

Revised Minutes of the Ouachita Mountain Hikers Board Meeting

January 15, 2016

Executive Board members present: Debbie Van Veghel, Donna Hill, Jeannie Eichler, Tom Calhoun, David Tedrahn, Susan Holick, Ralph Butler

Attending: Rick Ericson, Jim Gifford, Marilyn Hall, Glenn Wortham, Jeanie Calhoun

Call to Order: 1:15 P. M. at the Garland County Library, Hot Springs

President's Remarks

Debbie convened the Executive Board meeting and furnished agenda.

She welcomed Donna Hill, new Vice President and Susan Holick, new secretary.

She thanked Ralph, Rick, Tom, David, Jeannie, Marilyn, and Glen for jobs well done.

Historian, Rick Ericson, is an appointed position with a "non-vote". Publicity, Tom Calhoun, position –voting member.

Old Business:

- Children's Home request for trail building assistance: Glen Wortham reported that it was a verbal contact. Tom Calhoun or Donna Hill will contact the Master Naturalist Club to see if they want to participate with OMH in the trail-building if more interest is generated from the Children's Home to build a trail on their property. In an update: 1/18/2016: The Children's home has decided NOT to do this project at all.
- Conversion of club photo albums to digital format for the website is on-going as reported by Rick Ericson.
- Request from outside source to post link/info to website: "hiking in high altitudes" was discussed and it was decided that the club not to have "outside ads".

New Business:

- 30th Anniversary/events
March 17th Meeting: Decided to use the full meeting time to dedicate to the anniversary party. Invite long-standing members and officers of the club. Include a slide presentation of club history from 2006-present. Provide cake and refreshments.
 1. Jim Gifford and Rick Ericson will work on the format of the presentation with photo highlights from the inception of the club.
 2. Generate some informal story-telling of events and highlights throughout the years.
 3. Recognize Paula Wallace: Jeannie Eichler made the motion and Donna Hill seconded that the club present her with a club tee-shirt.
 4. Publicize-- in a hike flash a month or so before the event.
 5. Ideas for the celebration are on-going.

VP/Program: Donna Hill

- Keep the contract for 2016 with the library for general meetings.
- General meeting will meet on 3rd Thursdays as has been in the past
- Dates and places were decided by vote: Pot Luck, Meat provided
 1. Year-End Picnic: Cortez Pavilion, June 9, 2016
 2. Welcome-back hike: Ouachita State Park, September 8, 2016, 9 A. M.
 3. Christmas Party: Coronado Center, December 15, 2016, 5-8 P. M.

4. HSV Golf & Rec Expo---Donna will coordinate volunteers and set up display board, information about the club.

Treasurer/Membership: Jeannie Eichler

- Update: Jeannie reported membership stands at 316 including 8 club officers, 36 hike leaders, 96 lifetime members, 39 who have completed the Ouachita Trail. Signed release forms: 256, Account balance of \$3890 at the beginning of the year, 2015 and ending with \$4910, year 2015.
- Audit committee will be Linda Branin (who will shadow Jeannie 2016), Ralph Butler, and Pam Harrison.

Secretary: Susan Holick

- In addition to keeping minutes of executive board meetings (2 a year) and membership meetings (6), The secretary will track interim meetings (informal meetings via e-mail and/or verbally when there is a quorum during social gatherings). Any decisions or resolutions will be attached to the minutes of the regular scheduled Board meetings.
- Susan made the motion that the minutes submitted to the Board by Rick be accepted and approved. They were accepted and Tom will post both the minutes and resolutions to the web.

Historian:

- Rick's term will end at the end of 2016. He has a firm commitment from David Blankenship to step forward in this position.
- Rick will begin updating club history on the OMH website for the years 2007 to present.

Jim Gifford

- Jim has agreed to be the liaison between OMH and Basecamp. He has spoken to Charlie Brown and is assured that the verbiage "sponsored by Ouachita Mountain Hikers hiking club" will be included in any Basecamp events. Our OMH schedule and link will be referenced.
- The Ouachita Challenge will take place on April 2-3. It provides financial support for FoOT.
- Final shelters on the Ouachita Trail will be built by the end of 2016 which will make a total of 21.

Hike Chair: David Tedrahn

- Hike records and database: Jim Gifford has tracked on DBText database since 2002. This information was transferred to David's computer.
- David is keeping hike report information on Google Calendar and is updating after each hike. A lively discussion ensued about how to convert old information about past hikes to excel spreadsheet software. Ralph Butler highly suggested that an "on-line" database be found that was user friendly so that everyone could access and update hike information. **Donna Hill recommended that we table this until a database is found.** Tom, David, and Jim have been researching this issue and trying to generate more ideas.
- **David recommended that if a hike is cancelled, let the hike chair know so he can make a note of this**
- Buffalo River April Overnight: April 12-14 Hike Leader will be Brent Alexander (870-245-9009 in Delight, Ar.)
- Trip coordinator will be Donna Hill. Hike Flash will go out to coordinate meals, etc.
- **David and Tom Calhoun recommended that press releases and web information NOT include personal phone numbers.**

Everyone agreed to this recommendation.

