

TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monthly Meeting

June 5, 2024

Members Present:

John Barnes, Bill Bunch, Bruce Davidson, Andy Grayson, Lee Lohman, Mike Martin, Kaci Midgette, Kama Mitchell, Jim Newman, Greg Reck, Peg Seriani, Rich Seriani, John Sima and Lelia Vann

Members Absent:

Sandra Canepa, Brittany Collins, Kevin Dubois, Paul Heymann, Greg Hodges, Ned Kuhns, Sharon Salyer, Jim Sexton and Don Williams

- Welcome and Call to Order:** The meeting, with a quorum, was called to order by President Vann at 7:00 p.m.
- Proceedings of Previous Meeting:** The May 2024 Board meeting minutes were accepted without amendment.
- Finance:** Andy Grayson presented the Treasurer's report. The club had several larger expenses get paid out this month (such as insurance, property taxes, storage unit, spring maintenance food, Garmin), but they all came in right around their expected costs. The two areas that seem to be running somewhat high are AfiniPay expenses and Cabin Maintenance expenses. I've done an assessment of current AfiniPay expenses and if we continue at the same rate as the 1st Quarter, we'll be about \$450 over budget. I don't know what the Cabin Committee has planned going forward, but they should maintain budget awareness. Balance: April 2024: \$41,816.44. Current May balance is \$38,981.45.
- Membership:** Kama Mitchell presented the Membership report. April 2024: 459 members. We are down to 434 after the latest purge. Current membership is 434 members.

A friend of Bill Billings, Holt Livesay, sent a \$250 check donation and letter to TATC after hiking AT. Lelia will send a personal Thank You note to Mr. Livesay.

Jim: What I identify as the total number of members currently active is 434 people (covered by family and single memberships, not lapsed, but may be with renewal overdue)

- Total Records - We have 347 membership records whether single or family memberships, and we have 3 admin records for a total of 350 different membership records.
- Active Records - We have 291 active membership records for 434 people (does not include 3 admin records), it does include those with overdue dues that haven't lapsed but does not include those who have lapsed.
- Renewal Overdue Records - We have 66 records that are overdue, covering 89 members who are still listed as active, since they haven't lapsed.
- Lapsed Records - We have 47 lapsed records, covering 65 people.

5. Reported/Discussed:

A. Trail Supervisor Report - John Sima, Trail Supervisor

- June 7-9: Swingblade & Lopperfest #1 Moved to Discussion below...
- July 12-14: Swingblade & Lopperfest #2
- August 9-11: Swingblade & Lopperfest #3
- October 11-13: Fall Backpacking Walk thru
- October 25-27: Fall Maintenance

B. Cabin Report - Gregory Hodges/Kevin DuBois, Cabin Committee

- June 21-23: Cabin Maintenance Volunteer obtained.
- September 13-15: Cabin Maintenance

-November 1-3: Cabin Maintenance Still needs a volunteer.

C. Local Trails Report - Paul Heymann, Local Trail Supervisor

-June 20: Bamboo Big Whack Attack at FLSP Thursday 9AM -3PM
-June 22: Bamboo Big Whack Attack at FLSP Saturday 9AM -12PM

D. Safety Report - Bruce Davidson, Safety Committee Chair

- Moved to Discussion below...

E. Program Report - Lee Lohman, Program Chair

-June 12 GMM: Guest Speaker - Tanya Wisoker on the history of FLSP
-July 10 GMM: Guest Speaker - Lance Deaver on how to stop a major hemorrhage
-August 14 GMM: Guest Speaker - Ned Kuhns on Hadrian's Wall Path in Scotland
-September 11 GMM: Guest Speaker - Pam Northam on Ryan Resilience Lab/Elizabeth River Project

F. Tool Shed Report - Rich Seriani, Tool Boss

-Plan to inventory, clean, and lubricate TATC tools during the June Lopperfest.
-We now have 11 Silky Saws in the Tool Shed
-We have 16 hard hats that expire in 2028
-Transferred electronic equipment to Lelia's personal storage room
-Donated Bow Saws to Boy Scout troops
-Plan to dispose of old 10' by 20' canopy and supports in the near future
-Pick up tables and chairs from John Barnes
-Need someone to transport July Lopperfest #2 tools.
-Will visit the shed 6/15 and 6/29 to begin cataloging the contents.

G. Outreach Report - John Barnes, Outreach Committee Chair/Kaci Midgette, Co-Chair

-June 1, Trail Magic event: Volunteer time will be reported under Outreach
-June 22, 36th Annual Hampton Roads Pridefest & Boat Parade: Registered in Free lottery on April 8.
Accepted on June 3, 2024. Planning for 3 shifts of 2 workers/volunteers (12-2, 2-4, 4-6 PM)
-October 5-6, Fall-O-Ween Festival (NN Fall Festival): Registration Accepted on 4/18/2024.
-Potential Events:
-Great Outdoor Provision Company, tbd
-REI, tbd
-FLSP, tbd

H. Education Report - Don Williams, Education Committee Chair

-Education committee is working independently to develop standards for writing articles. This project will be ongoing for many months.

