylston, Mass.

**Attending:**

Joe Massery	Kim Beauchemin	Jose Schroen	Sue Serra (minutes)
Janice Melchiorre	Zenya Molnar	Alexandra Molnar	Patricia Lambert
Ingrid Molnar	Debi Garlick	Jean Langley	Kim Simpson
David Elliott	Dave Cole	Charles Arsenault	Claudine Mapa
Mike Foley	John Grote	Fred Mezynski	Stephen Crowe
Stephanie Murphy	Michele Simoneau		

**Guests:** Bill Zahavi, Paul Glazebrook, Don Hoffses, Ben Coon

**[6:30 PM]**

**Meeting was called to order**

Joe Massery presiding

Welcome to our guests; incoming committee members Bill Zahavi, Paul Glazebrook, and Don Hoffses; also welcome to Ben Coon

Steve Ciras, Lauren Rothermich and Neil Schutzman will not be here tonight; Jon DiRodi may not be making a lot of meetings due to a new job.

- Election of officers on November 14<sup>th</sup> at 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday
- Executive Planning Meeting will be on Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>
- Please see updated EComm Calendar; reminder that October meeting will be on the 24<sup>th</sup>; this will be the last meeting with the current EComm committee

**EC Calendar 2018-19** (new/changes in red)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Meeting</b>
September 26, 2018	Wednesday	EC Meeting
September 28-30, 2018	Friday-Sunday	100th Anniversary Gala
October 12-14, 2018	Friday-Sunday	AMC Fall Gathering
October 24, 2018	Wednesday	EC Meeting
November 14, 2018	Wednesday	Chapter Election
<b>November 28, 2017</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>EC Meeting</b>
<i>No EC meeting in Dec.</i>		
<b>January 12, 2019</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>EC Planning Meeting</b>
January 25-27, 2019	Friday-Sunday	AMC Annual Summit
<b>January 30, 2019</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>EC Meeting</b>

February 27, 2019	Wednesday	EC Meeting
March 27, 2019	Wednesday	EC Meeting
April 24, 2019	Wednesday	EC Meeting
May 17-19, 2019	Friday-Sunday	AMC Chapters Retreat
May 29, 2019	Wednesday	EC Meeting
June 26, 2019	Wednesday	EC Meeting/BBQ
<i>Summer break</i>		
September 25, 2019	Wednesday	EC Meeting
October tbd, 2019		Fall Gathering
October 30, 2019	Wednesday	EC Meeting
November tbd, 2019		Annual Meeting/Election

## REGULAR BUSINESS

**[6:35PM]**

### **June Meeting Minutes (Sue)**

No updates required.

### **June Minutes APPROVED**

**[6:40 PM]**

### **June Treasurer's Report (Jose)**

No comments received for June, July or August.

### **June, July and August Treasury Report ACCEPTED**

**[7:00 PM]**

### **Volunteer of the Month (Kim B)**

July Nominations (9):

- JEANNE BLAUNER nominated by David Elliott  
For being a driving force behind growing families activities and the organization behind it across Berkshire, Worcester and especially Boston where she is families chair. Worcester can only benefit from this cross pollination - learning from her. The Barton Cove inter-chapter paddle & an anticipated family paddle this fall are some results.
- DEE DICE nominated by David Elliott  
For Dee Dice taking over organization of the Barton Cove inter-chapter families overnight and paddle when Margo Chapski had to step aside for health reasons. She is a Worcester Paddle leader and Berkshire's acting families chair. She also provides consulting in the use and benefits of Constant Contact

- ED FARON nominated by Steve Crowe  
For the work he and his crew did installing a ramp for hikers to negotiate the Cow Tunnel under Route 20 on the Mid-State Trail.
- PETER EGGLESTON nominated by Steph Murphy  
For his first co-lead, a full moon hike at Wachusett. It's happening this Friday and there's a chance it'll get rained out, but he took care of registration and screening, which has been great!
- KATE RAFEY nominated by Steph Murphy  
For her first co-lead, which will be an after-work hike at Wachusett next Tuesday. Same thing regarding the chance it'll get rained out, but Kate also planned a Bay Circuit Trail hike with me that got cancelled, so she's really been trying hard to get her co-leads in.
- BEN COON nominated by Steph Murphy  
For his first co-lead at Cannon Mountain!
- MIKE MORIN nominated by Steph Murphy  
For being a great mentor to Ben Coon while he gets his co-leads in!
- CHRISTINA FERRETTI nominated by Steph Murphy  
For keeping our 20s-30s e-mail blasts going with interesting content.
- VERNE HEBARD nominated by Ed Faron  
For his work as an MST crew chief, creating the plan, doing the drawings, organizing, and leading the MST crew who constructed the bridge across the mouth of the Cow Tunnel and built the bank cut trail along the edge of the dangerous, rock jumbled ditch and stream bed path. Verne's plan and execution also eliminated a steep drop out of and a 3' climb into the tunnel... It is Verne's innovative solution which has erased a significant, long existing threat to hiker safety.

