

OHA Annual Meeting
Meeting Minutes, November 4, 2023
Called to Order: 7:15pm

Attendance

There were 53 voting members in attendance, and a quorum was established. After a roll call across the decades, it was clear that 1960s represented in the greatest numbers!

President (Stroker Rogovin)

Stroker went through a number of recognitions including:

- Cabin Committee: Brian Post, Emily Benson, and Schroeder Steward
- Website: Schroeder Steward and Brian Post
- Steering Committee
- 4 huts managers at today's event: Joel White, Ken Olson, Chris Thayer, Benny Taylor
- Current AMC staff
- Tonight's speakers: Nicole Zussman, Brian Fowler

AMC President (Nicole Zussman)

Nicole expressed her connection to the AMC mission and personal history with the huts from visiting Galehead in July 2014. She spoke some about peer competition and how the organization will be focused on marketing, delivering on our promise, and turning around recent deficits through lodging. Nicole also drew a personal link between the huts and her experience with camps being about dear friends and shared values. She concluded by encouraging donations to legacy.outdoors.org.

Honorary Award (Ken Olson)

Ken spoke about the Honorary Award given to Betsy Bird, the former Head Secretary at Pinkham, and shared some photos from that presentation in Randolph in September.

Huts Update (Bethany Taylor and Amanda Fisher-Katz-Keohane)

All eight huts ran really well this year, although it was a wet season, with 27" of rain in July alone. Thanks to Amanda for all she did before departing for maternity leave and the staff who made it come together. Bethany echoed the "joy" that Nicole spoke about in the mission with what happens in the huts.

Current Croo Huts Update (Samana Young and Tom Oliver)

Much in the huts remain the same: pack high and tight using a diamond hitch, find entertainment indoors during rainy season, raiding may still happen, hut systems fail sometimes and require ingenuity as well as some options for things like cooking steam in the compost bin, huts are still kept clean and tidy, it's a summer of spending time with friends and hiking, there may be some cell service in places but still none at Zealand, the huts offer many culinary delights but with more dietaries, sometimes cooking efforts still fail, but we live for the magical sunsets and sunrises and work with incredible people. Thanks to previous generations of OH for making this possible.

Treasurer Report (Alex Ziko)

We had another good year, with the current fund balance being \$143,959, which is up 13.3% from last year. Over the past year, we did a lot to increase efficiency, reduce costs, and find frictionless ways to take in revenue. Thanks to all OHA members.

Presentation of the following Steering Committee Officers and Members-at-large for 2024

Lawrence “Stroker” Rogovin: President
Phoebe Howe: Vice-President
Anne-Laure “AL” Razat for Treasurer
Jared Liu: Secretary
Emma “EB” Brandt: Resuscitator Editor
Carter Bascom: Secretary Emeritus
Kim “Schroeder” Steward: Website
Bethany “Benny” Taylor: Huts ex officio
Jesse Carlson: Member at Large
Al Kamman: Member at Large
Doug Shaffer: Member at Large
Deirdre Vander Schaff: Member at Large
Gerry Whiting: Member at Large

Action: Alex made a motion to accept the whole slate, seconded by Phoebe Howe, unanimously approved

Cabin Update (Emily Benson)

Thanks to Mike Waddell who oversees special projects for cabin, the Cabin Committee (Schroeder, Dawson, and Liz Seabury), Spring Reunion (Richard Stetson, Bridget Qualey, Saphora Stetson), Landscaping (John Lammana), and Storm Window team (Dawson, Gloria). Projects completed in 2023 included: added a rear door from the 1st floor bunkroom, completed the fall firewood challenge, created a Code of Conduct, upgraded electrical, and recharged fire extinguishers.

Trails (Bill Barrett)

OH worked on the Old Humtmen’s Trail during Spring Reunion, participated in an OH volunteer day working on the Old Bridle Path as part of major work being done to the Franconia Loop.

Featured Speaker (Brian Fowler)

Brian is the Director of the Mount Washington Observatory and Director of the Old Man of the Mountain Legacy Fund. After leading an afternoon tour of the Old Man of the Mountain, Brian Fowler gave a talk about the site. The Old Man of the Mountain fell on May 3, 2003, and this year was the 20th Anniversary of the collapse. It’s a special site for many reasons including that Cannon Cliff is the largest cliff east of the Rocky Mountains. In the development of I-93, the state surveyed whether this rock formation could survive the development, and Brian participated in that work. Unfortunately, Conway Granite has poor tensile strength and has been eroding. 5000 of the 7500 tons of rock are still there and still unstable. Looking at future plans for that site and the larger historic site. Please feel free to make a donation to oldmannh.org (not .com).

Other Bidness

Use the cabin. It’s a great resource!

Land north of our cabin may be coming for sale in the near future. Stay tuned!

Next year: 5/11 Spring Reunion, 11/2 Fall Fest, Steering Committee meetings via Zoom quarterly, as well as some additional social events.

- Virtual: 1/9, 4/16, 6/11, 9/24, 11/19

- In-person: 2/24 Bertucci's Cambridge, 5/10 at Shannon Door, 5/11 Spring Reunion, 11/2 Fallfest

Thanks to Phoebe Howe for planning the Annual Meeting and to Gerry Whiting for toast.

Phoebe also ran a survey at the registration table for folks to weigh in about hosting this event at Pinkham Notch next year. Pinkham would allow for deeper connections to that place, it's 20% cheaper for food and lodging, and it is BYOB. The downside is that the gathering spaces are smaller. So most of the gatherings from dinner to business meeting would be in the dining room. Message the Steering Committee if you didn't register a vote.

Next Steering Committee Meetings will be on:

Nov. 14, 2023, 6:30 PM, via Zoom

URL: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3105879688?pwd=bW1NQXnNUZPaURCdi9EdXBtM3hkQT09>

Or Phone: 929-205-6099, Meeting Number: 3105879688#, Passcode: 780291#

Adjourned: 9:10pm