**Nawakwa Outdoor Association of New York, Inc.**

**2024 Open Board Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Date: August 14, 2024**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**VIA ZOOM**

**In attendance:** Ray Kozma, Susanne Flower, Suzanne Rocheleau, Dave Hayes, Marty McDonald, Ingrid Strauch, Carol Burns, Edie Blum (late)

**Excused:** Teri Gabel, Eve Mancuso, Alex Wilkie

**Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs:** Jerry Flower**,** Janet Sibarium, Andy Frank, Mary James, Mary Hilley, Marty Kellerman, Ellen King, Jess Scirbona, Kate Walker

**Also Present:** Steve Barre, Frank Bamberger, Mike Buccola, Bill Burns,

Herb Coles, Emily Crowell, June Fait, Elisabeth Griggs, Katya Hanson, William Hladky, Rosemary Irving, Mary James, Stephanie Lai, Yajing Li, Kathy McGuire, David Miller, Leni Tabb, Deirdre Tourin, and unidentified: “iPad”,“33” and “121001”

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

**Motion:** Motion to approve the BOD Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2024 was offered by

by Susanne Flower, seconded by Dave Hayes. Vote in favor of motion: Ray K, Suzanne F, Suzanne R, Dave H, Marty M. Ingrid S, Carol B.

Vote: Aye - 7, Nay – 0 Motion passes.

**Chair Report: Ray Kozma**

Our club stands firm and is flourishing since our disassociation from ADK. We’ve refreshed the work of our committees, have seen an influx of eager new members and are enjoying the benefits of renewed programs and activities that are at the core of our existence. Reports from all committees are provided on the NOANY website. The Hikes and Trails Committees have also provided a map showing sections of trails which need dedicated maintainers. Glen Nison has stepped down from being the Chair of the Hikes and Outings Committee for 27 years. We are deeply appreciative to Glen for sharing his time, energy and skills with us over the years. The new Co-Chairs of the Hiking Committee are Ingrid Strauch and Lewis Ports. As Board Chair, Ray experienced first-hand the good will, mutual respect, cooperation and friendship of keyholders, old and new, which will help us to continue to thrive in the future.

Opening Statements offered, report submitted and attached.

**Financial Report: Suzanne Rocheleau**

NOA finances are in good standing. Camp Insurance and Rent due to the Park (PIPC) continue to be our largest annual expenses. Our lease allows a discount up to 25% total rent due for any major capital improvements (MCI) on Park approved repairs to our campsite. In 2024 we used this discount against the rent for the building of the kayak boat dock. Over the past years we’ve run a small deficit which has been offset with savings and donations. For example, longtime member, Helga Feder, who passed away in 2022, bequeathed a generous 2.5% of her Estate to Nawakwa. The first distribution from her Estate, $20,250, will be helpful in offsetting some of our larger expenses as well as an assurance of having cash as needed for camp repairs and maintenance as needed.

Details presented, report submitted and attached.

**Secretary Report : Eve Mancuso** (Read by Ray Kozma)

As both Recording and Corresponding Secretary, some of my responsibilities include taking meeting minutes, and handling chapter correspondence and member communication. As the club has now moved towards electronic communication as a primary means of outreach, we are able to effectively and efficiently reach the vast majority of members. It is important that members inform the Secretary and/or the Membership Committee of any change of email address and other contact information. The Secretary will share with the Membership Committee any contact changes. It is critical to keep the list current so all members can receive up to date information.

Upcoming Elections: You will be receiving a UPSP mailed and emailed Notice and Proxy Ballot. There will be multiple ways to respond and submit your mail for the proxy vote: 1) by USPS mail to the P.O. Box, 2) by scanning your completed Proxy Ballot and emailing it to me or by filling in the on-line Proxy Ballot found in the Members section of the website. Additionally, in person voting and tallying will take place at Camp Nawakwa and the results posted on the website and in the Trail Marker.

For the full Secretary Report, please see attached.

**Membership Report: Jerry Flower**

2022 was the last year of our Nawakwa-ADK relationship; there were 229 keyholders with 27 applicants and 5 new keyholders.

2023 when we legally became NOA, we lost approximately 20% of keyholders. However, we added 18 new keyholders and 13 applicants.