### **July VOM winner: PETER EGGLESTON**

For one of many nominations, the latest being: Peter Eggleston on his first co-lead, a full moon hike at Wachusett. It's happening this Friday and there's a chance it'll get rained out, but he took care of registration and screening, which has been great!

### **July VOM ACCEPTED**

#### August Nominations (4):

- JOSE SCHROEN (NA) nominated by Walt Lazarz  
For helping to keep everyone positive in a very wet situation during our Pemi-Nancy Pond, Notches backpack.
- MARC SPINELLA nominated by Joe Massery  
For agreeing to co-lead my recent three-day AT backpack. One of our members fell ill and I had to walk her out. I asked Marc take over and lead the rest of the group to our campsite for that night, where I would meet up with them later. He wasn't expecting to have to deal with anything out of the ordinary, but he rose to the occasion, accepted the challenge, and did a great job.

- DAVE LASKA nominated by Steve Ciras  
For traveling out to Prindle Pond for an onsite visit in preparation for the 100th Anniversary Celebration. Dave is going to provide music at various times and places over the weekend to keep us musically entertained.
- TOM DONNINGTON nominated by Alex & Zenya Molnar  
For hosting the August young members social. Thanks to Tom, we had a fun barbeque social with 13 young members in attendance. Tom grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, and vegetables, and everyone contributed a dish. It's events like this that further build community and reach new members who are interested in becoming involved with the chapter!

### **August VOM winner: STEVE GABIS**

For one of many nominations, but the latest being his leadership in ice climbing and historical hikes in Leominster state forest.

### **August VOM ACCEPTED**

#### September Nominations (11):

- RUTH LANGH by Renee Pitelli  
For being a new leader who's been leading many fantastic hikes. She does excellent pre-hike research, is extremely capable, and fun to hike with.
- RUTH LANGH by Debi Garlick  
For researching and organizing a series of 4 hikes in Belknap range of New Hampshire.
- JEAN BLAUNER by David Elliot  
For helping run a great family paddling overnight.
- CHRIS BOPE by Steph Murphy  
For co-leading the Hancocks Flags on the 48.
- MIKE MORIN by Steph Murphy  
For lending us his Appalachian Trail game for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- EMILY SEARLE by Steph Murphy  
For making serious moves to get her co-leads done to move toward full local hike leadership, which she should obtain in October
- CLAUDINE MAPA (NA) by Steph Murphy  
For generosity in hosting the 20s and 30s Committee in her home.
- CHARLES ARESENAULT (NA) by Steph Murphy  
For being a mentor leader.
- LAUREN ROTHERMICH (NA) by Steph Murphy  
For serving as mentor leader for Emily Searle
- PAUL GLASEBROOK by Sue Ostrowski  
For putting in a phenomenal amount of time planning the canoe camping trips that

he runs. Plans food, cooking gear, car, safety equipment, satellite phone, first aid and arranges for canoe rentals and hotel rooms.

- KAREN MAKI by Pat Lambert  
For designing all the wonderful logos for our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary swag and patches. She was patient in incorporating our feedback and developing multiple logos and came up with different ideas for swag items.
- ALEC DANAHER by Charlie Arsenault  
For seamlessly taking over web master duties and making several ASAP web updates to 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### **September VOM winner MIKE MORIN**

For lending us his Appalachian Trail game for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

### **September VOM ACCEPTED**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**[6:46]**

### **100th Anniversary Committee update (Joe) for Steve Ciras**

Everything on plan -- we have over 80 participants signed up. Few minor details pending; expects to come in under budget

(Pat) 115 capacity; as of yesterday, 83 have signed up; Deb Herlihy has the list

(Mike F) There are participants that want to join my hikes, but are not attending 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary;

(Debi G.) I thought they would be wait listed and then be notified if room?

