

CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB

Council Meeting

August 14, 2018

Council Officers: President, Randy Fluharty; Vice President, Debby Jones; Treasurer, George Bauernfeind; Secretary, Paula Massey; Immediate Past President, Barbara Morgan; Councilor for Communication, Kathy Kyle; Councilor for Councilor of Conservation, Ruth Hartzler; Councilor for Education/Outreach, Jan Onan; Councilor for Hiking, Gregory Bechtel; Councilor for Membership, Lynn Saul; Councilor for Technology, Judy Magura (with Jim); Councilor for Trail Maintenance, Ron Navik; Councilor-at-Large, Michael Fisher; Councilor-at-Large, Chris Koebelin.

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6 pm by President Randy Fluharty with the following in attendance: Barbara, Ruth, Jan, Gregory, Lynn, Ron, Chris, Judy and Jim, Paula. Absent: George, Mike, Kathy. Guests: Danny Berstein, Carroll Koepanger, and Paul Benson.

Approval of Minutes A motion was made and seconded to accept the June 28, 2018 minutes. (These minutes reflect the second half of the agenda for the May 8, 2018 meeting.) Motion carried.

Business

Treasurer's Report Randy gave verbal report based upon the year-to-date summary provided by George in email attachment. Our one large CD matured and was reinvested in three smaller CD's with staggered maturity dates. IN addition, a money market fund was established that will increase annual interest by over \$1000. The annual financial review by president, vice president, treasurer, and one member not on Council (Bob Levy) has been scheduled for August 31.

CMC Technology Overview Judy and Jim, utilizing overhead projector, demonstrated the new features of the CMC redesigned website Council members were encouraged to explore the new features at home to become familiar with the public and member website.

Annual Dinner Debby reported on the final plans for the November 3 Annual Dinner to be held at the Double Tree at Biltmore; the list of honored guests was reviewed and updated. Motion – To approve the \$33 registration fee for the dinner. Motion carried.

Member Survey Jan gave an overview of the member survey with reminder that Council members received this in recent email. Motion-To approve eNews reporting of the results of the survey with summary, including graphs, and Council's appreciation to survey participants. Motion carried. Motion-To place on the agenda for the January planning retreat strategies for implementation of the findings, both by the Council and the respective committees. Motion carried. It was noted that the inclusion of the survey on the January agenda did not preclude committees from reviewing the results with the survey ad hoc committee and taking actions that do not require Council approval.

Nomination & Awards Committee Barbara reported that, as Past-president, she will chair two committees: the Awards Committee and the Nominations Committee. According to the By-laws, both are composed of the Past-president (as Chair), two club members not on Council, and up to two current Council members. For the Nominations Committee, those members must not, themselves, be up for

reelection. She has most members in place, but needs one more for each committee. Work needs to be completed so that the slate can be shared at the October Council meeting and for awards, in time for the Maintainer Picnic on September 15 in the event that a maintainer is chosen to receive an award. She also reminded Council that changes/updates to operation manual are due by year end.

Waiver Document Chris gave an overview of the various member organization waivers he has reviewed and asked for clarification of when a hike starts and ends (current policy states from time of leaving meeting spot for car pooling to trail head and back). A draft proposal will be presented at next council meeting.

Incident Report Chris has been reviewing organizational incident reports and will present a draft for next meeting. General discussion included “when” to report an incident and ideas on disseminating a report form to hike leaders.

National Public Land Day Event Randy reported that September 22 is National Public Lands Day and the Appalachian Ranger District will mark the day with a celebration at the district headquarters. Food , Music, displays, and demonstrations will be included. CMC will have a table display promoting our trail maintenance efforts. The ATC will lead a hike from Sam’s Gap to Street Gap, assisted by CMC volunteers.

MST Book Randy announced that the 3rd Edition is complete; Barbara edited with Walt Weber proofing content. Discussion on ways to promote sale and distribution of this new edition; explore ways to promote pre-sale along with annual dinner registration with books available to pick up at dinner. It was noted that we need to make sure we are not violating our agreement with our speaker, Jennifer Pharr Davis, who will be offering her book for sale at the annual dinner.

Committee Reports and Discussion

Membership Lynn reported that there are 118 new CMC members year to date; recruitment of new members during CMC Meet Ups and support of trail maintainers are two reasons for joining CMC.

Education Jan is seeking two new members for the Education Committee and will be meeting tomorrow. General discussion on how to fulfill requests for CMC displays at various events; need an outreach team. A Map Navigation class is being planned with evening instruction, followed by in the field training the following day.

Hiking Gregory gave an overview of CMC Meet Up hikes and need for new hike leaders and alternative hikes; potential for new members is great among these hikers. We currently have 20 people signed up as Meet Up hike leaders, many of whom are not active leaders. It was suggested this group be encouraged to lead meet up hikes as a first step in growing the hike leader numbers.

Trail Maintenance Ron invited Council members to attend the annual Trail Maintainers Picnic on Saturday, September 15 for 12 noon to 4 pm at Lake Julian, Shelter 6. Major projects include the Max Patch completion (spilt rail fence and kiosk to prevent erosion of grounds on a bypass of trail area) that is awaiting permission from Cherokee National Forest; Craggy Garden Visitor Center (trail has erosion and loose rocks); rain has caused increased weed growth on all trails, requiring extra weed whacking; completion of MST trail bypassing tunnel at West end that completed work necessary for 3rd edition of MST Guide book. Ron, along with Debby and Paul Curtin, attended the ATC Volunteer Leadership

Training where recruitment of trail maintainers and issues relative to diversity were discussed. Salvage Station has offered to host a fundraising event with 10% of proceeds going to CMC. There was general agreement to host on September 18th. Gregory volunteered to help with promotion.

Conservation Ruth reported that the Draft of the Pisgah Forest Land Management Plan will be disseminated for comments in October; it is critical that key stakeholders, like hiking groups review and provide comments. It is likely that the plan will include alternatives that will need addressing, such as what percent of land should be used for logging, recreation and conservation. Ruth and other CMC representatives have agreed to serve on recreation and conservation committees. Motion: To support the Nantahala Hiking Club's recommendation to support the designation of three areas as protected wilderness areas – Siler Bald, Tellico Bald, and Wesser Bald. Motion carried.

Technology Judy requested that Council members submit pictures for the homepage and to offer suggestions for content of website.

Next Council Meeting October 9th (unless otherwise noted); Meeting Adjourned 9 pm