

CMC Council Meeting
Thursday October 6, 2011
6 P.M. to 9 P.M.
North Asheville Library

Council Members Present

Danny Bernstein, Marcia Bromberg, Barth Brooker, Tish Desjardins, Charlie Ferguson, Don Gardner, Ashok Kudva, Pete Petersen, Jim Reel, Becky Smucker

Council Members Absent

Peter Barr, Stuart English

Guest

Lenny Bernstein

The CMC Council minutes for August 18, 2011 were approved with one minor change. The spelling for "Petersen" was corrected. The Treasurer's report was approved with some changes. The special issue of the eNews will publish the budget for members with the changes.

1. Lenny Bernstein - 2013 ATC Biennial meeting

Lenny, Chair of the ATC-Cullowhee 2013 Biennial Steering Committee, went over the state of planning of ATC 2013. Each club has chosen a representative or focal point for its club and CMC is represented by Carroll Koeplinger.

Other CMC members who have volunteered include:

Bruce Bente - Hiking

Danny Bernstein - Excursions

Lenny Bernstein - Local evening entertainment

Tish Desjardins - Camping

Kathleen Abate - Food service

Marcia Bromberg - Housing

Carroll Koeplinger - Signs

Lenny Bernstein - Site Liaison

We will start recruiting of other volunteers in mid-2012.

The ATC 2013 Biennial website will be up in a couple of months. The video will be shown at our Spring Social, slated for April 28, and we'll get the video on our website.

The next ATC Biennial committee will meet on Saturday February 25, 2012.

2. ATC Club Presidents' Meeting in 2012

The ATC Stewardship Committee surveyed the clubs about reviving the clubs' President's meeting. Marcia responded positively.

3. Budget items

Don Gardner went over the proposed 2012 budget and some changes were made. These changes will be reflected in the proposed budget that will be voted on at the CMC Annual Dinner.

4. Annual CMC Dinner

The CMC dinner is scheduled for Saturday November 5. Charles Maynard, the first Executive Director of Friends of the Smokies, will be our speaker. We decided to include the staff of The Appalachian Science Learning Center at Purchase Knob (828-926-6251) in the list of potential speaker invitees for future events.

5. Girl Scouts request.

Girl Scout of America will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2012. To commemorate this big birthday, they will hike the A.T. in sections. A local Girl Scout troop has asked CMC for help. Kay Shurtleff and Joanne Tulip will work with this troop.

6. Website

A. Charlie Ferguson has been maintaining the website almost single-handedly. He will no longer be updating the content of the website. It is up to the Chair and committees to keep their area of the website current.

B. The Membership data base has a couple of problems when members try to renew online. The system doesn't give them a full year of membership, if they renew early.

C. At this time, the annual dinner payment system doesn't work, so people should send a check in to sign up for the CMC Dinner.

D. At this point, the old CMC website is still used for the eNews and the Hike Database. When we get a wider page for the website, Danny will start publishing the eNews on the current website.

The Hike Database is now written in MS Access. It needs to be rewritten in SQL before it will work on the current website.

The CMC Council thanked Charlie for all his efforts. We will discuss this more fully at our planning meeting.

7. Juvenile Restorative Community Services

A request for help on the trail by the Juvenile Restorative Community Services was denied because it does not follow our volunteer protocol.

8. Nominations

The following CMC members were nominated for CMC offices:

President - Marcia Bromberg

Vice-President - Don Gardner

Treasurer - Jim Ariail - for one year to fill out Don Gardner's term

Lee Silver - Councilor-at-large

Jim Spicer - Education Chair
Jim Reel - Hiking Chair
Barbara Morgan - Membership Chair

9. Liability insurance

Council voted to renew our insurance policy through American Hiking Society.

10. Bylaw changes for renewals

Becky Smucker proposed that a Bylaw needed to be changed because of our new membership renewal policy.