(Pat) Activities are designed for those who are going to participate in the weekend; not just for a single hike

(Debi G.) That's not what was communicated

(Pat) We'll have to put question back to Deb H.

(Charlie) Logistics will be too difficult; if people at 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary sign up for that hike; there's no way to communicate to those on the wait list

(Bill) Received concerned email from the leader of the contra band; they are concerned that there is a conflict with time of bon fire and when they perform

(Pat) We will make sure people attend

**[6:50]**

### **Nominating Committee Report (Dave Cole)**

Great slate of nominees for our upcoming term.

Had a very good committee: Joe Massery, Kim Beauchemin, Alexandra and Zenya Molnar, Jose Schroen, Fred Mezinski, Sharon Whalen, and Deb Herlihy.

We have filled most open roles:

- Still one open: Social Media position. If you have a candidate suggestion, please let me know.
- Mike Foley is coming back as Social Chair.
- Don Hoffses will come aboard as co-chair of the Trails Committee with Steve Crowe
- Claudine Mapa will take on two roles this year; first as Ski Chair, and second as Vice-Chair for the Young Members group
- YM group will have a new Chair in 2019, Mike Morin.

Proposed 2019 AMC Worcester Chapter Executive committee:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Candidate</b>
Chair	Joe Massery
Vice Chair	Kim Beauchemin
Treasurer	Jose Schroen
Secretary	Sue Serra
Past Chair	Dave Cole
At-Large - Social Media	
Bike Chair Co-Chair	Neil Schutzman
Bike Chair Co-Chair	Janice Melchiore
Communications Co-Chair	Alexandra Molnar
Communications Co-Chair	Zenya Molnar
Conservation Chair	John DiRodi
Endowment Chair	Bill Zahavi
Families Chair	Ingrid Molnar
Hiking Chair	Debi Garlick
Historian	Michele Simoneau
Leadership Chair	Paul Glazebrook
Programs Chair	Shalin Desai
Membership Chair	Jean Langley
Midstate Trail Chair	Kim Simpson
Paddling Chair	Dave Elliott
Ski Chair	Claudine Mapa
Young Members Chair	Mike Morin

Technical Climbing Chair	John Grote
Third Wednesday Chair	Fred Mezynski
Trails Co-Chair	Steve Crowe
Trails Co-Chair	Don Hoffses

(Joe) Thanks to those stepping up – it will be a great year; would also like to ask that some of you to continue as mentors to new committee members.

People in position now, to be of assistance to the newcomers:

- Pat to help Bill
- Deb H. to help Paul
- Charlie help Shalin
- Steph M. to help Mike
- Steve Crowe to help Don

Would also like to ask people who will remain on committee:

- Michele to help Bill
- Joe will help Paul
- Kim B to help Shalin
- Claudine to help Mike Morin
- Steve Crowe to help Don

Would like to schedule orientation for new members, 1 hour prior to next exec meeting; Oct. 24, at 5pm

(Jose) Will it get posted and voted on at our annual meeting?

(Joe) Already posted on Facebook with notice of election; bylaw requirements have been met; election will be on Nov. 14; awards, etc. will happen at the Gala this weekend

**[7:00]**

**Annual Report (Joe)**

Email inputs for Annual Report no later than Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>; Fred will help pull together as an annual report to have available on website, Facebook and at Nov. 14 meeting

You are not required to be there; only Sue Serra needs to be there to cast the vote

**[7:02 PM]**

**Endowment Committee Report (Pat)**

Endowment request of \$3,500 from Amy Martone, a mathematics teacher at Ayer-Shirley Regional Middle School, for AMC's Mountain Classroom and is recommended by the Endowment Committee for approval by the Executive Committee

- After many years organizing and leading this trip, starting with the Ashland school district, Barbara Dyer is turning over the reins completely to Amy. Amy has been involved with this trip for the past several years, so she is well-prepared to lead it.
- Amy will take ~ 50 students to Cardigan Lodge in Spring 2019 where they will have the opportunity to work together and experience the wonder of the outdoors.
- This request is for the same amount requested for the 2017 and 2018 programs — \$3,500. Total budget is \$9,500 so they will be sourcing additional funds.

The current funds available for requests are \$17,000+. We received our 2018 endowment allocation (\$26,000+) from the Club in June and this is the first request we have received since that time.

The Endowment Committee recommends approval of this request.