Publicity/Webmaster: Tom Calhoun

- Tom suggested that we should consider the web site as a club communication. He has developed a way to put information in a PDF format and let others print the information as a brochure.
- Tom suggested that any material of ongoing interest to the club be stored on the web site and made accessible to others from there. (The alternative is to store this material in paper files or on individual officers' computers).
- It was agreed that the club brochure be revised and then stored on the web site as a PDF file so that copies could be printed as needed by anyone.
- Tom has created a form using GOOGLE FORMS into which one can enter hike flash information. He will create a form to capture hike report information.
- There will be additional steps needed to update a "trails we hike" database, but getting data into a spreadsheet format is a big first step.

T- Shirts: Marilyn Hall

- Marilyn gave an update on new inventory. She has received 36 total shirts. She showed us
Men's---Forest Green---short sleeve
Charcoal grey---long sleeve
Women's---Purple ---short sleeve
Royal Blue---long sleeve

After much discussion about the prices to charge for the shirts, Jeanie Eichler made the motion and the motion carried that the cost to buy a long sleeve shirt will be \$15.00 and the cost for a short sleeve will be \$12.

Trail Maintenance: Ralph Butler

- HSNP Trail Maintenance coordinator continues to be John Burns
- HSNP Centennial Year is March 26 trail clean-up and maintenance. The OMH will coordinate our clean-up to participate with the Park.
- Ralph explained that OMH Saturday trail maintenance was drawing a poor turnout. (few people) The schedule for trail maintenance was in conflict with the OMH overnight hikes and Ouachita Challenge. He made a proposal that the dates be changed to the first Tuesday of each month, effective immediately. The first Tuesday would allow for rescheduling in case of rain. All board members agreed that this schedule will be effective for March 5, April 2, and May 7.
- This opened up these 3 Saturday dates for Saturday hikes. March 3 hike leader will be identified later. April 2 hike leader will be Debbie Van Veghel. May 7 hike leader will be Susan Holick. Hikes will be determined by the hike leaders.
- Ralph made a request for reimbursement of tools that he has purchased. Glen will contact Bo Lea, President of FoOT. Jeanie made the motion, Susan seconded, and the motion carried that If FoOT doesn't want to reimburse, then OMH will reimburse Ralph.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Holick, Secretary

Summary of motions, proposals and votes of interim meetings April through December 2015

Subject: OMH Embroidered Logo Patches

On July 13, Ralph Butler contacted the Board by email asking for its opinion regarding the purchase of OMH logo iron-on patches for jackets and shirts. He quoted prices for bulk orders for 100 (\$193 delivered) and 200 (\$131 delivered) of these custom embroidered patches. Five members expressed interest while suggesting an order for the smaller amount of 100. A fifth member was not in favor of the purchase.

On July 17, based on the favorable response, Ralph asked the Board for permission to place an order for 100 of the patches in the 3" size, with a tan background. By then, VP Marilyn Hall had agreed to control the inventory and do the selling. **There were four affirmative votes. Ralph submitted the order and provided the artwork proof to Marilyn.**

On August 12, Marilyn emailed Board members that the patches were delivered and began discussion regarding how to price them. There were seven votes for \$4.00 each and on August 13, **Marilyn locked in the selling price of the patches at \$4.00.**

Subject: OMH Logo wick-away T-shirts

On October 14, Marilyn Hall asked via email for Board feedback regarding colors available and pricing received from Sew Perfect (Jessieville) for wick-away T-shirts at \$15 for long sleeve shirts, and \$12.50 for short sleeve, minimum order of six in each size. During October 15, Board members emailed their opinions as to what they liked in sizes and colors with input from Glenn Wortham regarding past sales.

On October 15, Marilyn clarified the above by indicating that Sew Perfect offers the same Vapor Apparel that we currently order from Trail Hanky for the aforementioned prices. They also have a lighter weight short sleeve shirt by another manufacturer for \$9.50 with no volume limitations, and provided a website so Board members could view the product. As for the trail maintenance T's, Marilyn stated that the price for the shirts would be the same, but there would be a fee for the additional graphics on the back. She stated she would ask Trail Hanky for their latest prices.

On November 9, Marilyn informed the Board that based on input from club members and Glenn Wortham, she was prepared to place a limited order for only the long sleeve safety orange T's from Sew Perfect. The price was to be \$15 each plus tax, bringing the total to \$16.20 per shirt. Shipping was to be at no charge since it would be a local pickup. Marilyn requested Board opinion as to what the club should charge for short and long sleeve shirts when resold to members. **It was almost unanimous response was that the club should charge \$17 for the short sleeve T, and \$20 for the long sleeve shirt. On November 9, Marilyn announced that the long sleeve shirts in safety orange had been ordered and, by consensus, would sell for \$20.**

(As a follow-up note: By the end of the OMH Christmas party, all the above safety orange T-shirts were sold)

Subject: Purchase of a booth at the 2016 Hot Springs Village Golf & Recreation Exposition

On December 16, Vice President Marilyn Hall informed Board members by email that the (now) annual Hot Springs Village Golf & Recreation Exposition would be held on Monday, February 22, 2016. She informed that previously, OMH had reserved a booth at no charge, but that the Coronado Community Center would now

impose a registration fee of \$10, which covered the expense of a table cover and skirt. Board members expressed approval for continuing to staff a booth as a recruiting tool.

On December 17, Treasurer Jeannie Eichler called the Community Center for further information and informed Board members by email that she had paid the registration fee and that OMH would be assigned the same table as in previous years (just inside the door to the main hall).

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Ericson, Secretary