

PATC North Chapter Spring Meeting
Gypsy Spring Cabin
Arendtsville, PA

Minutes of November 3, 2012

Participants

North Chapter Officers

Bob Wise (President), David Trone (Treasurer), Mary Clark (Secretary)

North Chapter Committee Chairs

Pete Brown (District Manager, North Chapter), Dewey Clark (Nominations/Coordinated Activities), Bob Creter (Publicity), Chris Firme (Hikes)

PATC Members

Dave Coover, Grant Olson, Tom Rostek, Randy Sanders, Kathy Seiler, Dan Smith, Pat Thomas

Ridge Runners

Robert Freeman

Guests

Marlene Chojnowski
Larry Luxemburg – representing the AT Museum

Call to Order

PATC North Chapter President, Bob Wise, called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

Announcements

- Bob Wise encouraged everyone to attend the annual PATC awards banquet on November 13 at the Atrium at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens in Vienna, Virginia. Bob noted that Al Black will receive an honorary lifetime membership and Gene Leese will receive the Hawksbill Award. Mike Leese will be given a Service Award for bringing his portable saw mill and working with North Chapter members to cut siding for Little Cove cabin and Reese Hollow shelter. Pete Brown said that Mike Leese recently joined PATC and is interested in doing trail work.
- Bob replied to letters received from young people who participated in Outward Bound.
- A letter has been drafted to Colonel Hodgson at the National Guard to request a helicopter to carry materials to Waggoner's Gap for the Charlie Irvin shelter.
- Thank you letters were sent to Kuhn Brothers for their donation of \$5,000 worth of logs for the Charlie Irvin shelter and to Howard and Edie who delivered the logs.

Minutes – The June 2, 2012 minutes were presented and approved.

Treasurer's Report – David Trone reported that the North Chapter currently has \$1,821.78 in its account. Expenses since June 2nd include reimbursements to Mary Clark and Peter Muschamp for the Reese Hollow shelter dedication food; Esther Aulhouse for the spring meeting and corn roast; and Chris Firme for the redbud tree in honor of Elizabeth Johnson. Several other reimbursements are still in process. A detailed copy of the Treasurer's Report was provided to accompany the November 3, 2012 minutes.

Membership Report – Steve Koeppen was not present, but Pete Brown noted that the current mailing list for work trips contains 286 members.

Hikes Report – Chris Firme said there were no hikes to report. However North Chapter members have been hiking with the Road Scholars group.

Publicity Report – Bob Creter recommended that we publicize the construction of the Charlie Irvin Shelter, especially if the National Guard provides a helicopter to transport the materials.

Lands Report – Jim Peterson was not present. Pete Brown reported that the no trespassing issue has been resolved on the Tuscarora Trail near Burd Run shelter. Pete put up signs at either end of the hunt club property so it is clear that hikers can pass through this section.

Trails Report from District Managers

Pennsylvania – Pete Brown reported that signs are needed for the Audubon and Reineman areas. Rush Williamson recently completed a through hike on the Tuscarora Trail. Pete reported on areas that need attention and noted that Rush recommended more blazes for very rocky sections of the trail. Pete also said that additional overseers are needed from Crane's Gap to Long's Gap.

- **Maryland** – Rick Canter was not present

Nominations & Coordinated Activities – Dewey Clark reported that nominations should be submitted at the May 2013 meeting for North Chapter elections in November.

New Business

1. Budget Announcement and KTA Donation

Bob Wise said that PATC Treasurer, Jay Jupiter, had requested more information about the North Chapter's bank account. Jay wanted to know about the Chapter's ability to raise funds, the amount donated to KTA, and other matters. Bob wrote a letter to Jay about the importance of the North Chapter's independence regarding budget decisions.

Pete Brown explained that in the past, PATC gave each chapter money based on the number of members in the club's zipcode areas. More recently, each chapter submits a proposed budget for annual expenses to PATC, which may or may not get fully funded. Pete noted that Jay has brought better control of expenses and better reporting to PATC. However, Jay needs to know that the North Chapter has made an annual donation to KTA for many years because they do a great deal for our chapter. There should not be any question about whether the North Chapter should donate to KTA. Bob Wise and Dave Trone will look into the payment of the North Chapter's annual dues to KTA.

2. Shelter Name

There was discussion about naming the Charlie Irvin shelter. Some members had suggested the name should be "Charlie's Shelter," while others preferred "Charlie Irvin Shelter." Pete Brown noted that there are many Charlie's in the club and he recommended "Charlie Irvin Shelter." Everyone agreed with Pete's recommendation.

3. Waynesboro's Interest in Becoming an AT Trail Town

Kathy Seiler reported on the process for Waynesboro to become an official AT Trail Town. The city will need a letter of endorsement from a local trail club. This would benefit the club by having more people participate in trail maintenance. The town would benefit by having an increased number of visitors and publicity, which would help local businesses. Each AT Trail

Town must host an annual event around the time many through hikers are in the area. It was agreed that the North Chapter should write a letter endorsing Waynesboro as an AT Trail Town.

4. Update on the AT Museum

Larry Luxemburg discussed the next stage of work at the AT Museum at Pine Grove Furnace. The museum has been open for three years now. Larry noted that many North Chapter members worked on the first floor renovation. There are two more floors to be renovated, in addition to the exterior ramp to make the building ADA compliant. Larry said the next stage of work will begin in the spring and they are interested getting volunteers to help with this project.

5. Handicapped Accessible Trail

Robert Freeman recommended that Michaux Road to Tom's Run would make a great section of trail that could be handicapped accessible. Many people would be interested in working on this first PATC accessible trail section. This work could be done in cooperation with DCNR, particularly with their construction equipment for enlarging the parking lot. There were concerns expressed that this type of work is better performed by the state or DCNR, and not trail volunteers. The question was also raised about making the privy handicapped accessible, and the type of privy that would be approved by the state. It was noted that this work is not in the current PATC budget. We would also need to get ATC approval for this project. Members voted to have Robert approach ATC about the feasibility for a handicapped accessible trail section.

6. Spring meeting date and place – the next meeting of the North Chapter will take place at Gypsy Spring Cabin after the AT work trip on Saturday, May 4, 2013.

Old Business

Bob Wise showed members a plaque for Esther Aulhouse, in appreciation for her cooking at various North Chapter events. Pete Brown offered to take the plaque to Esther.

Other Announcements

Pete thanked Pat Thomas for preparing the supper for today's North Chapter meeting.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

*Mary Clark, Secretary
PATC North Chapter*