Open discussion:

(Kim B.) I thought we were going to a model of doing things once per year?

(Pat) This is only one we've received; we've already approved YOP for 3yrs; already sent check for Camp Dodge; there will be 2 more payments to YOP

- July 1 was deadline for submission
- Have not determined date to vote; we can vote now or wait; no other requests

(Pat) Up to EC if you want to vote now or wait

(Joe) Based on history, do you expect other requests?

(Pat) Jump might send one in next year

(Kim B.) How much money do we have?

(Pat) The available Endowment funds is \$17,500 (takes into account \$5k for Camp Dodge and \$10k for YOP)

(Steve C) Will that have to go for operations next year?

(Pat) Executive Committee will decide; this year it was \$4,400; 2017 was \$15,250; in 2016 was \$14,400

(Kim B.) Did we discuss waiting until we have budget before doling out funds for next year?

(Joe) We make a 3-year intent, but vote every year on the budget

(Pat) I can communicate that we need to wait until Jan/Feb of next year; the trip is in June

(Kim B.) We should figure the operations budget first, so we know how much we can allocate

(Pat) This was a transition year, so we put guidelines/recommendation in place; we should think about how much you want to put towards operations vs something like Mt. Classroom, trail work, etc.; what does chapter want to do with the money? We can keep threshold of \$10k for operations



(Joe) Decided a few months back, it would be a good idea to take annual snapshot; would it cause the school a hardship to wait?

(Pat) Will need to go back to Amy to get deadline

(Jose) We will solidify budget in March; Mountain Classroom is same time because they have to make reservations in advance

(Joe) Don't want to cause headache for school, but if it doesn't cause any issues, we should wait

(David) We will be disrupting Mountain Classroom process if we delay; they typically need to know by Oct.

(Joe) If we stick to process, it will be January at earliest

(Jean) I motion to approve funds for Mountain Classroom now

(Joe) Second

**Motion to approve \$3,500 request from AMC's Mountain Classroom APPROVED**

(Joe) We still want to stick to making decisions once per year for endowment related expenses? Continue to pass that word back to people making requests

(Pat) Or make decisions align with when we get funding?

(Kim) As long as we are taking into account the right budget

(Pat) We can consider doing a rolling 2-year budget; so, if you do want to align endowment request decisions closer to when we get funding, you will know 2 years out what the budget looks like

(David) When should Mt. Classroom request for the following spring?

(Pat) Will ask Amy what absolute deadline is for future reference; going forward we should ask what drop-dead date is

(Steve Crowe) Endowment funds are kept separate because there are more restrictions; no co-mingling with operations funds

Additional Endowment discussion:

(Joe) We received a thank you from YOP for Jump; also received thanks from John Judge for Camp Dodge

(Steve Crowe) Work has begun at Camp Dodge starting in August; construction will continue through next year; they have a 30-year lease.

**[7:23]**

**Readout by Families working group — from Planning Meeting (Ingrid)**

Work group consisted of Janice, Faith Salter, Zenya, Debi Garlick, Fred and Ingrid

Goal was to expand Families programs to attract more families and children to outdoor activities.

Had fair number of activities in 2018

- Local hikes in Blackstone Valley, Littleton, Audubon
- Geocaching, Spring Picnic, rock climbing
- Paddle day trips; overnight camp/paddles

Encourage more leaders to support families:

- Faith committed to training/planning session, either in person or webinar
  - Webinar might reach larger audience
  - In person has benefit to build relationships and potential to meet leaders and make plans on spot
  - Would like to meet with Deb G to get her input
- Can be training and/or social event; Faith can provide training materials

Create spreadsheet of proposed activities (hiking, sledding, apple picking; animal tracking, etc.) and circulate among leaders for ideas and to get commitments

Partner with existing organizations as well as having inter-chap activities:

- Girl Scouts want to get out to this area (from Boston); discussing with potential leaders to see what can be done; they are more interested in hiking but could expand to other activities

Need to update website

Come up with newsletter to promote interest in family activities; don't have audience yet, but send out to who we can; as more attend activities, those participants can become our target audience

Open discussion:

(Claudine) Reaching out to people in AMC is good; but consider going to libraries/YMCA where people go to do family actives; and put version of newsletter with contact info/plug to join AMC; consistently post newsletter/flyer in those places so people know to look for it

(David) Are you putting together an email list?

