

CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB

Council Meeting

June 28, 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 7 pm by President Randy Fluharty with the following in attendance: George, Barbara, Kathy, Ruth, Jan, Gregory, Lynn, Ron and Chris. (Mike was available by mobile phone) Guest: Tish Desjardins

Approval of Minutes A motion was made and seconded to accept the May 8, 2018 minutes. (These minutes reflect the first half of the agenda for the regularly scheduled meeting; the remaining agenda items will be addressed in the specially convened June 28 meeting.) Motion carried.

Conservation – Ruth, along with Tish and Mike (by mobile phone) presented a draft “CMC Policy on Multi-Use Trails (Hiking and Mountain Biking) Guidelines for Discussion Points)” and draft policy statement for future forest service land management meetings. There was general review and discussion about the specific sections of these draft documents. There was consensus that four criteria, as outlined in the documents, would be the “benchmark” for future discussion and decisions by CMC regarding multi-use trails: permanent protection of so-called high value trails; protection of hiker safety; protection of trail and surrounding ecosystem sustainability; and provision of appropriate maintenance resources.

Hiking – Gregory reported that offering a variety of hiking options is the goal of posting Meet Up hikes the same day as CMC scheduled hikes. It was agreed that a Meet Up hike could be scheduled on the same day as a regular CMC hike if the hike was substantially different from the scheduled hike in terms of length, difficulty, and geography. Meet Up hike leaders would still need to abide by the rules of CMC scheduled hikes. Chris is helping with the mapping/GPS data of hikes to reflect current trail details for CMC data base updates. Jan is working with the Hiking Committee to offer classes on mapping, GPS tracking and first aid classes to name a few.

Education-Jan announced that she has seven members on her newly formed Education Committee and that their task will be to write a job description for the Education Council member. Although weather was an impact, there was a CMC booth at the recent Blue Ghost event; she is working with Bill Sanderson on a mapping/navigation workshop and still working with Lynn, Kathy and Gregory on the results on the SurveyMonkey of the CMC membership. The June Trail Day was a great success and good participation in the Youth Partnership Challenge. She would like to offer First Aid kits to hike leaders who participate in a proposed Hike Leader Challenge at the completion of designated classes, including first aid and mapping/navigation. Long range idea: develop a proposal for a CMC summer intern.

Communication-Kathy reported that the committee met in June; the focus of the photographs for the CMC annual dinner will be group shots: hikes and maintenance. Press releases were distributed to media outlets for Trail Day, resulting in good coverage.

Membership-Lynn is exploring ways to increase visibility of CMC and specific hikes, including "Explore Asheville", "Romantic Asheville" and other venues that don't cost membership funds (like the Chamber). Year to date there are 84 new members. Suggestion: CMC explore a CMC hike schedule app for phones to encourage a younger group of hikers.

Additional Item for Discussion: Ron announced that a trail maintainer has a contact with Salvage Station and would be willing to pursue a gathering/fundraiser at this venue. Council agreed to pursue this opportunity and report back at next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40 pm for Executive Session.

In the Executive Session, a Lifetime Membership was approved. The name of the person receiving this will be kept confidential until the presentation is made this fall.

Summary prepared by Paula Massey, Secretary

Next Meeting: August 14, 2018