

**Green Mountain Club, Montpelier Section**  
**Approved Minutes of the Executive Committee**

**June 9, 2009**

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John Buddington called the executive committee to order at 7:08 p. m. at the home of Fred and Nancy Jordan.

Officers attending: John Buddington (chair), Charlene Bohl (Vice President), Steve Lightholder (Treasurer), Thomas Weiss (Secretary/LTN Reporter), Ken Hertz (Trails & Shelter Coordinator), Fred Jordan (Membership Coordinator), Nancy Jordan (Trail Talk Editor), Dave Blumenthal (Webmaster), and Priscilla Daggett (GMC Alternate Director).

Officers absent: Paul DeLuca (Publicity Co-ordinator) and Cynthia Martin (GMC Director)

Section members present: Geoff Commons

The meeting began with a report by Geoff Commons on the SOLO wilderness first aid class that he had attended. (This is item 1 under new business and was taken out of order to accommodate Geoff Commons' schedule.) He thanked the section for its assistance with the tuition, the section paying \$90 of the \$180 total fee. He found the 2-day course to be productive and felt that it had a good instructor. The students were requested to bring their day packs and they then worked the exercises with the materials normally found in their day packs. He gave a brief summary of how the course operated and a few things that he learned. Two items are that first aid kits now need latex gloves (multiple pairs) and that adjustable straps are more useful than duct tape. After he left, the committee found that our section does not maintain a list of those section members that have received financial assistance for the training. Members of the committee recalled that the section assisted Steve Lightholder, Nancy Schulz, Charlene Bohl, and Paul DeLuca. The committee also indicated that there should be an article in Trail Talk reminding members that the SOLO training is available. John Buddington will work on this, possibly in coordination with Geoff Commons.

#### OLD BUSINESS

1. The reading of the minutes of the March 10, 2009 meeting was waived. The draft minutes of the meeting had been distributed by e-mail on March 29, 2009. The executive committee accepted the minutes on a motion by Steve and Fred.
2. The secretary had distributed by e-mail to the executive committee the draft minutes of the April 3, 2009 annual meeting of the section. A few revisions were made by e-mail and then Ken Hertz posted the draft minutes at [www.gmcmontpelier.org/executive/2009/0403index.htm](http://www.gmcmontpelier.org/executive/2009/0403index.htm) Approval of the minutes will be taken up at the section's annual meeting in 2010.
3. John Buddington noted that the Green Mountain Club's annual meeting the weekend of May 29 - 31 was a successful event. The Montpelier Section hosted the meeting at headquarters in Waterbury for the inauguration of the new south barn. There will be a meeting on Friday, June 12 at the old shelter in Hubbard Park to review the meeting and its planning to discuss what went well and what might be done to improve any future event. The executive committee directed John Buddington to thank the Nuquists for their successful planning of the annual meeting. Financially the meeting came close to breaking even. Charlene Bohl has the section's bandannas and notecards.
4. Officers' reports and other reports.

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a. Trails & Shelters: Ken Hertz reported that we had three successful work hikes this spring: the two regular sessions on Bamforth Ridge and in Smugglers' Notch and the puncheon hauling and building session on May 31 as the conclusion of the club's annual meeting. The puncheon was placed on the Long Trail north of Sterling Pond shelter. All of the materials were moved and some of the puncheon was placed. Remaining puncheon will likely be placed by the caretaker at the shelter. At the May 23rd work hike at Smugglers' Notch, Ken Hertz had arranged for a table with cider, doughnuts, our new work hike banner, and information on the Green Mountain Club as a publicity event. Lots of people stopped. Not many had cider or doughnuts. Many wanted information on the trails at the notch and the only person Ken could find for the table was not familiar with the area; those are two lessons for the future.

b. Membership; Fred Jordan. We had a large increase in voting memberships over the last quarter. We are now at 463, up from 419.

Ken Hertz brought up a larger issue about the duties of the membership co-ordinator. Ken is on a committee revising the section leaders' handbook. He pointed out that a number of years ago, collecting and handling of dues was taken over by headquarters, thus taking the work of renewal notices, dues collection, and forwarding funds to headquarters away from the membership co-ordinator. With the decrease in duties, Ken reported that the handbook committee is thinking of adding recruitment to the duties of the membership co-ordinator. The executive committee had some discussion on this and did not take a position.