(Ingrid) Discussed, but challenge to find families

(David) Suggestion that was made to me was to check on list serves (e.g. Shrewsbury, Worcester); community bulletin boards to post event

(Janice) Most towns have Facebook pages where you can post

(Ingrid) Will talk with Jeanie (Families Chair Boston) to see how she does this; need to provide a way to opt out

(Charlie) Can opt out/self-manage through Mailchimp

(Debi G.) Can run a social and use that to generate ideas of what people are interested in

(Ingrid) What they also do is 3 times per year they have an event, such as a hike, followed by planning meeting associated with a meal

(Steph) You can ask past parent participants to post things on your behalf within various groups

(David) Jean has expressed an interest in cloning her model in different chapters

**[7:40]**

### **Food for October EC meeting**

Volunteer for food is Charlie

**[7:40 PM]**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Action Items (Joe)**

- Update signature card at bank. [Jose, Kim B] DONE
- Reminder to regularly upload official Chapter documents to Summit; e.g. minutes, EC meeting agendas, treasurer reports, policies, workshop plans, etc. [All]
- Chapter website refresh & platform migration – regular status report from team [Kim B.] OPEN
  - Content & migrate: we came up with outline of what needs to move over; requested sandbox so people could see what it looks like/review and give feedback; got email from John Kelly (consultant) asking about site and how we use today; he is trying to prioritize migration because there are infrastructure concerns; waiting to hear back from him on where we are in the queue (stay tuned), not moving forward at this time
- Need to get webmaster contact info to send to EC [Kim]
- Prep for short update to EC on Planning Meeting team efforts:
  - Expand YM [Steph – March] DONE
  - Communications [Charlie – April] DONE
  - Leadership [Kim – May] DONE
  - Families [Ingrid] DONE

**[7:50 PM]**

### **Round table (All)**

(Charlie) October 17<sup>th</sup> at 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, I will be giving talk on highs and lows of the AT

(Paul) Are we updating leadership guidelines and policies?

- (Joe) Yes; need update from Deb H.; club level LRG out for comment (feedback window has closed); chapter leadership requirements also on going; Deb needs to give read out
- (Paul) I would like to get a hold of that; close the loop and ask Deb H. (chapter guidelines need to be refreshed)

(Pat) At 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary would like people to bring nonperishable goods for pasta or Thanksgiving dinner and we will donation to Worcester County Foodbank; updated schedule is posted to website; registration opens at 5pm on Friday; please look at updated schedule

(Don) I'm looking forward to working with the group

(Alex) Submissions for fall newsletter deadline is October 1st; want to include 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, so please send photos; also getting into winter issue, the deadline for that is November 30th

(Ingrid) Alex is going to speak at historical society in Northborough, on history of AMC through lens of Worcester Chapter; will be a potluck at 6pm

(Kim S.) Ed Faron ran a very successful gathering at Wachusett Meadow Sanctuary on Saturday

(Steph) YM tees available for \$15 if anyone wants one

(Debi G) Winter Workshop is November 3rd; slide presentation, youth member rep, Steph will have segment on winter camping; Steve Gabis will have segment on ice climbing; located at UMass facility

(David) Turned down kayak donation (stripped wood, old style); may show up at Summit as a raffle

(Steve Crowe) I was a guest at Midstate meeting; Ed announced there are 5 sections of trail that needs maintenance; had work done on Pine Hill trail; Denise wrote \$100,000 grant for recreational trails program for trail crews on Pine Hill trails; I ran adopter training program and got someone from Scituate and Andover area to work with us

(Kim B.) Joe and I ran weekend at Gorman Chairback and was beautiful; Joe and I are talking about doing it again there next year July/Aug. Also thinking of doing thanksgiving weekend hut hike and need co-lead; Joe offered to co-lead

(Joe) Related note on Gorman. Ten years ago, the chapter helped to fund/build Phoenix Shelter; while at GC, we took a trip to Baker Mt and it is beautifully scenic; the AMC now owns the top of mountain; AMC looking at trails to connect the lodges and lots of new trails; kicking idea around to fund a shelter at base of Baker Mountain

(Jean) When decide date for annual meeting next year? I need to book 1 year in advance;

- (Bill/Kim B.) Usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in November; that would mean November 9<sup>th</sup>, which was agreed as the date for 2019.
- (Charlie) Communicate date to other chapters so they can work around ours

**[8:09 PM] Meeting Adjourned**