I. Social Events Report - Sharon Salyer, Social Events Committee Co-Chair

-Nothing to report this month

J. Volunteer Time Report - Greg Reck, Timekeeper

- A few edits to the forms have eased the reporting burden, now over 90 submissions.
- Lee Lohman has performed Google magic in creating a spreadsheet analysis that results in a summary chart for each form providing: (1) work and travel time hours for each volunteer (for TATC awards), AND (2) data required annually by our fed overseers.
- New form-based data will be added to previous data on club volunteer hours assembled by Jim Sexton for the TATC awards.
- Focused on providing data for TATC awards to Jim Newman/Awards Coordinator by June 6

K. Awards Coordinator Report - Jim Newman, Awards Coordinator

- Building a file on all communications regarding the award program
- Requested an updated membership roster so I can communicate with members eligible for reward items
- Jim S. created a timeline of actions to meet award deadline
- Michelle Cobb has agreed to design the logo for each award: AT, Local Trails, Cabin, etc.
- Awaiting work hour data from Timekeeper/Greg Reck

L. Hikemaster Report - Kaci Midgette, Hikemaster

- June 1: Jim Newman - Trail Magic at Tye River Collected \$1,104 but expect to expend only \$800. Plan to roll over any excess funds to the 2025 trail magic event. Thank you notes sent to all known donors.
- June 22nd: John Oakes will be leading the TATC Amphib Crew on a West Neck Creek Cleanup!

M. Merchandise Report - Mike Martin, Chair

- All received merchandise has been reconciled and the Catalog reflects accurate stock and quantities.
- Raised \$164 from the sale of Club polos and t-shirts in the May GMM.
- No new orders since our last meeting.
- Moved to Discussion below...

N. Newsletter Report - Peg Seriani, Newsletter Editor

- Thanks to everyone that submitted articles for the Jun/Jul Newsletter
- Aug/Sep will be sent out on August 1st, so the next deadline for articles/photos will be Wednesday, July 24th.

O. Webmaster Report - Jim Sexton, Webmaster

- Nothing to report this month

P. Facebook Report - Bill Bunch, Facebook Master

- 567 folks have now (6/2/2024) joined the Facebook group page.

Q. ATC RPC Report - Ned Kuhns/Jim Sexton, ATC RPC Representative

- Nothing to report this month

R. Counselors Report - Bill Bunch/Sandy Canepa/Jim Newman

- Nothing to report this month

S. Prez Report - Lelia Vann

- We had a total of 10 participants for the AT Hiker and Jazz Lovers event at Delaware Water Gap. No injuries and everyone seem to enjoy the hikes. Saturday was ~7.5 miles and Sunday was ~9.5 miles.
- We had a dozen people that attended the Afterglow Brewery Happy Hiker Hour.
- Discussed volunteer time recording for counselors during GMMs.

6. Approval Requests:

- Approved the June GMM Agenda.
- Approved request to waive the cabin rental fee from Monday, July 8 - Thursday, August 29, 2024. This is a one-time request - Lelia for Greg Hodges/Cabin Committee Chair

7. Discussion Items:**A. Lopperfest #1 - John Sima, Bruce Davidson (safety), Rich (toolboss)**

- Are we ready for Lopperfest #1 this weekend? --23 people have signed up
- How many inReach devices do we need? --all
- First aid kits, some components expired in 2013. --John S. has 5 new kits and will bring to Lopperfest.
- Do we buy new kits or replace individual components? – will buy 5 new kits this year
- What is cost for new first aid kits? Kits cost about --\$60 for the plastic cased ones, \$70 for the metal ones.

-Do we have a list of members that went through sawyer training and can request new first aid kits?
John Sima's response: *We only have 12 Qualified Sawyers. Am I to request this first aid kit from the ATC, then donate it to the club? Discussion point.*

-What tools should Rich bring? *--John and Rich will meet Thu 6/6 at the storage shed to determine tools needed, will include first aid kits, REI packs and signs.*

-Jim N will bring leftover food, drinks and Lelia will grill hamburgers/hotdogs for Saturday evening. She is willing to prepare breakfast (omelets, eggs, etc) as well.

-Free shirt give away? *--sell at discount.*

B. Merchandise Discussion - Mike Martin, Chair

-Future considerations:

>One more discount sale later this year? --October

>Remaining stock used for silent auction? --end of year

>Ordering strategy going ahead.

C. Dangers of severely lagging participants during group maintenance/hike events - Kaci Midgette

-Provided by Andy as part of the discussion: I'm also thinking that we need to announce the following at the morning pre-work assembly:

"It is an expectation of the club that during maintenance events each participant will give candid internal consideration as to their physical ability to both perform the work their team is being assigned as well as their ability to hike in to and out of the potentially rugged wilderness area where the work is to be performed (taking into consideration expected trail conditions and weather). The Trail Supervisor, the Assistant Trail Supervisor and the team's Crew Leader are authorized by the club to discuss concerns with a participant and, if they feel it necessary, to drop that person from the team. The Crew Leader (or someone else on that team) should also be made aware of any EpiPens, glucose paste, nitro pills, etc. that a participant is carrying and how it is to be administered so that they can be properly supported if an emergency occurs."

- The BOD will hold an after-action review at the next BOD meeting following the Lopperfest #1.*
- During the Friday night before trail maintenance events, have early sign ups for maintenance tasks.*
- BOD members or counselors to help people understand the level of difficulty for each task.*
- If the group has a slow hiker, then the group will hike at the rate of the slowest person. They will turn around if they need to.*

Reported Later:

- June 2024 GMM had 40 people in attendance

Adjournment: President Vann adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.