

Carolina Mountain Club (CMC)

2017 Annual Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2017 Biltmore Park Hilton

The Annual Meeting of the Carolina Mountain Club (CMC) was held on Monday, October 30, 2017 at the Biltmore Park Hilton in Asheville.

Challenge Completers

Prior to the Business Meeting, the Challenge Awards were presented by Vance Mann, chair of the Challenge Committee.

- SB6K Challenge – Jamie Ervin, Chris Koebelin, Nicole Ray, Zane Ray, Ted Ruff, Jacob Shaw, and Ryan Tharp
- Pisgah 400 Challenge – Rich Bowerman and Chris Koebelin
- Waterfall Challenge – Dan Weemhoff
- A.T.-MST Challenge – Kate Fisher, Jan Onan, Linda Smith, Ginny Waggoner, Vance Waggoner, and Brenda Worley
- Youth Partnership Challenge – Bev MacDowell, Ash Johnson, and Eleni Farago

Welcome to Guests

Vice President Randy Fluharty introduced the guests and thanked them for their support of the CMC mission.

- Appalachian Trail Conservancy: Morgan Sommerville, Southern Regional Director; Leanna Joyner Southern Region Trail Resources Manager; Ben Barry, Trail Facility Manager, Deep South; Jason Zinc - Visitor Use Manager
- Blue Ridge Parkway: JD Lee, Superintendent; Craig Yow, Facility Manager.
- Great Smoky Mountain National Park: Christine Hoyer, the Backcountry Management Specialist
- Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail: Kate Dixon, Executive Director; Steve Metcalf, President of the Board of Directors; and Jim Hallsey.

Call to Order

President Barbara Morgan called the meeting to order and asked the group for a moment of silence for the recent death of Jay Bretz.

Minutes of 2016 Annual Meeting

Barbara Morgan presented the minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting and asked if there were any corrections or additions. There were none. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting as written.

Council Nominations and Elections

Barbara reminded members that she had appointed George Bauernfeind to fill the vacant Treasurer position until membership could approve that appointment.

Becky Smucker, Nominating Committee Chair, presented the slate of officers for the 2017 elections. Barbara asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Since there were none, she said that the slate would be voted on as a unit. Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the slate for 2018.

President	Randy Fluharty (two-year term)
Vice President	Debby Jones (two-year term)
Treasurer	George Bauernfeind (two-year term)
Education & Outreach	Jan Onan (first two-year term)
Hiking	Gregory Bechtel (first two-year term)
Membership	Lynn Saul (first two-year term)
Technology	Judy Magura (first two-year term)
Councilor-at-Large	Mike Fisher (to complete year two of unexpired term)
Councilor-at-Large	Chris Koebelin (first two-year term)

Continuing on Council, no election needed:

Past-president	Barbara Morgan
Secretary	Paula Massey
Communication	Kathy Kyle-Cornn
Conservation	Ruth Hartzler
Trail Maintenance	Ron Navik

Recognition of Departing Council Members

Barbara thanked these six members of the Council, who are completing their terms, for their excellent service to the club. She noted that Tom Weaver, who was leaving his Councilor at Large position a year early, has taken on the important responsibility of being the Chair of the NC State Trails Committee, in addition to his role as the club's Trails Facilities Manager.

Education & Outreach	Kay Shurtleff
Hiking	Brenda Worley
Membership	Lee Silver
Technology	Marcia Bromberg
Councilor-at-Large	Steve Pierce
Councilor-at-Large	Tom Weaver (completed year one of two-year term)

Treasurer's Report and Approval of 2018 Budget

Barbara said that the bylaws call for an annual review of the financial accounts and asset statements of the Club. The review of the records for 2016 was conducted by Barbara (President), Randy (Vice-

President), and Kathy McAuley (Club member) and determined to be in good condition and no irregularities were found.

George Bauernfeind presented the 2017 Statement of Activities through September 30 showing year to date General Fund, the 2017 Annual Budget, and the proposed 2018 Annual Budget, which is a balanced budget of \$28,175. He provided an overview of the contributions and expenses year-to-date, noting that there were considerable savings when the Club transitioned to a paperless newsletter. Contributions income is greater than expected for this time of year, since the club usually receives additional contributions in the fourth quarter of the year.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the 2018 Budget as presented.

