

**PATC North Chapter Spring Meeting**  
**Gypsy Spring Cabin**  
**Arendtsville, PA**

**Minutes of May 4, 2013**

**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), Chris Firme (Hikes)

**PATC Members**

Esther Aulthouse, Al Black, Roy Brown, Rick Canter, Lee Fischbach, Robert Freeman, Michelle Hewitt, Ken May, Tom Rostek, Kathy Seiler, Dee Utz

**Call to Order**

PATC North Chapter President, Bob Wise, called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m.

**Announcements**

- Roy Brown was introduced as a new member.
- Construction is beginning on the second floor porch at the AT Museum. Jack Adams is leading this project and has requested volunteers to help with the work.

**Minutes** – the November 3, 2012 minutes were presented and approved.

**Treasurer's Report** – David Trone reported that the North Chapter had \$1,821.78 in its account as of the November 2012 meeting. Recent transactions included reimbursement for the fall meeting supper, the cost of Esther's plaque, and an anonymous donation, among other items. Our current balance is \$2,011.23. The Treasurer's Report was approved as submitted.

Robert Freeman asked about covering expenses for PATC equipment maintenance, such as a weed eater. This type of receipt should be given to Pete Brown, for reimbursement from PATC. The club pays members for equipment repairs.

**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 since the last meeting.

**Publicity Report** – Publicity Chair Bob Creter was not present. Michelle Hewitt reported that the Earth Day event at Fort Detrick was canceled due to the budget sequestration.

**Lands Report** – Jim Peterson was not present. Bob Wise described an 18-acre property on the Tuscarora trail near PA Route 34. The property is on the market for \$106,000 and includes a well and pump, a privy, an older cabin, and a newer cabin (neither cabin has electricity). Bob also shared pictures of the property and buildings and mentioned that the land is about 10 miles from the Charlie Irvin shelter site. Information has been shared with Jim Peterson, who will get more details on the property. There may be issues of access to the property, since it is surrounded by other privately owned land.

## Reports from District Managers

- **Pennsylvania** – Pete Brown provided information about a timber sale near Chris Firme's section, outside of the AT corridor. There is also a prescribed burn being planned for 52 acres in Michaux State Forest near Pine Grove Furnace. The burn is intended to eliminate undesirable birch saplings and a thick layer of dead leaves, which will then allow acorns to sprout in this area.
- **Maryland** – Rick Canter reported on the relocation of the AT through Fox Gap at Wise's Farmstead, a Civil War historic site. Rick gave details of the relocation and the plan to move a parking lot at the site, however this is a long-term project. Rick also provided updates on staff turnover at the Maryland DNR. He explained that Hurricane Sandy caused substantial damage in the Manor area, resulting in this section being closed until Memorial Day. In addition, Rick stated that the FCC has approved the 200-foot communication tower that will be visible from the Weaverton Cliffs overlook. We have been fighting this tower construction for five years, but no construction has occurred yet.

**Nominations & Coordinated Activities** – Dewey Clark reported that nominations are needed for President and Nominations Chair, for elections at the fall meeting. David Trone (Treasurer) and Mary Clark (Secretary) will serve another year.

## New Business

1. **News on Charlie Irvin** – there was no news about Charlie.
2. **Waynesboro** – Kathy Seiler reported that Earth Day at the Renfrew Institute went very well. People were interested in purchasing maps and also requested information about volunteer activities. Unfortunately Waynesboro was not selected to be an AT Trail Town, but the town may reapply in the near future.
3. **Air National Guard** – Bob said that the Air National Guard is not able to provide a helicopter to transport materials to the Charlie Irvin shelter site. Members discussed ways to recruit volunteers to help with this task. Al Black said that as soon as the siding is finished at Little Cove cabin, we can start work on Charlie's shelter.
4. **GPS Rangers** – Jim Tomlin would like some help setting up and tearing down for the GPS training at Little Cove next weekend. Several members volunteered to help Jim.
5. **Gladfelter Cabin** – Pete would like Charlie Gutridge to look at the cabin. Charlie is the overseer at Milesburn cabin and is also a building inspector. There are many problems with Gladfelter including the upstairs, which is in poor condition. The septic system is a mystery, the well needs filtration, and the electrical system needs to be checked. Mel Merritt is not sure this cabin is a worthwhile investment for PATC. It may be more of a financial drain than a source of revenue.

**Fall meeting date and place:** November 2 at Gypsy Spring, after the work trip.

[Note: the date and location were subsequently changed to December 7 at Silberman cabin.]

**Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

*Mary Clark, Secretary  
PATC North Chapter*