

Revised Minutes of Ouachita Mountain Hiker Executive Board Meeting  
January 10, 2017

**Executive Board Members present:** Jim Davis, Theresa Keyser, Susan Holick, Linda Branim, David Tedrahn, and Ralph Butler

**Attending:** Marilyn Hall, Donna Hill, Debbie Van Veghel, Ernie Weidenberger

**Call to Order:** 9:10 A. M. at the Garland County Library, Hot Springs

**President Remarks:** Jim Davis convened the Executive Board Meeting and furnished agenda. Jim called for reports from the members.

**President: No report**

**VP/ Program Chairman: Theresa Keyser**

- Lead a discussion about possible speaker for the March Club Meeting: Jeff Heitzman is a retired HSNP Ranger and his topic is “The Health of Hiking in The National Park.” He dresses as a 1915 hiker and explains the history of hiking in that time period.
- Another program possibility: Arrange a mini lesson about a free app called “Hike Ouachita Mountains.” Dave Tedrahn and Tom Blumenberg would be possible facilitators.
- Donna Hill will provide and produce the program on January 19. The topic will be “Hiking the Oceans” including a video presentation.
- January 19<sup>th</sup> Club meeting will meet in a smaller meeting room at the library which can accommodate 20-50 people.

**Secretary: Susan Holick** Minutes have been approved and are posted on OMH website.

**Treasurer: Linda Branim** reported membership stands at 294, 37 hike leaders, 39 current members completed OT, 106 lifetime members. Account Balance: \$5551.61. **Linda made a proposal to spend money to buy printing supplies.** A motion was made by Susan Holick, a second was made by David Tedrahn and all approved the purchase of printing supplies.

**Hike Leader: David Tedrahn No report**

**Trail Maintenance: Ralph Butler**

- December trail maintenance was cancelled.
- **On January 19, Ralph plans to offer an incentive to those who work with him. Participation is down. We discussed ways to increase participation. Ralph made a motion and Ernie seconded it-that the club offer an incentive (lunch or shake) to those who participate. All members approved.**

**Webmaster/Publicity Chair: Tom Calhoun** absent, no report

**Club Historian: Ernie Weidenberger**

- Ernie reported that the website is the keeper of data. Continue to send hike pictures to him.

### Old Business: Debbie Van Veghel

- Debbie reported on her research about tax exempt/nonprofit status guidelines. After a lengthy discussion, the consensus of the board was to keep our 30 year history “as is”.
- To protect the integrity of our website, our club does not have “outside ads.” Debbie compiled and wrote an article titled “Hiking in High Altitudes.” It was decided that this article be posted as a topic on our OMH website under “Hiker’s Corner” in the “Hiker’s Reference tab.
- Information and correspondence that Debbie gets by e-mail and U. S. mail about USDA Forest Service business will no longer be sent to her. It will be sent to the club maintenance chairperson, Ralph Butler.

### New Business

- **Jim Davis—**

- **Walkie Talkie**

Discussed the idea of purchasing several walkie talkies or “line of site devices.” This discussion created much interest: what kind, cost, how well they work, what would be their home base, hike leader training. David and Ralph will do the research and prepare a report to present to the club on or before March meeting.

“The purpose for purchasing the walkie-talkies is to increase the safety and enjoyment of hiking. The hike leader and the sweep can adjust the pace to prevent wide gaps between hikers. They would also have contact with shuttle crew in the event that a bail out is needed. There would be contact with outside sources if needed. I believe that we all can think back to times it would have been handy to have such devices.”-- Jim Davis

- **National Park Project**

Leah Van Vranken is the contact at the HS National Park. The NP wants input from the OMH as they begin working on signage in the NP. The OMH can be “Ambassadors” for the park. There will be meetings on January 24. Time 2-4 P. M. and 7-9 P. M.

January 29 Time 2-4 P. M. Any and all OMH are invited to attend. Donna Hill will be going.

- **Marilyn Hall** made a report on our OMH shirts. We have 35 shirts in stock. She will look at pre-ordering safety orange shirts, make proposal to the board, and put together an order.

- **Hot Springs Village Community Fair** - Ernie made the motion and David seconded it and all agreed that OMH will participate in the community fairs.

**Dates:** February 27 and April 5, 2017

**Place: Coronado Center**

**Theresa** (Program Chair) will coordinate these events and get volunteers to help “man” the booth.

- **Audit Committee** consists of Ernie Weidenberger, Marilyn Hall, and Darrel Hill. They will make the audit before March meeting.

- **Discussion** ensued about reimbursing the expenses of Hike Leaders who plan and prehike the “Over-Night” trips/hikes for the OMH Club. Consensus formed: No reimbursement needed.

- **Discussion** about where the next Christmas Party would be held: De Soto Club (a new venue) or Coronado Center. Theresa will start research on this. We will consider cost and menu. Theresa will get a report out to OMH Board and a decision will be made.
- **Christmas Party:** December 14, 2017
- **End of Year Picnic:** June 8, 2017

Meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Holick, Secretary