

## AMC Worcester Chapter

### Executive Committee Meeting: 3/29/2023

*To foster the protection, enjoyment and understanding of the outdoors.*

Auburn Middle School: 9 West Street, Auburn, MA 01501

#### 6:30 PM — Meeting called to order & Regular business (25 min) - Christine Pignatiello, Chair

- Welcome and Review working agreements (online etiquette). Raise hand – Wendy
- Leadership Chair Position – Donald Davies is presented to ECOM as nominee **(5 min)**
- Vice Chair Position – Wendy Dziemian is presented to ECOM as nominee **(5 min)**
  - Discussion:* Wendy phenomenal job leadership. Don stepping into a well-honed role.
  - Motion:* Kim approve Don and Wendy; Second: Kathryn
  - Vote:* All Approved
  - Welcome:* round of applause
  
- Review/Accept minutes of previous EC Meeting – Feb 2023 **(5 min)**
  - Discussion:* Update Ruth to Virtual
  - Motion:* David: Second: Zenya;
  - Vote:* All in favor
  
- Review of February Treasurer’s Report – Jose **(5 min)**
  - Summit Attendance Reimbursement Option
  - No comments received.
  - Nothing to add to January.
  - Feb went out; updated copy this AM. w/ correction of Grand Allocation Money 89-> 87 corrected
  - Outstanding item: Feedback from audit #4-chapter operation still 12/31/21 vs 2022. Will be fixed next month.
  - Info: EC Approval not required.
  
  - *Discussion:* Annual summit in person  
Budget for reimbursements for annual summit is listed as 10 / \$40 = \$400, only one request for reimbursement to date. Does EC know they can submit for reimbursement? Would like to know if there are others requesting reimbursement for the Annual summit. Don and Wendy went to summit. Must submit request for reimbursement with receipt. This is just for EC people.  
  
In the past EC had approved hotel/dinner reimbursement for chair attending Annual summit. Since it is not in the budget EC needs to approve to have chair be reimbursed.
  - Motion:* Wendy. Reimburse chair; Dave: Second
  - Vote:* All in favor
  
- Volunteer of the Month – *MARCH 2023* – Chris P **(5 min)**
  - Carol – by Christine C – 2 critical roles; webmaster/secretary; Help spread info.
  - Paul – by Walt – Leading Moosilauke Hike
  - Pat Lambert – by Barbara – Local hike leader for all her work in the chapter.
  - Mies Bastile by Mike P – Midstate Trail Maintenance; Difficult Year; Correspondence
  - Don D – by Debi G – Help with registration of self-arrest; stepping in at last minute.

WINNER: Don Davies

## 6:55 PM — Old business (35 min)

- Annual Mtg Planning Update – Kathryn Acciari **(5 min)**
  - Subcommittee: Held Virtual Meeting Mar 6  
Proposal 5 venues: Compared/ Decided on the Manor in West Boylston;  
Known entity; space, entertainment; fits the budget;  
We have Place entertainment, menu: November 11, Saturday evening.  
Business will be included at that time; awards; club speaker  
Shout out to Alex for sending another potential venue.
  - Climbing Gear Replacement Request – Finance Committee Review: Christine C **(5 min)**  
Last month discussion: Finance committee would review because expense not in current budget.

### *Discussion:*

Chris C took to finance committee.

Giving curtesy to review additional request.

David Brenaud on climbing \$734; Additional \$200

Recommend making request up to \$1000 on climbing equipment knowing prices could change.

David (Paddling). observation: request where equip would be stored; Relate example of what can happen. Who is responsible? Dave B hesitant to store. Bring up because before Paddling time , chapter owned white water boats and skirts. Handed to previous organization.... Skirts were lost. Putting out there – climbing expensive and critical safety. Pose question: who is responsible.

Chris P shares concerns will be separated out and will be handled differently. Minimize folks going in.

Wendy has complete confidence in gear shed committee

Ingrid: discussed Nate S Education outdoors. Is locked. Is available. Folks know lock combo. David brings up good point. So far nothing has been taken. When we speak with David B when he purchases .... Potential locked storage unit within gear shed. Concerned about rodents. Nate brought in new bins which are very secure from Rodents.

