

Annual meeting of the Northern Frontier Section of the GMC

June 5, 2022

Montgomery Recreation Center Pavilion

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 PM by President, Ken Whitehead.

Attending were: Cathy and Jeff Miller, Mary Anne Wood, Howard Van Benthuyzen, Bill and Joan Hildrith, Melissa Haberman and David Burns, Dave and Louis Ransom, Brooks Sturtevant, Adele Wolfson and Dan Seeley, Jane Williams, Remi Gratton, Walter Pomroy, Joy and Art Bliss, Kip Potter, Ken and Sharon Whitehead.

Board Report:

Kip reported that the main club revenues are in good shape. There was discussion about the chainsaw course that the GMC was recommending. It was scheduled for June but has been postponed until this fall. The GMC is covering the cost (\$2300) for each club member that participates. Howard noted that the GMC is trying to get several people certified so they can teach others without the high cost.

Trail Report:

Jeff reported that while there is still some work to be done, all trails will be cleared of blowdowns in the next few weeks. Remi is in possession of the small chainsaw the club bought a few years ago in case anyone wants to use it for trail work. Jeff noted that he has a saw backpack that he can lend. Melissa told of rebuilding the bridge to Jay Camp in early spring because someone had used the rocks to build a fire pit. The GMC staff built stairs on Gilpin Mt and will continue their work to Bruce Peak this summer.

Treasurer's Report:

Walter reported that we have a bank balance of \$2,036.76. Walter reminded the group that when we pay our membership dues to the main club, they send us 25% back to our section. Last year we collected \$475 in dues. We have few expenses (printing/postage, field supplies, annual meeting). There was discussion about buying a tent to use for Trails Day but both Melissa and Kip have tents that they can lend. Kip suggested we buy a banner for our section since no one knows where the old one is.

New Business:

We discussed Trails Day (September 10) and it was decided to continue greeting hikers on Rte 242. We need 3 shifts of volunteers for 2 hours/shift.

Ken discussed the various methods other sections are using to communicate with the public and membership. We have a very nice website that Rolf Anderson manages. It would be good to have a link to our FB page on it so people can access that easier and post any new information. It has seen little usage in the past. The GMC sponsors monthly zoom meetings to discuss ways to communicate with the public and members. Brooks volunteered to be our Communications Officer and to attend these meetings.

Announcements:

June 11 - GMC Annual Meeting at the headquarters in Waterbury

June 23 - Brighton Trails Day, meet at 8:30 AM at the Brighton Pavilion

July 23 - Jeff and Cathy will lead a hike

Ken is looking for volunteers to lead outings (hikes, paddles, bike rides)

Elections:

Howard Van Benthuyzen made a motion that the Secretary cast one ballot to reinstate all current officers, Walter Pomroy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimously in favor.

- President:** Ken Whitehead
- Vice President:** Russ Ford
- Treasurer:** Walter Pomroy
- Secretary:** Sharon Whitehead
- Trails:** Jeff and Cathy Miller
- Shelters:** Russ Ford
- Board Member:** Kip Potter
- Communications:** Brooks Sturtevant
- Newsletter:** Ken and Sharon Whitehead

Other:

Howard spoke of his background and experience of being a shelter monitor on Camel’s Hump (Gorham Lodge).

He said the club was in good financial shape with a \$7 million endowment and \$4 million in the capital campaign. The GMC is going to build a new clubhouse in Waterbury. As for work to be done this year, the club wants to focus on the northern trail as the AT trail is in good shape. They will be eliminating all the old pit privies on the entire LT and replacing them with moldering or composting privies. Also, the GMC will be placing bear boxes in areas that require them. Howard has been making signs for the club for a number of years and said that if we need them, to contact him.

The meeting then adjourned at 5:05 and we gathered together for a potluck dinner. Thanks to Remi for being our grill master!

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Whitehead
Secretary