Dave Blumenthal and Ken Hertz suggested perhaps an information table at Montpelier's farmers' market during the summer and at the Thanksgiving market. Fred Jordan said he will organize the table for the Thanksgiving market. Dave Blumenthal said that he would make an easel to support our section's poster plus he'll write a draft flyer.

c. Webmaster: Dave Blumenthal reported that our section's internet site is doing fine. A hiker in Montana has set up a site called [www.longtrailhiking.info](http://www.longtrailhiking.info) with the sanction of The Green Mountain Club. The Long Trail Hiking internet site is intended to provide up-to-date information on hiking The Long Trail and features forums, specific information, and trip planning guidance.

d. Treasurer's report: Steve Lightholder provided the quarterly budget update.

e. Club director: Priscilla Daggett reported that the GMC board of directors discussed the Agency of Natural Resources proposed rule that will allow All-Terrain-Vehicles to use State lands. The board did not take an official position on the issue. Members are free to comment on the rules as individuals.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. SOLO course report: Geoff Commons. See the report above; it was taken up out of order from the published agenda.

2. Appointments to Trails and Shelters Committee: The agenda suggested that the following people be appointed: Reidun Nuquist; Duncan Wilkie; Ken Hertz, chair; John Buddington ex-officio. Thomas Weiss moved that those people be appointed to the trails and shelters committee with a term to expire at the first meeting of the executive committee following the section's 2010 annual meeting. Fred Jordan seconded the motion which was approved on a voice vote.

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3. Reappointments: Newsletter Editor and Webmaster. The committee re-appointed Nancy Jordan as Trail Talk Editor and Dave Blumenthal as webmaster by consensus. Their terms will expire at the first meeting of the executive committee following the section's 2010 annual meeting.

4. Appointment: Publicity Coordinator: The executive committee discussed possible replacements for the position of publicity co-ordinator. Fred Jordan suggested Bob Lorenz and Kevin Ryan. John Buddington pointed out that Lorenz had declined when asked to take the position. The executive committee asked John Buddington to ask Ryan if he is willing to serve.

5. Suggestions for winter events, such as slide shows, speakers on LT history, geology biology? Dave Blumenthal reported on the Burlington section's successful publicity meeting and slide show and asked if we should do something similar. That slide show was advertised to section members and the public and was held in a location with a cash bar and refreshments available. The slide show covered four outings, some local and some far away, by section members. The executive committee made no decision.

The Montpelier section's sponsorship of a Taylor Series lecture was brought up here. It appears that the Club would like our section to host our lecture at headquarters. Some committee members pointed out that we have been doing well with the lectures that we have hosted in this area recently (College Hall; Capital City Grange, among others). The consensus was to continue holding our lectures locally.

6. Policy: Post on the website the executive committee minutes within 2 weeks of the meeting (as a draft) and within 1 week of approval (as a permanent record). After much discussion, including whether the minutes should even be on the internet site, the executive committee approved that policy as written.

7. GMC centennial: John Buddington reported that Reidun Nuquist suggested ways for the section to participate in the observances of the club's centennial of its founding. Some suggestions relate to helping the club meet its goal of 10,000 members for the Centennial year: gift memberships, recruit friends, recruit newcomers. Should we observe ourselves the commemoration in March? Should we appear in the Montpelier Independence Day Parade in 2010? Dave Blumenthal volunteered to find out from Sue Girouard on club plans to integrate section activities into the observances.

8. Honoraria policy for presenters? Until now, honoraria for speakers have been negotiated individually. Some presenters want money. Or travel expenses. Others accept a book. It all depends on the presenter. After discussion, the executive committee decided that individual negotiations for honoraria have worked well without a policy. The executive committee decided by consensus not to develop a policy for honoraria.

9. Schedule for subsequent meetings:

Tuesday, September 8 at 7 p. m. at John Buddington's

Tuesday, December 1 at 7 p. m. at Ken Hertz',

Tuesday, March 9 at 7 p. m. at a location to be determined later.

10. The next meeting to plan outings will be Wednesday, September 2 at a location to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p. m. on a motion by Dave Blumenthal and Charlene Bohl.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas Weiss, secretary (approved September 8, 2009)