

CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB (CMC)

Minutes of Council Meeting

August 1, 2016

Council Officers: President, Barbara Morgan; Vice President, Randy Fluharty; Treasurer, Ann Hendrickson; Secretary, Paula Massey; Immediate Past President, (vacant position) Councilor of Communication, Kathy Kyle; Councilor of Conservation, Ruth Hartzler; Councilor Education/Outreach, Kay Shurtleff; Councilor for Hiking, Brenda Worley; Councilor for Membership, Lee Silver; Councilor for Technology, Marcia Bromberg; Councilor for Trail Maintenance, Pete Peterson; Councilor-at-Large, Steve Pierce; Councilor-at-Large, Tom Weaver.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Barbara Morgan at 6 pm with the following in attendance: Ann, Randy, Kathy, Kay, Brenda, Marcia, Lee, Pete, Tom, Steve, Ruth and Paula. Guests: Ed Paulkovits, (re: funding and grants) Paul Llanso, (Leave No Trace Coordinator) and Ron Navik.

Approval of the Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2016 meeting was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Ann presented the Comparative Statement of Activity for the period of 01/01/2016 thru 07/31/2016. General discussion regarding the challenge of assessing budget allocations when timing of the majority of dues income comes in late fall, as well as expenditures made that carry over to the next year, i.e. CMC patches; the restricted funds being in the operating account yet have restriction on use. Revenue from sponsorship of the ATC film brought in \$406.

Other: Due to health reasons, Past President Lenny Bernstein has resigned from Council. His resignation was regretfully accepted.

Discussion, Reports and Updates

CMC Council Slate. Secretary – Paula Massey; Treasurer – Ann Hendrickson; Council at Large – Tom Weaver; Councilor for Communication – Kathy Kyle; Councilor for Conservation – Ruth Hartzler; Councilor for Trail Maintenance – Ron Navik (remainder of Council currently serving first of a two year term.) Motion: To approve CMC Slate as presented for vote by the membership at the Annual Meeting. Seconded and motion Passed.

Leave No Trace Update Leave No Trace Coordinator, Paul Llanso, presented a written report and an overview of the assessment conducted on specific sections of the AT as of August 1, 2016; six trail maintainers conducted as assessment of what was left on their respective trail by categories of waste, campfire rings and trail damage. General discussion of need for publicity to be visible on CMC website to promote Club's Leave No Trace philosophy at the same time data is being collected; it being a dual process rather than waiting for results of the assessment.

Status of Operations Manual. Steve submitted a written outline of the CMC Operations Manual by category, group responsible for review, and status of completion as received from Lenny.

100 Favorite Trails project continues in the review and editing process with changes that Steve has submitted to date approved by the author. Great Smoky Mountain plans to publish in 2017. Ann is to submit an invoice to the publisher for the \$500 due to CMC for submitting the project.

Report on ATC Cooperative Management Meeting Webinar. Randy reported that the assets inventory project (value of the trails) is 60% complete; the Wayfinder Project (signage on roads leading to the trails) is underway with options of multi-lingual and site determination. There were reported to be 3,000 registered hikers (thru hikers) this year, and that the Benton Vision is a landscape protection project.

Annual Dinner. Randy submitted written report outlining costs as well as estimation of total income and costs based upon member attendance projection and number of invited guests for whom the club pays for their dinner. The Annual Meeting and Dinner will be held at The Chariot in Hendersonville on November 5. Motion –To approve the price of dinner to be \$32.50 (same as last year); seconded and approved.

Grant Coordination, Grant/Solicitation Process. Barbara submitted a written draft of a policy outlining the creation of new position, CMC Grant Coordinator, as well as Grant/Solicitation Application Process and Solicitation of Funds. General discussion regarding process of identifying priority projects and ways to seek potential contributors. Barbara appointed Ed Paulkovits as Grant Coordinator; he will submit report on grant application plan.

