

AMC Worcester Chapter

Executive Committee Meeting: 9/27/2023

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

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

WEBEX LINK: <https://outdoorsorg.webex.com/meet/wrchapterwebex2>

6:30 PM — Meeting called to order & Regular business (20 min) - Christine Pignatiello-Chatson, Chair

- Welcome and Review working agreements (online etiquette)
- Review / Accept minutes of previous EC meeting – June 2023 (5 min)
 - Discussion: None
 - Motion: CP motion to accept; CC second
 - Vote: AIF
- June, July & August Treasurer’s Report – submitted via email to ECOM 9/6/23, see Jose’s update attached. Any questions – please direct to Jose by email.
- Volunteer of the Month – *July, Aug, Sep 2023* - Wendy D (10 min)
 - July: Rick Chin was nominated by Walt Lazarz for stepping in to help lead the Bearsden backpack when the initial leader had to back out of the trip.
 - August: Dave Kulpa was nominated by Wendy and Walt for his willingness to help lead the Bonds backpack when one of the initial leaders had to back out of the trip.
 - September: Rob Gonzalez was nominated by Ingrid for assisting at the Worcester Gear Shed with a large order of hiking gear (clothing, boots, backpacks) and camping equipment (tents, sleeping bags and pads, cooking utensils) for the Burncoat High School Outdoors Club. His effort and enthusiasm were greatly appreciated!
- Charlie / Meighan – Updates from AMC (5 min)
 - Meighan: Fall Fest this weekend. Excited about. TY to Worcester Chapter lots coming to Nobel View. Lead, host tables, volunteer. 150 coming to 2 sites NV, Mohegan. Treat turnout. SWAG, cool hats for volunteers.
 - Annual summit: Jan 19-21; full house of 500. Open to AMC members; 4 tracks of workshops conservation, DEI, about AMC, volunteer leader track, very cool, workshops staff and outside. Same location 4 points hotel in MA. Reg due Nov 1. Landing page to go up. Decisions to reimburse EC
 - OC: Special 1 month about OC. Launch pushed back early 2024. New Tech Director: Crystal. Not ready for launch. Kate Cullen leaving AMC. Project MGR for OC. 30 volunteers to be user acceptance testers. Looking for people from camps.
 - New CFO: Nick Stephens VT. Met with Treasurers. Involved in new budget dev; audits; excess reserves. Really cares. Worked with Non-Profits. Interested in AMC mission. Outdoorsman.
 - Subscribe Wachusett Views: Send to Carol; Notified. Email via Marketing Cloud. Mb subscribed to all email blasts. Follow up with Meighan.
 - Charlie: intent to purchase 20K acres in Maine. Fills in pie pieces around what we own. Great opportunity. 100-mile wilderness. We have camps already. SE of what we currently own. Train goes thru woods. Conserve Land open for recreation. Send info. AMC Website Outdoors.org “Barnard”
 - Excess reserves: AMC is doing ok financially. Lodging down. Rain. Catch up. Running deficit. Would like to fund. Tough choices. Asking chapters to dip into reserves to help fund projects. Look at excess reserves. All chapters sitting on 1 million \$\$\$\$. Please check out request.

6:50 PM — Old Business (30 min)

- Leadership Recognition Event – Wendy (10 min)
 - Back to covid. Had active leaders (trip) continued to get folks outdoors. Long time coming. Want to recognize. Didn't intend to slight anyone. Chucks. Trip committees that lead outdoors trip. Paddling, skiing, biking, hiking. Etc. Led most trips. Most memorable, mentor, etc. Goal is to focus on peeps who get folks outside. Propose move forward as planned. Add agenda item to Planning to include other groups (besides trip leaders) in some kind of recognition event. This event at Chucks. Nov 2. Thursday. horderves; Spend a few hours together. Email sent to chairs of committees for input. ECOM is invited.
 - Zenya: how will leaders know about. Not for all trip leaders. Will encourage ECOM and folks receiving awards to attend.
 - Modeling after a Boston event. Casual. Don researched how Boston did their event.
 - Discussing since January.
 - DavidE: Climbing, Trails and Midstate not included. Disruption by covid. Encourage those activity groups to start posting again to increase visibility
 - Criteria: 12-month period ending September this year.
 - Joe: are you suggesting leaders running trips not posted. Not AMC events. Don't qualify.
 - ChrisP: been on trips friends/family. JABOF. Just a bunch of friends.
- Annual Meeting Update – Kathryn Accari (5 min)
 - Nov 11 Manor in W Boylston. 5:30. 100 attendees expected. Subcommittee. Buffet, 3 entrees, horderves, deserts, cash bar, music,
 - This year doing both business and social.
 - Registration on Website soon.
 - Meghan: Mgmt team all invited to attend **Mark Cheever** new Director of Transformation. 4 years /w AMC. *Look up on Linked in.* 2017 AT thru hiker.
- Conservation – Reimbursement for LNT Course -Eric Harris (5 min)
 - Course great. 5 people including eric. Cert level 1 LNT. Convo after, reimbursement. Little more expensive than imagined. Lot more work communicating w instructor, food, groceries 179, venue 500 (discounted via GWLT). Up to 600+. Out of Pocket. \$374 in budget.
 - ChrisC. email chain. Part of struggle. Never been activity before. No prior game plans. Should support folks who bring forward. Motion to reimburse. Second Mike Picard: Kim 300 in budget happily relinquish. DavidE: weekend long only 5 folks attended.
 - AIF: Reimbursement improved.
 - Planning to do next year.
 - Get receipts to Jose ASAP
- Chapters Committee Retreat Update -Wendy (5 min)
 - 2 sub committees. Christine C. excess reserves; Wendy. How to help support and create high performing teams. Meeting monthly Wendy; Concentrated period Feb March / monthly ChrisC
 - Goals: Wendy - new CEO has goals would like teams of peeps to write SMART goals that fulfill AMC Mission. Charlie all about alignment.
 - Cindy Crosbee will send out goals soon
- EC Mtg Format Survey - Wendy (5 min)
 - Most appropriate venue; hybrid, in person, fully remote. Another survey in near future. End of Week. Will send to new people as well.

