

WMASS Region Meeting

September 28, 2008

1. Bryan Sinclair welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a brief update on Trish Watson. She is doing well and expects to be patrolling this year. Also mentioned is the Eastern Division web site (www.nspeast.org) contains the latest business meeting notes from the September meeting. In addition the full ED budget and expenses is posted on the site, Members only.
2. The status of Otis Ridge ski area is uncertain and a location for this year's WMASS patrol competition is needed. Mt. Graylock is being considered. Logistics and snow may be issues but ARD Chris Cruse is assessing the feasibility of holding the patrol competition there.
3. WMR Dues/Budget: Discussion of this year's region budget included use of region reserve funds, program terminations, increased dues, increased membership and greater fund raising efforts. After a full and frank discussion of many options and ideas all agreed to approve this years budget as presented including a dues increase of \$1 and maintaining the current financial reserve. In the end agreed to maintain current status quo with no dues increase.
4. New Patrollers: A suggestion to use the Eastern Division's display materials at places like the Big "E" and the Empire State Mall to inform the public of our activities and encourage new patrollers will be explored.
5. 5th Edition OEC Textbooks: The region currently has 83 OEC instructors, the majority of which participate primarily at their individual patrol OEC refreshers. A new OEC textbook will be available in approximately 18-20 months at an estimated cost of \$80-\$85. The group discussed the impact on the OEC program of this book cost.
6. A new proposal this year from NSP is a potential change in terminology for patrollers. Proposed that Auxiliary patrollers will now be called patrollers. All other patrollers will now be called Alpine or Nordic patrollers.
7. Bryan congratulated Mary Ann Richardson, Patrol Director for Notch View Nordic, on receiving the Trustees of the Reservation Volunteer of the Year award.
8. Because Trish Watson is stepping down Bryan will finish her term and has agreed to run for Region Director. In accepting the post as interim RD Bryan spoke of the need for the region to encourage and groom patrollers to take on regional duties which can prepare them to pursue region and division offices.

9. This years Alumni day is scheduled for Berkshire East and the tentative date is Monday Feb. 9, 2009. Both the location and day are new this year

Respectfully Submitted
Richard Andriole Sr.
WMASS Region Secretary