The current Bylaws, 1st sentence of Article III paragraph 2 reads:

Members will be dropped for non-payment of dues at mid-year and reinstated on payment of current dues.

The proposed sentence reads:

Members will be dropped for non-payment of dues at 90 days past due and reinstated on payment of current dues.

The membership will vote on this change at the CMC Annual meeting.

9. 2012 Planning session

Our next all-day meeting will be on Saturday January 7, 2012.

Our next council meeting will be on February 2, 2012.

10. Committee Reports

Challenge - No report

Communications - Danny Bernstein

Danny presented the Communications reports for Stuart English who is still out on sick leave. A report is provided as an attachment. The Governor's Proclamation for Mountains-to-Sea month in October 2011 mentions CMC by name.

Conservation - Tish Desjardins

Tish explained that there are two bills in Congress that will allow the US Forest Service to increase timbering up to 5000%. The Conservation Committee is studying this and may develop a CMC position.

Education - No report

Hiking - Jim Reel is now the Chair of the Hiking committee.

The hiking committee is working on the Camporee and the Hike Leaders Dinner.

Maintenance - Pete Petersen

At the Blue Ridge Parkway Barbeque held for Parkway volunteers, Howard McDonald was honored with a *President's Call to Service Award*. This is a major national award for volunteers.

Larry Sobel is now the head of the Waynesville Wednesday Crew. And as usual, the maintenance crews are maintaining.

Membership - Ashok Kudva

Ashok provided a report of the status of our membership. We have 733 memberships as of August 17, 2011. The committee is spending a lot less for mailings; they just mails out the decals for new members. The *Let's Hike* brochure needs to be updated.

Marcia Bromberg thanked all the outgoing CMC Councilors for their service - Barth Brooker, Charlie Ferguson, Ashok Kudva, and Becky Smucker.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danny Bernstein

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Communications report
2. Volunteer Protocol

Communications Report October 6, 2011
Danny Bernstein for the Communications Committee

1. Governor Bev Perdue proclaimed October MST month. In her proclamation, she gave credit to Friends of the MST and Carolina Mountain Club. CMC was the only club mentioned by name. The proclamation is attached as part of the minutes.

2. The eNews is still being stored on the old CMC website. To shift it to the current website, it needs a wider screen. That was being priced by Charlie and the website designers but nothing seems to have been decided yet. The future hikes and the hike reports are now done on the current website.

The eNews is being sent out to 1,717 email addresses.

3. Our CMC Facebook page continues to grow. We have 800 people who "like" it - that subscribe to it. Last week, there were 526 monthly active users 30 since last week. It's used in the following way:

*Putting up hike pictures right after the hike

*Asking questions about hiking in the area - The latest example is someone who's planning to hike up to LeConte in December

*Congratulations to challenge finishers

*Letting Facebook readers know about what's going on with our outdoor partners. An example might be the John Muir program that will benefit Friends of the Smokies.

4. One Communications member pointed out that "Perhaps let members know that the Communications Committee is not omniscient and would welcome possible news ideas."

Protocol for Handling Volunteer Requests

The purpose of this protocol is to provide guidance when responding to requests to the CMC from groups who want to: help out with maintenance; schedule a work day on the trail; schedule a youth group activity “in the woods”; or use CMC assistance with any activity related to trails we hike and maintain.

- The CMC will only work with established groups or organizations (e.g. Boy and Girl Scouts; schools, etc.).
- The group must be able to show evidence that individuals participating in the activity are covered by the group’s liability insurance.
- Use of power tools will not be allowed.
- The CMC will only provide tools with prior written agreement that any damage or loss will be covered by the sponsoring organization.
- Unless training in use of tools is specifically requested and agreed to, CMC will not be responsible for training volunteers in proper use of tools.
- When working with youth groups the sponsoring organization must provide adequate adult supervision.
- The CMC will not provide or identify housing or transportation for groups from outside the Asheville area.