

AMC Worcester Chapter

Executive Committee Meeting Agenda: 11/29/23

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 (10 min) – Christine P

- Welcome and Review working agreements (online etiquette)
 - Everyone around the room introduced themselves, plus identified those attending virtually.
- Review/Accept minutes of previous EC Meeting – Oct 2023
 - Carol W said she would add on the attendance
 - Motion to accept - Wendy D; second - Joe M; Vote taken – AIF
- October Treasurer’s Report – Jose S
 - Sent out for review
 - Jose will add grant approval from September
 - Jose asked if there are any expenses for the 2023 physical year, they need to be received by 12/26 or they won’t be included in the report
 - Working on adding in the MidState trail
- Volunteer of the Month – Nov 2023 –Wendy D
 - Ingrid Molnar – Nominated by Walt L for being a person that “just steps in for everything and anything.”
 - Other nominations: **Wendy will send info**
- Updates from AMC – Charlie A
 - AMC announced the launching of Hospitality World **Charlie, what is hospitality world and “Helmut R” ?**
 - Annual Summit – Worcester usually sends a few to the annual summit. On Saturday, there will be all day sessions; no meetings. The Chapter Committee meeting will be on Sunday. The early bird price is \$45/pp. It will be at the Four Points Sheraton in Norwood, MA. Go to outdoors.org to register.

6:40 PM — Old business (20 min)

- Recent Event Updates – Chris P
 - The Leadership Recognition Event was held Nov 2. It had a good turnout; there were discussions and awards and a good time was had by all. There was a good turnout. Looking forward to the January planning mtg.
 - The Annual Business Meeting & Social was held on Nov. 11. It also went well, was a nice dinner with music. Several awards were given. Congratulations to all!
 - Volunteer of the Year was Fred M **(ask Joe for name)**
 - Golden Service award – Steve Crow **(did I get the name right?)**
 - Rookie of the Year award – Eric Harris. This award is given to a leader who goes above and beyond in their 1st year. Also nominated: Carol Warren.
 - Chair award – Wendy Dziemian
 - Appie of the Year – David Elliott (AKA “trouble”). This is the Chapter’s highest recognition
 - Carol did a great job updating the officers’ information for the Executive Committee for next year on the AMC Worcester ECOM Website - <https://amcworchester.org/contact/>

- Chapters Committee Retreat Update
 - Wendy D – There is a spinoff sub-committee called the High Performance Team Group. This group’s next focus is aligning the Worcester Chapter’s goals with the AMC Club goals. An email was sent out Nov. 28 with an attachment that explains more about this sub-committee’s current agenda. This will be talked about more at the Planning Committee meeting in January.
 - Mike P - Park Spirit of Worcester Endowment Fund Application: Status Update – Mike has been in communications with Worcester Land Trust—they will put together another memo of understanding signed & completed and will put a grant in to do additional work on the East/West trail. Charlie A suggested that, as a Chapter, we could run a trail work trip. **Ask Mike P to confirm that this is a good summary of this point of discussion**
 - Additional discussion:
 - Christine C – says she has another request from Clinton Greenway Conservation Trust **(not sure if the name is correct???) Send note to Christine for summary of this point.** She thinks we will have more of these types of requests, asking for input on how we handle this.
 - Alex M mentioned that there is a guidelines document regarding how/who we pursue partnerships with and giving money thru grants. Maybe from the Endowment Committee that handles these requests?
 - Mike P says he could be the liaison for Clinton Greenway trust going forward for their projects
 - Charlie A suggests checking guidelines for what AMC supports – not buying land—check what the guard rails are. He offered to help if needed.

7:00 PM — New business (30 min)

