

Green Mountain Club-Worcester Section
Annual Meeting Minutes
Camp Headquarters-Rawson Street, Leicester, MA

Minutes as recorded by Secretary Lisa Carpenter:

The annual meeting was held at the Whitman Lodge on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at 4 p.m. The group gathered to enjoy the traditional pot luck dinner consisting of chicken and side fixings provided by a collaborative group effort. The group was joined by featured speaker Bill Caulway. The meeting was officially opened by Section President, Ram Moennsad.

A motion was made and accepted to approve the 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes prepared by **Lisa Carpenter, Secretary** which were enclosed within the meeting handout materials.

Margos Stone, Treasurer, followed by providing his report on the fiscal year's financial activity. For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, the year ended with an excess of revenues over expenses in the amount of \$1,472.89 in comparison with \$1,034.26 for the prior fiscal year. The increase in surplus was driven primarily by the increase in cash gifts received. Expenses were up less in comparison even after factoring in a one-time donation in FY17 in the amount of \$500 to the VT headquarters. Total cash on hand as of September 30th was \$11,220.95.

Steve Crowe provided an update on the trail maintenance activities. There were 2 trips during the year for trail maintenance. One was a spring trip and the other was a trip to Wachusett Mountain. The spring trip to the group's section of the Long Trail included the replacement of wooden steps and the completion of a 12-13 mile stretch of trail maintenance.

Lisa Carpenter presented the membership update prepared by **Sandy Snow, Membership Director** who was unable to attend the meeting. She reported 110 active members, 12 new joining members, 30 dropped memberships, and 1 deceased member as the current period census data for the Worcester section.

John Oliva, Director, provided an overview of his role as a director. The role includes attending 4 meetings per year at the Corporate Headquarters and actively participating in brainstorming and governance. During the past year the challenges were mainly focused on the strategic plan and evaluating the best uses of the organization's annual \$1.4M operating budget. The goals include increasing membership which has dipped from 10,000 to its current level of 9,500. John indicated he would be stepping down as Director and Ram presented him with a gift of appreciation for all his years of wonderful representation from our section.

John Oliva, Camp Committee chairperson provided an update on the significant work done on both the grounds and inside the camp lodge. He particularly wanted to acknowledge the efforts of Ram, Dick, Jerry, Janet, Sherron, and Pat.

Sherron Carson represented the **Nominating Committee**, made a motion to appoint the following officers and committee chairs:

Officers

President: Ram Moennsad	Vice President: Bill Caulway
Secretary: Lisa Carpenter	Treasurer: Margos Stone
Director: Mike Peckar	Membership: Sandra Snow

Trails and Shelter Committee

Chairperson: Steve Crowe
Members: Denis LaForce, Mike Peckar and Margos Stone

Camp Committee

Chairperson: Ram Moennsad
Members: Sandra Snow, John Oliva, Richard Kisten, Sherron Carson, Mike Peckar, Bill Caulway, Patricia Faron and Gerry Vayo.

Nominating Committee

Chairperson: Sherron Carson
Members: Sandra Snow and Richard Kisten

The motion was seconded and approved.

Other business announcements included the launching of a website for the Worcester Section by Mike Peckar and his wife. The site's domain name is gmcwoo.org and it includes a link to the website of the corporate headquarters.

John Oliva provided an overview of the Bromley Mountain fire tower replacement project. As explained to him by Marge Fish, this initiative provides exposure to hiking evidenced by the day hikers that frequent the area. Lisa Carpenter made a motion to consider the Worcester Section making a donation and Mike Peckar proposed \$500. This motion was approved by the group.

Ram thanked everyone for their efforts over the past year as President of the Worcester Section.

Following the conclusion of the official business of the meeting, Bill Caulway gave a very engaging presentation of his experiences hiking both the Long Trail and Appalachian Trail. He provided a slide-show which captured both the humorous and awe inspiring moments he encountered. He also provided practical knowledge on the importance of packing appropriately and fielded several questions from the audience.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM following his presentation.