In 2024 (in the first 7 months we lost a few members due to death, health or moved away). The current number of keyholders is 205. We added 10 new keyholders. There are currently 19 applicants.

The Membership Committee has contacted new applicants within a month of signing up to encourage them to participate in the qualifying events.

Membership report submitted and attached, including statistics and strategies for increasing Applicant Conversations to Keyholder-ship.

Also attached is the Locker Inventory and Status.

**Camp Committee Report: Dave Hayes**

We had two successful workdays so far. Oct. 12 – 13 will be Fall Workday and we’ll have a Wood Day. As an all-volunteer staff, we depend on active volunteers. The Camp Committee has 7 members, but we’ll welcome new members.

2023-2024 Work Completed: Closing/Winterize Camp. Had enough wood to last entire winter. The cabin roofs on Cabins 1 and 6 were repaired by the Park at no cost to us. Spring Opening Season: opened the swim docks and a major brush clearing near the gazebo. Replaced the Swim Dock Ladder that was lost. Main Swim Dock Repair was completed. Floating Swim Platform was replaced. Old boat rack that was broken was repaired. A new 9 position boat rack was constructed.

Early Summer Workday: inside and outside cabins. We have a new wireless vacuum which can be carried/used in the cabins.

Rockland County Dept of Health tested (last July) our well water, and it was found safe to drink. Results are posted in Dave’s report. The Dept. of Health requires that we have a sign “non potable” even though it passed the test.

If you see something that needs to be done, please contact the Camp Committee.

Camp@noany.org

Details presented, report submitted and attached.

**NOANY Communications Report**

The Trail Marker, which Ray Kozma continues to serve as Editor, needs additional support. We are seeking a Nawakwan, who can volunteer a few hours every couple of months, to help edit the Trail Marker.

Our noany.org website also needs an additional Nawakwan to help. Please contact Marty McDonald or Jessica Scirbona.

Details presented, report submitted and attached.

**Trail Maintenance Committee Report: Co-Chairs: Mary James, Andrew Frank**

Report Submitted and attached

**Hosting Committee Report: Mary Hilley, Maryanne Poris**

Despite camp closings due to storm and repair work, we are having a solid season. Hosted weekends have increased participation with a marked increase in overnight stays at camp. More hosts are still needed. A few Nawakwans host multiple weekends.

Detailed Report submitted and attached

**Activities Committee Report: Edie Blum**

Report submitted and attached

**Archives Committee Report: Ellen King**

Report submitted and attached

**Hiking and Outings Committee Report: Co-Chairs: Lewis Ports, Ingrid Strauch**

Approved additional hike leaders (in addition to co-chairs):

Andy Frank, Bill Hladky, Ray Kozma, Stephani Lai, Oliver Lunt, Glen Nison, Alex Wilkie

Three Trails need a dedicated maintainer (See attached Map in Report)

Detailed Report and Map submitted and attached

**Conservation Committee Report: Marty Kellerman**

**Environmental Education Committee Report: Marty Kellerman**

Detailed Reports submitted and attached

**Questions from Keyholders:**

From Rosemary Irving:

1. I would like to suggest a sign-up to be placed at the desk with the sign out materials, a list for people desiring an early morning swim. (Dave replied that it will be suggested to weekend hosts.)
2. I am interested to know about the plans and fiscal requirements to repair the waterfront. The dock, the roping off the designated swim area and the raft, etc.

This information would be useful in regard to our annual contribution amts.

**Other Matter:** Ray reminded keyholders that, during off-season, the camp can be accessed and used only with permission from the Park Key can contact Ray who will submit the need Permit application to the Park. Requests should be made at least one week prior to the visit.

**Calendar of Upcoming Events:**

1. Sunday, August 24th Summer Maintenance Day
2. Sunday, Sept. 1st: Labor Day BBQ – hosted weekend
3. Saturday, Sept. 14th: Octoberfest
4. Next Board Meeting: Sept. 21st
5. Saturday, October 12th – Fall Work Weekend

There were 42 participants joining the meeting by Zoom.

**Motion to adjourn the meeting**: via Suzanne Rocheleau

Seconded: Edie Blum

Meeting adjourned 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Sibarium (for Eve Mancuso)

August 29, 2024