

**PATC North Chapter Meeting
Gypsy Spring Cabin**

Minutes of November 7, 2015

Participants

North Chapter Officers:

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

North Chapter Committee Chairs:

Chris Firme (Hikes), Jim Peterson (Lands)

PATC Members:

Esther Aulhouse, Sam Aulhouse, June Ecker, George Finney, Beth Firme, Blaine Mummert,
Peter Muschamp, Tom Rostek, Kathy Seiler, Dan Smith

Call to Order

PATC North Chapter President, Bob Wise, called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Announcements

- Bob Wise welcomed members and guests. He noted that PATC North Chapter election of officers is scheduled for this meeting. As he had explained earlier this year, Bob will not be running for President for another term.
- Bob has the North Chapter budget for next year if anyone would like to see it.

Minutes

The minutes of May 2, 2015 were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report

David Trone reported a balance in May 2015 of \$1,831.03. Expenses from May to November included meals at worktrips and meetings, the through-hiker luncheon, and the annual donation to the Keystone Trails Association (KTA). The North Chapter received reimbursements from PATC for several items including the plaque for Deborah Bowman at the Charlie Irvin shelter. David noted that the current balance is \$1,906.03.

Membership Report

Steve Koeppen was not able to attend, but Bob stated that 366 individuals are on the roster to receive information about worktrips.

Hikes Report

Chris Firme has been hiking with the Roads Scholars group. Chris also reported on the Greater Waynesboro area hikes the second Saturday of each month.

Publicity Report

Bob Creter was not present to give the publicity report.

Lands Report

Jim Peterson explained that the Club has not been very active this past year in acquiring lands. It will be interesting to see what happens in 2016 with the implementation of the PATC Strategic Plan. Jim then reported that the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy (CPC) is interested in purchasing land to protect the Tuscarora Trail. The CPC is active in Adams, Franklin, Perry, and Cumberland counties. Jim and Pete Brown plan to meet with the CPC to discuss this further.

District Manager Reports

Maryland – Rick Canter said that all is well in Maryland. Recent worktrips have been dedicated to clearing blowdowns and controlling erosion. Rick reported that Jim Tomlin and the GPS Rangers are doing the Maryland section now.

Pennsylvania – Pete Brown and Dewey Clark were unable to attend the meeting.

Bob Wise's Service as North Chapter President

David Trone requested time on the agenda to honor Bob's service as President. He was elected to this position in November 2009 and served three terms through November 2015. Among the North Chapter's accomplishments during Bob's tenure are:

Construction:

- Tuscarora Trail Shelters--Burd Run, Reese Hollow, Charlie Irvin (plus dedication ceremonies for each one)
- Bridges: Silberman, Aughwick Creek
- Cabins: Little Cove - extensive renovations (plus dedication)

Partnerships and Outreach:

- Continued funding for and collaboration with KTA
- AT Trail Community designation for Waynesboro
- Annual hiker's picnic at Pine Grove Furnace

Membership and Volunteerism:

- Growth in North Chapter members and trail work participation, especially on the AT
- Significant increase in annual volunteer hours for North Chapter members (in 2014 -- 4,700 hours, not counting travel)

Service to PATC:

Bob traveled to most monthly PATC Council meetings to represent the North Chapter (Carlisle, PA to Vienna, VA is 200+ miles round trip)

The North Chapter members congratulated Bob on his six years of outstanding service as President.

Election of Officers

Bob Wise reported that Rick Canter (Vice President), Dave Trone (Treasurer), and Mary Clark (Secretary) have each agreed to serve another term if elected. Bob asked for nominations from the floor for the position of President. Jim Peterson stated that he would serve in this position, since no one else is stepping forward. Bob presented the slate of officers to the group and called for a vote. The vote was unanimous for the 2016-2017 North Chapter officers: Jim Peterson as President; Rick Canter as Vice President; Dave Trone as Treasurer; Mary Clark as Secretary.

Other Announcements

George Finney said that he will talk to Pete Brown about getting a road widened to allow a septic truck access to pump the privy at his shelter.

Kathy Seiler reported on the first Family Hiking Day in the Waynesboro area. Kathy, Chris Firme, and Kurt and Tawnya Finney are promoting hiking at different Waynesboro community events. They are hoping that some participants may become interested in volunteering for trail work. Other North Chapter members are welcome to help with these hikes.

Spring 2015 Meeting

The next North Chapter meeting will be held at Gypsy Spring on May 7, 2016 following the AT worktrip.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.

Mary Clark
North Chapter Secretary