- AMC Budget Deficit – Chapter Reserves Request Update
 - Chris P - Shared info with respect to our budget and deficit with **???** **(need name from Chris)**
 - Charlie A– Said that excess cash reserves used in the 2024 budget for projects is to be voted on formally by the board in the next couple of weeks. Instructed the Chapter to do the budget as usual and use cash reserves to cover things. Says that historically we haven’t spent everything that was put in the budget. Whatever isn’t spent from the Endowment is rolled over to excess reserves.
 - Christine C – we have commitments to things that are outstanding **(get help from Christine on summary of this discussion topic)**
 - David E – Confirmed with Charlie A that everyone’s excess reserves are being zeroed.
- Open Positions Update – Kim B
 - Trails Chair (new) – Kim is talking with Eric –Eric has someone interested and he is experienced. His name is John Mangano. Alex M, Rob G and Zenya M also knew him and all are enthusiastic.
 - Motion to accept – David E; second – Zenya M. Vote taken - AIF.
 - Programs, Family, Social still have open positions.
- Upcoming events – Chris P
 - Planning Committee mtg – 1/27/24, 9A-1P
 - Memo sent, majority of members are available 1/27. We will meet from 9a-1p at the Auburn Middle School – Kickoff mtg 2024. Looking for input prior to the meeting on what we did well and what could be improved. Also, name one or two initiatives or goals that you feel warrant our Chapter’s focus. Please look at the material sent out and send back suggestions.
 - AMC Annual Summit – January 20 – 21, 2024
 - Mike suggested that the chapter pay the fee for ECOM members to sign up. Christine P says there is some money for at least 2-3 people and reminded everyone that the early bird rates go up soon. Charlie A encouraged reimbursement for everyone that wants to go. There was a discussion about just ECOM members or all leaders. Christine C suggested that perhaps the leaders could get funded to go to the Summit if they lead x numbers of events. No decision made.
 - Annual Meeting & Social – DATE PROPOSAL: 11/9/24 – Chris P asked if this was a good date for the meeting. There were no objections. Alex M asked who does the planning for this meeting and suggested that we pick a place (venue) and hold the date.

- Motion - Christine C. Proposes to fund operations in fiscal year 2024 up to \$11,000 from the Grant Allocation fund and up to \$12,452 will be used from the prior year operating excess to cover expenses from this year. Second - Mike P
 - This year net spending vs. income was 11K under budget. Mike P says some reasons why they were over budgeted is because a certain number of people/costs were allocated to Sawyer Training and WOFA and then the Sawyer training wasn't available and not as many people went to WOFA—it is a bit of an unknown.
 - Vote taken – AIF.

7:30 PM — General Announcements (15 min)

- Joe M - Fred Lasinski doing fantastic, if you want to visit him see Joe for information.
- Christine C – submitted the budget to the Club and is waiting for feedback on whether it is accepted in its format. Asked for comments from the last mtg to better understand financials
- The Grant Request Form was hard to find, so it was asked for the form to be at the top of web page. Carol W said she could do that.
- Carol W did great job with the pictures from Annual Meeting. Suggested starting a link now for future meetings.
- A. Molnar – Asked everyone to send her ideas for events, etc.
- Charlie A – Wished a very happy birthday to Carol W and all joined in.
- Eric H – Mentioned that the Trail Talk Calendar is coming out in a few days.
- Carol W – Regarding the Volunteer of Month – Wants to highlight this on social media; create a page to highlight people on a monthly basis. Wendy mentioned that Western Mass uses instagam. David E asked Carol to enlist nominations too.
- Walt L – Needs access to sharepoint – If there is anyone else, please see Carol W
- Mike P –At the last meeting he had a special guest from Ware River Watershed and they had major breakthrough with the DCR which has embraced their mission and that's a big switch and he wanted to let everyone know.
- Dave E – Gave an update John G – He is doing well at the moment– He is out in Michigan. Thanks all for support.
- Zenya M – Wanted to say thanks to Eric H for all his efforts with the book club,
- Ruth L – Gaave a shout out to Rob G for a successful ski season opener
- Charlie A – says that historically we have always underspent for various reasons. Don't not budget and plan for big things, but we do need to adjust how the Chapter's get and use funds.

7:46 PM – Motion to Adjourn Chris P; second Kim B. Vote taken - AIF

Action Item Review

Action Item	Owner	Status
Migrate outdated SharePoint documents into archive folder	Chairs	OPEN

AMC WORCESTER CHAPTER
Executive Committee Calendar: 2023- 2024

Date	Day	Meeting
November 29, 2023	Wednesday	EC Meeting
1/27/24 9A – 1P	Saturday	EC Planning Meeting
1/31/24	Wednesday	EC Meeting
1/20/24	Saturday	AMC Annual Summit, Norwood
2/28/24	Wednesday	EC Meeting
3/27/24	Wednesday	EC Meeting
4/24/24	Wednesday	EC Meeting
5/29/24	Wednesday	EC Meeting
TBD	TBD	AMC Chapters Retreat
6/26/24	Wednesday	EC Meeting
Summer Break		●
9/25/24 Welcome back!	Wednesday	EC Meeting
TBD	TBD	Fall Fest
10/30/24	Wednesday	EC Meeting
TBD (PROPOSE SAT 11/9/24?)	TBD	Annual Meeting & Social
11/27/24	Wednesday	EC Meeting