Travel and Mileage Reimbursement. Barbara provided a copy of the February 2014 CMC Policy on Reimbursement of Travel Expenses Other than for Trail Maintenance and Hike Leading and the Guidelines On Reimbursement for Trail Maintenance Mileage. Several changes to the draft were suggested and it was approved as amended. Barbara will send out a copy of the modified guidelines by email. General discussion on the apparent inconsistency of dissemination of information to section maintainers regarding potential reimbursement of mileage; this will be discussed at Trail Maintainer's Meeting.

By-laws Amendment Draft Regarding Article VI (Nominating Committee and Awards Committee). Barbara submitted a written copy of the draft which allows up to two Council members to serve on these committees in addition to what is in the current version of the by-laws. Motion: To approve the Proposed Revision to Article VI for presentation for consideration of adoption at the upcoming Annual Meeting. Seconded and Approved. It was pointed out that an Interim Chair will need to be appointed due to Lenny's resignation from the Council. The possibility of other By-law amendments will be determined after the budget planning meeting.

Separate Budget Planning Session Prior to October 3 Council Meeting. Barbara reported on the meeting of Executive team held last month to review the budget and finances and discuss ways to facilitate the budget planning process. She proposed that a special planning meeting be held prior to the October 3

Council meeting to discuss and identify priority activities that would have financial implications for the budget preparation, and Council members agreed to this meeting. August 25, 2016 from 2 to 5 pm was set as the date for this budget planning meeting. The budget for 2017 will be presented at the Annual Meeting for approval by the membership.

Committee Reports and Discussion of Issues

Technology. Marcia reported that the revised home page is now “up and running” and now she is continuing to input reports and information on the links. General discussion on the current status of the member data base and trail maintenance data base that are “tied” together and maintained by a member with a full time job and therefore not always accessible when problems arise. Marcia mentioned that the website was brought down temporarily by a hack. We continue to be vigilant about blocking attempts to hack the site.

Membership. Lee submitted written report that showed membership slightly up with 138 new members year to date. She is working with Randy to identify ways to cut down mailing costs by considering merging the new member mailing with the mailing of vouchers to new members (renewing members would still be mailed their voucher as a separate mailing). Kathy is helping develop a “new member” survey to obtain information from these new members on their special interests and volunteer opportunities.

Maintenance. Pete announced that the annual CMC Maintainer’s picnic will be held September 17th and there will be a Pisgah Pride Day on September 24th sponsored by the Friends of Pisgah. He introduced Ron Navik, a CMC member who was, in tonight’s meeting, approved for the slate for the Councilor for Maintenance position. Pete discussed the on-going issue of mountain bikers on hiking trails relative to safety issues and compromising the integrity of the trails.

Hiking. Brenda reported that the fourth quarter hiking schedule is almost complete. Our MeetUp contract will end in October, and due to how little it is used by hike leaders and not having enough in the Hiking budget to cover it, it will not be renewed at this time.

Education and Community Outreach. Kay reported that the Youth Partnership Challenge continues with current hikes on the website; it was suggested to explore options for free publicity in the Citizens Times, specifically in the Thursday edition under hiking opportunities. She pointed out that the “Leave No Trace” program is a part of the hiking education experience for the youth.

Conservation. Ruth presented a copy of the Forest Service Draft, “Forest Wide Objectives-Management Plan Revisions” as of June 2016. She noted that CMC’s input was not included in this draft and suggested that members submit comments, both as an organization and individuals, to address issues they feel should be in the document. The addition of more trails and user collaboration are just two of the issues not addressed. In addition, there will be a series of Forest Service Management Area Meetings scheduled for August and September in each Ranger District for public input, and Ruth is

seeking help to have knowledgeable members present at each meeting. Council offered ideas on how CMC can be visible at these meetings. Ruth offered to provide general orientation to anyone who plans on attending.

Communications. Kathy provided the deadlines for Breaking News and Let's Go as well as reported that she will be participating in the upcoming ATC Webinar.

Miscellaneous and FYI

In view of the time Barbara offered to send this information in an upcoming e-mail message.

Meeting Adjourned at 9 pm

Minutes prepared by Paula Massey; August 2016