7:20 PM — Old Business (25 min)

- Financial Matters – Christine C (10 min)
 - **Proposed Budget – Excess Reserves rep from all chapters and volunteer camps and cabins**
 - Looking to give guidance to spend. Comment from Worcester chapter. Have been supporting. Chiseling away from reserves. Summer get allocation from Endowment. Info doesn't reach CC til later. Some leaders in EC chairing more things cost more \$\$\$. Not comfortable before budget is approved. More comfortable in January.
 - Other thing trying to determine look at all the chapters. Membership allocation based on membership numbers; don't have annual endowment. Have and have nots. Some chapters don't have revenue coming in cant fund at a chapter level.
 - Initial response has asking close to 40K. Grown significantly. Leadership recognition, more workshops, Midstate trail. Lot of activity to look at. Before we may have allocated 11K, will now be significantly more. Anyone running workshops s/b \$25 or more. Can't be covered expenses for just that event.
 - Endowment and membership allocation. If doing our fees to cover expense of event, we don't have any extra to cover other things like ECOM
 - Don't continue to sell ourselves short. Mid Oct for vote at October meeting. Please review prior to meeting.
 - Mike Picard. Need to connect to understand Mid State Trail budget

 - **Gear Shed Budget – “Maintain” v “Replenish”**
 - Past budget submitted equipment requests. 900 backpacking equipment; eliminate. Our intent support operational. If anything should submit Grant Request. Not part of operating budget. Meighan can speak to: clarify equipment for Worcester chapter members not education outdoors. Gear current is heavy intended to split up big groups. Benefit from light weight gear. That was invitation request that chapter help fund. Chris P would this complicate operation of gear shed? Meighan: don't think so. Ingrid thought it was a great idea. Would be labeled.
 - Joe: do we have any info/stats who's been borrowing. Walt: some people borrowed tents, sleeping bags for inner backpacking. Heavy. Joe: goal make available to underprivileged. They can carry heavy. Who is this for? Our members? We got wrong stuff?
 - Nate: Educator Outdoors; Ingrid: chapter. Not suited for chapter Hope more Worcester Chapter members using GearShed. Youth Group can split.
 - Ingrid has data
 - Joe: Maybe invite Nate and Ingrid to give a talk
 - Not our position not to support – make it a grant (one off) vs recurring thing.
 - Ruth: convo w/ Ingrid. Biggest sticking points in BP is most expensive items. Tents. Must be durable. Can't be lightweight item. AMC access to discounts?

 - **Grant Requests for Support**
 - 3 total \$12500, \$5000 Educator Outdoors; \$5000 understand my potential; \$2500 Midstate trail. Looking for a motion to approve 3 requests; supported: DavidE; Kim motion. AIF
 - DavidE: charges for other things. Contrary to inclusion. Turn into fundraising bad idea. HQ wanting \$\$\$. Corporate bottom up; Endowment: where comes in. Corporate seizing assets. And building property. Worcester Also includes insurance \$\$\$ on insurance
 - RD: All AMC \$\$\$. We are one organization. All support mission: Chapter has autonomy on how to spend. If we need to support staff to support Chapters. Shouldn't have US vs THEM attitude.

- Endowment Fund Application – Park Spirit of Worcester/East West Club – submitted by Matt Reidy, volunteer EW Trail – Chris P (**5 min**)
 - June meeting had Park Spirit Worcester: Matt Reidy; Rick Miller. Partner with Chapter to accomplish goals in their own trail network. Put together an Endowment Request. Sent with Draft minutes.
 - Looking for funds in October. For Trail improvements on sections of East / West Trail steep sections to improve trail safety, functionality, erosion.
 - Propose project be led by AMC. Not looking solely for funds.
 - Looking for Chapter support. Total budget 850. Asking for 500.
 - Kim Grant must go thru grant process won't happen by October. Second part put to trails chair. Don't have expertise. If they are just looking for bodies. Doesn't have to be an AMC trip.
 - Asking points: 1. are you looking for skill or bodies. 2. Doesn't have to be a leader led activity.
 - Steve, Collin, Mike Peckar critical resource
 - Might need to go thru club.
 - Mike might have some folks on Midstate who are qualified.
 - Chris C take financial piece to review. Run thru Meighan.

- ECOM Open Positions Update – Kim B (**10 min**)
 - 4 openings: Family, Programs, Social, Trails

7:45 PM — General Announcements (10 min)


- Around the table

7:55 PM — 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 <i>Is this complete? Still in need of being done / completed? Irrelevant?</i>	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
3/29/23	Wednesday	EC Meeting
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 Welcome back!	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-Chatson	x		
Vice Chair	Wendy Dziemian	x		
Past Chair	Kim Beauchemin	x		
Secretary	Carol Warren	x		
Treasurer	Jose Schroen			x
Social Media (at large)	Karyn Marciniac			x
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			x
Membership Chair	Kathryn Acciairi	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			
Programs Chair	open			N/A
Chapter Members/Guests	Name	Attended in person	Attended virtually	
	Joe Massery	x		
AMC	Meighan Matthews		x	
RD	Charlie Arsenault	x		
<i>Incoming Hiking</i>	Walt Lazare	x		