CMC Awards

The Awards Committee was chaired by Ann Hendrickson. The Award of Appreciation is given to a member who, during the year prior to the Annual Meeting, has given exceptional service to the operation of the club. There were two Appreciation Awards for such service this past year: Dennis Bass and Bob Lindsey. Bob's was presented by Ann at the annual trail maintainer picnic and Marcia Bromberg presented Dennis with his award. Both individuals have served the club in outstanding ways for much longer than a single year. The Distinguished Service Award, which takes into account the entirety of that person's service to the club, was presented to Marcia Bromberg for her continuous service to CMC since she became a member in 2006; she has served on the Council for 9 years, including President, established the ¾ day hikes, and was the first Councilor of Technology. Bobbi Powers presented Marcia with her award.

President's Report

Barbara Morgan summarized her past year as President:

- Appointments - Becky Smucker as Chair of the Nominations Committee; Ann Hendrickson as Chair of the Awards Committee in the absence of Lenny as Past President; George Bauernfeind as Treasurer; Stuart English as the Historian (special thanks to Rocko Smucker for his exemplary work over the years); Chris Koebelin (to replace Vance Mann who has served as excellent Challenge Chair for the past two years).
- Operations Manual. Lenny Bernstein initiated work on the Club's first Operations Manual, to document and make available our job descriptions, policies, and procedures. He saw it as a living, not static, document that would be available on the club's website. In Lenny's absence, Steve Pierce took over coordination of the manual, and Council members and others submitted their input, and as of right now, our first version is finally written. Barbara shared the hard copy of the manual and said that next year work would be done to put it on the website.
- Membership. As of the end of September, we have about 850 memberships, including 260 that are family memberships, and we have 168 new memberships. At the last meeting, Council voted to award George Oldham Honorary Lifetime Membership. George was Club President 1982-83 and was instrumental in the acquisition of Max Patch to become part of the AT and the

Shut in Trail becoming part of MST and CMC's maintenance responsibility. He is 95 now, wheelchair bound, and will be given this award on November 14 in a special ceremony at Carolina Village.

- Trail maintenance - CMC continues to maintain our sections of the MST, AT, and many other trails in our area. Special recognition was given to Lew Blodgett for 7,000 hours of service at the annual trail maintainer picnic, along with recognition to 38 additional maintainers. Several grants were obtained that helped provide materials, tools, and equipment for needed projects. Special thanks to Tom Weaver, for help in writing and overseeing those grants.
- Publications –The third edition by Walt Weber – *Mountains-to-Sea Trail; Profiles and Maps* will be published in the spring, thanks to the hard work by Les Love, Bob Beach, Rich Evans, Stu English, and of course Walt Weber. The book starts at Clingmans Dome and goes to beyond the Black Mountain Campground.
- Conservation - This year has been a challenging one for Ruth Hartzler and the Conservation Committee as they have reviewed and provided input on the Forest Management Plan Revision. She, and others, has spent literally thousands of hours in Stakeholders meetings and other processes for this plan revision. Barbara thanked Ruth, Tish, Herman, and Mike for all their hard work and noted that next spring there will be yet another round for input and modifications, but that the plan is extremely important as it will direct decisions by the Forest Service for years to come.
- Hiking and Challenges - The core of CMC's hikes are those on the quarterly schedules and are strong and well attended. We had a good number of Challenge completers this year, and noted that there are a growing number of people working on completing a Challenge, especially the 6B6K. Youth Partner Hikes, which started last year, are gaining in popularity. CMC Meetup hikes have really taken off this year, thanks to a lot of work especially by Paul Benson and Gregory Bechtel.
- Paperless Let's Go. Last year at this time, we were making the difficult decision of making the distribution of Let's Go fully electronic. It has turned out to be a huge money saver, and the savings are now being directed to other areas of need, such as Trail Maintenance. Kathy Kyle and Susan Canale have done a superb job of keeping communication going every month by eNews. Kathy also manages content for our Facebook page.

Other Business

Barbara asked if there was any other business and there was none.

Adjournment

Barbara adjourned the meeting and turned the program over to Randy who introduced our guest speakers, Kate Dixon, Executive Director of the Friends of the Mountain to Sea Trail and Jim Hallsey, who was instrumental in the early development and of the state-wide trail system.