

Nawakwa Outdoor Association of New York Inc.
Meeting Minutes

Date: 12-11-24

Time: 7 pm

Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Board Members: Ray Kozma, Carol, Burns, Dave Hayes, Suzanne Rocheleau, Marty McDonald, Alex Wilkie, Ingrid Strauch, Edi Blum (joined 8:18 pm)

Excused: Susanne Flower

Absent: Teri Gabel

Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs and Members

Ellen King, Janet Sibarium, Andy Frank, Mary James, Mary Ann Poris

Excused: Jerry Flower, Marty Kellerman

Motion: accept meeting minutes from November 13, 2024, meeting. Suzanne F offered the motion, seconded by Ingrid S. Vote: Aye: Ray K, Carol B, Dave H, Marty M, Alex W, Ingrid S. Nay = 0, Abstain: Eve M.

Chair's Report - Ray Kozma

- Ray noted this was his last meeting as Chair. He voiced his deep appreciation of the Board, Committees, and members, and noted the successful year was made possible due to the teamwork of all members. He looks forward to the 100 Year Anniversary of our camp, which opened on April 17, 1926.

- Winter Social 1-26-24. Eve to send out an email blast reminder.

Treasurer Report - Suzanne Rocheleau

- Sent out thank you letters to Ed O'Donnell for the donation of the delivery and rental of the wood splitter for wood day and Karen Lichtig for the donation of art supplies.
- Year end financials will be prepared for the January meeting. Budget will be reviewed and discussed.
- To date: 2 payments have been received for the Winter Social.

- Discussion regarding budget and fees: Keep passport cost at \$ 150/year.
Motion- in the interest of covering camp costs an increase in the Annual Fee was discussed. **Motion** was offered by Eve M., seconded by Suzanne to increase the Annual Fee for members to \$ 45 per year for 2025. Vote: Aye- unanimous.
- Membership will be notified of the fee in the mid to end of December. Notice will be sent out by the Membership Committee and posted on the website. Fee will be due no later than January 31, 2025.

Secretary Report – Eve Mancuso

- The search to recruit a replacement for the Secretary position continues.
- The letters for the Annual Appeal have been mailed. Edi and Brian Blum donated labels, and mailing supplies as well as printed the labels. The three of us then had a “mailing party” and all members received a US Postal Service mailing.

Membership Committee – Janet Sibarium and Jerry Flower

- Lillian Zwyns – 50 years membership, thus will now benefit from no Annual Fee or day fees.
- Currently there are 207 members.
- Currently there are 18 applicants.
- The Membership Committee will be notifying all members of the new Annual Fee amount as well as the deadline to submit the fee.

Camp Committee Chair – Dave Hayes

- Dave continues to work in the off season, checking weekly on camp.
- Discussion with PIPC re: capital items for reimbursement, Approved Item 4 stone expenditure as a capital improvement project by PIPC. Purchased stone from Sloatsburg Nursery, \$ 550.
- Projects: Install permanent handrail down to waterfront. This project was considered a high priority to address recurring member inquiries and enhance accessibility for all.
Proposal to hire an outside firm to install posts and concrete as this is the most difficult, tedious part of the construction, Cost = \$3950. There will be 10 wood posts, railing material and hardware at a cost of approx., \$ 1500, material will be hemlock or cedar.
There is potential of \$ 1328 for an MCI credit towards this project.

Motion: approve expenditure of funds for the handrail project- \$ 4200, with MCI or \$ 5500 without MCI. Motion offered by Dave H, seconded by Marty M. Vote: Aye = unanimous.

- Trail Camera- update on status. There will be 2 trail cameras, with solar panels- and signage. The cameras will be focused on the lodge for safety and security purposes.

Hosting Committee - Mary Ann Poris and Mary Hilley – no report

Activities Committee – Edi Blum- no report

Website Committee – Marty McDonald

There seems to be an increase in scam calls, texts etc. allegedly sent from members asking for funds, most commonly the purchase of “gift cards”. Information will be posted on the website to educate members that we will NOT solicit funds, credit cards or any donation by this means.

Hikes and Outings Committee – Ingrid Strauch and Lewis Ports

A number of outings have been led by Marty M- Central Park, World Trade center, High Line. These are posted in the Trail Marker when available and posted on the website.

Wilderness First Aid Class – a wilderness first aid class will be offered to members. Max 24 members, 16 hours of class time and test- It will be scheduled for some time in April. There is a minimum requirement of 9 participants. Ingrid will determine if there is sufficient interest to proceed with the class.

Trails Committee - Andy Frank and Mary James – no report

Conservation Committee - Kate Walker- no report

Environmental Education Committee - Marty Kellerman – no report

Archives Committee - Ellen King

- After many years as archivist, Ellen will resign in December 2024. She explained her work archiving all of the paper files has been completed. Going forward, an electronic system should be developed. The Archivist role will be online, electronic data not so much paper as it has been in years past.

- To store the files discussion followed regarding the availability of space in the basement. There are shelf units available at \$ 99 per 4 shelf unit at Home Depot. We will check with Jerry to see if there is locker space available in basement that may be re=purposed as shelf space for the archives. Dave will investigate further.

Old Business

- Discussion regarding a potential Awards Committee as well as keeping track of 50-year members. Tabled for further discussion.
- Winter weekend- discussion regarding the use of a wood stove or fireplace. Safety and training needed. This should be a focus in orientation of new members.

Next meeting is 1-15-25.

Adjourn 9:20 pm Motion to adjourn by Suzanne R, seconded by Edi B. Vote” Aye – unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,



Eve Mancuso, Secretary