Steve: Chapter does not own. Club owns. Dave agrees. AMC single entity owns property.

*Motion:* Kim approve; Wendy second

*Vote:* All in favor

- Gear Shed Policies Meeting Update (held March 10): Ingrid Molnar **(5 min)**
  - EMAIL Update from Nate Schumacher  
Great progress in policies to include Worcester Chapter. Traditionally support education outdoors. Schools and Recently expansion to include.
    1. AMC Intro Workshops: BP, Winter Hiking. – new skills. Targeted.
    2. 20s 30s group to give access to gear financially help or Educators Outdoors
    3. Chapter family outing groups – whole families allow outdoor activities participate

Request is 3-part process.

1. Request form Ingrid/Nate. 2 weeks.

2. Volunteers pull together. User picks up.
3. User return gear; volunteer reshelves

This Saturday Ingrid pull gear for BP Workshop display. Daypacks, backpacking, Tents, Stoves, Matts, Ground Covers.

**QUESTION:** Where is form request gear? Nates mail forwarded. With Links to form. Calendar.

Put on website. Work with Carol to get done.

Thanks to Wendy and Eric F to help shelve/reshelve.

Very rewarding to meet users. Participants so appreciative. Provides opportunities camp, cooking skills; reaching out to new Worcester population segment.

Chris P: Combination Lock on Gear shed. If concerns escalate. We can change combo on a regular basis.

In past access controlled, only few orgs using; sporadically. Must be vetted, but as we spread it out, need to consider. Lock is changeable. 2 doors to Gear shed.

Steve. For groups to access, must have a leader who works with AMC

- Planning Meeting Follow Up Items

- Leadership Recognition Event(s) – (will move forward now with position changes).
- Not tabled permanently Stay tuned for future updates now that we have made leadership changes.
- Conservation Committee Update – Eric Harris **(10 min)**.
  - Carbon Footprint Challenge  
Winners: March: 9 responses:
    1. Jason Porter 22. Improve: food. Use more fruits
    2. Richard Halley 35. Improve: goods. Use solar inst.
    3. Suzanne Ciera 54: Improve Home; Make more energy efficient.

- Subcommittee Recruitment Status (Eric and Meighan)  
Two people March 10: outside ECOM; Jake, Ellie. Worcester chapter members. Enthusiastic. Meet in April. One 2030s with Zenya. Another Saw newsletter

- LNT Training Update

Meeting last night. Maine state advocate. Jeff Mayes. BSA LNT training  
Coordinate mid-July mid Aug 8-10 people \$80: 16 hours training + overnight  
Looking for venue. Possibly Rutland

Chris P: Idea: create LNT trail talk calendar monthly identify topic communicate to trip leaders to share for that month on trail.

Bug: master educator Maine Cardigan lodge Monday – Friday. Will be taking and can help out after.

- Communication Update - Alex Molnar **(10 min)**

- Future of ECOM Meetings – Survey Results  
Virtual meetings: Keeping status quo for time being: Hybrid; with dinners for in person.  
6:30 start  
New Fall slate: selected over fall. Redo survey in fall  
Close Preference with Hybrid and in person 24 responses: Low fully virtual.

Surprised with vote

Comments:

- what are personal needs vs group needs. Called out long distance travel; attendance; travel challenging; available technology.
  - Different way to host meetings: Requirements; new ECOM members may choose differently
  - Consider Full in person meetings couple times a year
  - Auburn is not central Worcester location. Feels left out. Feels not an entity in this group any more. Would like opportunity to bring to central ma.
  - Doesn't mean that in the future another location will not be made. Current location does not mean forever more at this location. Just this year.
  - Hybrid, adds new level of technology. Purchase microphones cameras if we were not at a place that already had it.
  - Goes beyond our chapter. Easter Western MA chapter. Meeting Models in Worcester Chapter. Laura Stinnett. Family Chair.
  - HQ Data all but 3 chapters (6 out of 9) are meeting virtually 2 meeting hybrid. Worcester. Most meet monthly. Some meet every other month. Western MA Considering In person but still virtual. Worcester is actually meeting more in person.
  - This is fluid. Will continue to look at and make adjustments
  - NH met virtually before Covid due to geographic greatness
  - Food is not necessary ; ½ prefer to have dinner
  - In person good for Team building..... Joe
- Standard footer / table for blast/newsletter – to link communication outlets?
    - Meigan: Planning meeting.... Not offering to do. Nancy. Communications chair. Tried some things. Recommend attend meeting. Recommend she reach out to group
    - Wendy: At Large: No distinction between At Large and Voting Members. Meighan At Large do not have specific committee... but they are voting members. Will be happy to add Links will include in email blast.
  - QR Code – Call for ideas – (Next mtg – please be prepared to discuss)  
Ask for next month come with an idea to use for chapter members / non chapter members. Carol will share at Debi's Hiking meeting presentation

