

PATC North Chapter Minutes

May 7, 2016

Gypsy Spring Cabin

Participants:

North Chapter Officers

Jim Peterson (President), Rick Canter (Vice President and MD District Manager),
David Trone (Treasurer), Mary Clark (Secretary)

North Chapter Committee Chairs

Pete Brown and Dewey Clark (PA District Managers), Chris Firme (Hikes), Steve Koeppen
(Membership)

PATC Members

Jack Adams, Esther Aulthouse, George Finney, Kevin Kramer, Michael Leahy, Gene Leese,
Ken May, Peter Muschamp, Tom Reed, Dee Utz, Jen Wright

President's Remarks: PATC North Chapter President, Jim Peterson, called the meeting to order at 3:50 pm and welcomed members to the spring meeting.

Secretary's Report: The November 7, 2015 North Chapter meeting minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Trone reported that the North Chapter received an anonymous donation of \$100. Dave has moved the checking account to a bank closer to his home, and the Trone family covered bank fees and costs for new checks in the amount of \$81.00. Recent expenses included reimbursement for Esther's get well flowers and the fall meeting food. The North Chapter account balance is currently \$1,862.94.

Membership Report: Pete Brown and Steve Koeppen have been updating the mailing list. There are 379 individuals and trail partners on the list and 198 of those receive work trip announcements. Steve and Pete presented three options for making the email lists more efficient. All options have both pros and cons. Privacy and ease of use issues need to be considered. Additional discussion on the mailing lists will occur at the next meeting.

Maryland Trails Report: Rick Canter noted some issues this past winter with a privy, which were resolved, and some camp pads that were improved with additional stone dust. In June a group from Ann Arbor, MI removed an old campground at Gathland State Park. Other news involved trails in Catoctin State Park that a biking lobby will maintain and a new cabin at Cunningham Falls State Park that goes online in early July.

Trail

Pennsylvania Trails Report: Pete Brown and Dewey Clark reported that the Cadillac Crew has been working on the Tuscarora Trail and KTA will provide maintenance assistance in July. Birch Run privy will be pumped using a new "honey wagon" purchased by PATC to access remote privies. The North Chapter paid \$2,500 toward the purchase of the honey wagon. REI is going to help promote the Tuscarora Trail. There was an extended discussion about standing dead trees near the trail. Dewey will provide overseers with guidance from the land unit managers. The North Chapter hopes to offer a chainsaw certification course in spring 2017 at Little Cove. Individuals do not have to be AT maintainers to take the course.

Lands Report: Jim Peterson noted that there have been no land purchases or negotiations for land going on at this time. Jim reported on interest by the Central PA Conservancy in purchasing some significant land parcels to protect the Tuscarora Trail. More information will be forthcoming.

Publicity Report: Jim Peterson explained that Bob Wise is taking over publicity for the North Chapter. Although Bob could not attend this meeting, he has some proposals to present to us soon. One of Bob's areas of interest is to reach out to new members and to people who have expressed interest in the North Chapter. Bob is continuing his informal liaison role with the AT Museum, and with events such as the thru-hiker picnic.

PATC Election: Dewey Clark is the PATC Election Committee Chair. There will be a big article in this month's PA on rules and open positions for the PATC fall elections. Dewey noted that the Elections Committee will not be vetting the candidates. The Committee will also be encouraging absentee ballots. Dewey reminded everyone to read the candidate responses in the Sept. PA issue and vote. Many key issues are coming up this year for the club.

Upcoming North Chapter Events:

August Corn Roast—Saturday, August 6 at Gypsy Spring

Fall meeting—Saturday, November 5 at Gypsy Spring

Adjournment:

The May 7 North Chapter meeting adjourned at 5:28 pm.

Mary Clark

North Chapter Secretary