### 7:30 PM — New business (20 min)

- Current Grant Applications ECOM Vote – Christie C (10 min)
  - Project Healing Water Fly Fishing - \$3500  
Info sent to ECOM.
  - AMC Water & Rivers - \$2500  
AMC Water & Rivers standing request for every chapter. Dave's second request.  
Info shared to ECOM.

*Presentation:* Inter chapter paddle – all paddling chairs – meets 4xyear. Couple years ago corporate created grant fund that inter chapter paddling is in charge of collect from individual chapter and allocate for paddling.  
Worcester always supported paddling; campgrounds on Connecticut river.  
Committee good job details have been provided. Gone to good programs.

*Discussion:* None

*Motion to approve* Steve; Alex, Zenya second

*Vote:* All in favor

April meeting Veterans will be coming to ECOM

- Recommendation for AMC Approved Funding Opportunity – Dragon Mercury Project - \$10000 Recommended by Christine C based on no other requests: Funds we have. Still have \$15000 for allocation before next endowment in June/July.

*Motion:* Christine C; Second: Steve

*Vote:* All in Favor

- Noteworthy  
Meighan – AMC is in the red with Budget. Training for volunteers, DEI speaker series, HQ cannot fund. Relying on chapters to help fund.
- Additional finance request  
Interchapter Committee Henderson brook trail. 3 other NH, Boston Maine, Request to subsidize participation on this trail crew. Other chapters have received

Request \$1090. Christine C will take to Finance committee.

*Based on Nominal participation of \$30. 8 participants = \$30 =>. Lodging in Maine woods for 2 nights. Likely end of April will be fine for an answer from Finance committee*

- DEI Update – Ladda “Bug” Kosaketh **(5 min)**  
Concerns raised code of conduct. More structure. Confidentiality. To Volunteer leader. Video gone around about code of conduct. Why it’s there? Examples. Combining of volunteer representatives. DEI: Working with other chapters; Working with Staff. Affinity group working on things. DEI Language guy who helps use more inclusive language. Outdated terms.... Used before but may have a racist history. Will send. Share with volunteer groups. DEI chair description. Example: BIO breaks – updated way to do that – be more inclusive. NOT: Ladies this way; Guys this way.
- Nicole Zussman (AMC CEO) Invite – Chris P **(5 min)**
  - May ECOM mtg – Invite Sent – will be attending probably virtually 10 inutes to address group.
  - Local hike/activity – We are being encouraged to invite her to a local activity.
  - Trails Day Event?
  - Steve talked to Faith about working on Pine Hill Trail a tradition
  - Alex: Gear shed hike (would demo Worcester). Educators Outdoors, Youth Program. Alex to facilitate. Get Nate involved. CP needs a date to get on her calendar – May; June
- Trailsfest first meeting in June;
- Ideas:

## **7:50PM – Kudos / General Announcements (10 min)**

- Around the Table
  - Kim: trails Fest
  - Zena: Welcome Wendy/ Don. 20s30s
  - Ingrid: great to be here; Gear Shed contact; looking for volunteers


- Alex: List fairs events to table at. Looking for ideas 3 to represent AMC; GWLT; Share what AMC is all about.
- Carol: Welcome Don, Wendy; Website communications
- Eric glad made it. Sorry late
- Kathryn: Joe and Chris annual meeting
- Steve: Talked to Denise Morrissey. Wachusett; May / June Pine Hill Trail work – few more rocks.
- Eric. Promote LNT 8-10 people next meeting dates: July - Aug
- Bug: Project Jump, BiPOC. Yearlong DCR summer nights (last summer). Working with families. Share about how can do something like that in AMC with DEI
- Jose: Welcome Wendy, Don
- Meighan: Thank you; Reminder: National trails June 3; post in Act DB. Trailsfest in description (one word). Help publicize events. Leader Levels transition: Colby reaching out to Worcester next week; Training listed open to ECOM. SharePoint recorded;
- Debi all set
- Vanessa. Thank Wendy / Don. Pulling together a Spring social Wachusett, hike then bakery. April / May
- Chris P: impressed with work done by this group.
- Steve: April 22 is earth day cleanup GWLT. By gear shed.
- Dave L Paddling started: 4 splashed in water
- Joe BP this Saturday; 2 weeks after BP Gear Shakedown

**8:00PM - Adjourn**

## Action Item Review

Action Item	Owner	Status
Submit notification of proposal for Endowment Committee name change in By-Laws prior to next Annual Meeting (see Nov 2022 ECOM mtg minutes)	Christine P.	OPEN
Migrate outdated SharePoint documents into archive folder	Chairs	OPEN

## **AMC WORCESTER CHAPTER** **Executive Committee Calendar: 2022- 2023**

Date	Day	Meeting
11/30/22	Wednesday	EC Meeting
1/21/23 9A – 1P	Saturday	EC Planning Meeting
1/25/23	Wednesday	EC Meeting
2/4/23	Saturday	AMC Annual Summit, Norwood
2/22/23	Wednesday	EC Meeting
<b>3/29/23</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>EC Meeting</b>
4/26/23	Wednesday	EC Meeting
5/31/23	Wednesday	EC Meeting
6/2-4/23	Friday - Sunday	AMC Chapters Retreat – Harriman Outdoor Center
6/28/23	Wednesday	EC Meeting
Summer Break		
9/27/23	Wednesday	EC Meeting
9/30/23	Saturday	Fall Fest
10/25/23	Wednesday	EC Meeting
11/11/23 5p-10p	Saturday	Annual Meeting & Social
11/29/23	Wednesday	EC Meeting

Position	Name	Attended in person	Attended virtually	Absent
Chair	Chris Pignatiello	X		
Vice Chair	Wendy Dziemian (incoming)	X		
Past Chair	Kim Beauchemin	X		
Secretary	Carol Warren	X		
Treasurer	Jose Schroen		X	
Social Media (at large)	Karyn Marciniac			
Biking Chair	Eric Fung	X		
Communications Co Chair	Nancy Cahn			X
Communications Co Chair	open			N/A
Conservation Chair	Eric Harris	X		
Families Chair	Cheri Mitchell			X
Finance Chair	Christine Crepeault	X		
Hiking Chair	Debi Garlick		X	
Historian	Dave Laska			X
Leadership Chair	Donald Davies (incoming)	X		
Membership Chair	Kathryn Acciari	X		
Midstate Trail	Mike Peckar			X
Paddling Chair	David Elliott	X		
Skiing Chair	Ruth Langh		X	
Social Chair	Vanessa Butler		X	
Climbing Chair	David Brainard			X
Third Wednesdays	Erin Dolittle			X
Trails Chair	Steve Crowe	X		
DEI Chair	Ladda "Bug" Kosaketh		X	
20s and 30s Chair	Zenya Molnar	X		
Outreach Chair	Alex Molnar	X		
Programs Chair	open			N/A
<b>Chapter Members/Guests</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Attended in person</b>	<b>Attended virtually</b>	
	Joe Massery	X		
AMC	Meighan Matthews		X	
	Ingrid Molnar	X		



AMC Worcester is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom Meeting  
Join Zoom

Meeting <https://outdoors.zoom.us/j/2358136261?pwd=WWZta25LbXFoaVRKVmhQSi9DVU96Zz09> Meeting ID: 235  
813 6261

Passcode: 1918100

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