

August 2011 Board Meeting

August 25, 2011

[updated Aug. 28, 2011]

The NEOC Board of Directors met on August 25th, 2011. We welcomed new Board members Jim Crawford, Bill Pullman and Andy McIlvaine. Samantha Saeger is moving away for a year or two, to Sweden where she will be able to do some serious orienteering training; she has therefore stepped down from the Board and we thank her for her service.

Our fall orienteering schedule is shaping up (see the NEOC website and AttackPoint), but we need meet directors. Please consider volunteering! There is a chance that NEOC might host an A meet in the fall of 2012. We will have a Night-O at Nobscot on September 24th. Karl Stephens and Don Hall are working hard on a map of the Big River North area in Rhode Island.

We have a vacancy for the position of VP Education and Outreach. A number of NEOC members have been doing orienteering training with schools, scouts and other organizations. There will be a Scout-O at Nobscot at the end of October. National Orienteering Day will be September 17th; Tim Parson will direct the orienteering event at Great Brook Farm. Members are asked to publicize this event and bring friends, neighbors and relatives. We have flyers that you can print out and post. The most successful youth/family organized activity at local meets in the spring was the Capture the Flag map navigation game; we are seeking volunteers to organize more activities for kids, families and adults to have fun and improve their navigation skills, at meets this fall and next spring.

We are excited about holding NEOC's 40th anniversary celebrations next year, and are seeking ideas and volunteers. Would someone like to collect and publish some NEOC history? What should we do for a party? Note that the celebrations include UNO, WCOC and the Maine orienteering club whose roots are as much in NEOC as are NEOC's itself.

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation will be holding a meeting on Wednesday, September 14th to present their Draft Resource Plan for the Middlesex Fells Reservation. This is important to NEOC because we love the Fells – and want to ensure that we have continued access to run our educational and competitive orienteering programs there. We have not found someone to attend this meeting, but expect the draft plan to be posted for comment after the meeting – and we will be asking the membership to provide comments to the DCR. (The meeting was originally scheduled for September 13th, but someone heard it had been changed.) The DCR website is www.mass.gov/dcr/.

Congratulations to NEOC members Meg Parson and Carl Underwood for their selection to the Junior US Team and participation at the Junior World Orienteering Championships this summer; we will be treated to articles about their participation in an upcoming NEOC Times. Congratulations also to Samantha Saeger, Ross Smith, and Alex Jospe, NEOC members who made the US team and competed in the World Orienteering Championships in France in August.

The Board recently made a donation to the junior US orienteering team, and at this meeting approved a donation to the senior US orienteering team. The Board previously gave travel grants for active NEOC members Samantha Saeger and Meg Parson to compete representing the US at the Junior and Senior World Orienteering Championships this summer. At this meeting, we were very happy to acknowledge the many contributions made to NEOC by members Ross Smith and Alex Jospe, with travel grants for their attendance at the World Orienteering Championships this summer.

Thanks to Wendy J who has volunteered to take over ordering club uniforms in the wake of Samantha's departure. Those of us who have received our uniforms LOVE them! The Bryant family wore them proudly in France at WOC.

Congratulations, and thanks, to our VPs for this year: Ian Smith will continue to serve as VP of Events; Joanne will continue as First VP and VP for Administration; Jason Tong will continue as VP of Publicity and Promotion.

Decisions

- 5/25/11 Board meeting minutes approved
- 6/12/11 special Board meeting at Horn Pond minutes approved
- 6/12/11 AGM minutes put into the record
- Treasurer's Report accepted
- Approval of Ian Smith as VP Events; Joanne Sankus as First VP and VP for Administration; Jason Tong as VP of

Publicity and Promotion.

- \$250 donation to the senior US team.
- \$250 travel grant each to Ross Smith and Alex Jospe in acknowledgment of their work with NEOC.

Action Items

- **Ian:** create minutes for the 6/12/11 Board meeting after the AGM at which we elected officers
- **Jim:** add dates to Treasurer's Report (instead of "current date")
- **All:** make use of the USOF promotional materials (see Joanne's VP Admin report for details, or the OUSA website).
- **Barb:** send a copy of the USOF promotional materials to Tim for NOD. (Done)
- **Jim:** make sure the NOD poster goes out to the membership in the emails so that people can print them and distribute them.
- **Joanne:** call Barb to talk about family and adult training events and games at local meets this fall.
- **Pete L:** check the DCR website after the September meeting for the draft Fells plan.
- **Ian:** propose specific plan for US team donations for 2012 budget to be discussed in January. Consider a matching scheme, for NEOC members' donations, or for other clubs.
- **All:** make use of the free registration coupons we got from Andy.
- **Pete L:** identify chair for 40th anniversary celebrations
- **Pete L:** letter to Alex Jospe and Ross Smith thanking them for their contributions to the club and telling them of the \$250 travel grant.
- **Jim P, Joanne:** publicize the grants to Alex & Ross on the web and in the email and in the newsletter
- **Pete L:** approach UNO, WCOC & Maine about participating in the 40th anniversary celebrations?

Minutes

Previous meeting minutes

5/25/11 Board meeting

- Question about number of Board members discussed.
- Minutes were taken by Samantha; Ian moved to accept; Pete F seconded; approved.

Special board meeting at Horn Pond on 6/12/11

- Minutes by Samantha; Jim moved to accept; Ian seconded; approved.

Minutes for AGM

- Put into record.

June Board meeting after the AGM.

- We elected officers
- Ian will create minutes for that meeting – ACTION ITEM

Treasurer's report (Jim)

- Andy moved to accept the treasurer's report; Pete F seconded.
- Jim Crawford: requests add a date instead of "current date"
- Report approved.

VP Administration (Joanne)

- We erred on accidentally dropping Jason's role as VP Publicity and Promotion from NEOC Times masthead and website
- Harold Parker – vegetation has changed dramatically (Jason)
- They closed Breakheart for a while after an attack on a woman jogger.
- The USOF promotional materials are great to use – we can all make use of these.
- Send a copy to Tim for NOD. ACTION ITEM. (Done: Barb)
- Jim – make sure NOD poster goes out to membership in the emails so people can print them and distribute. ACTION ITEM

VP Events (Ian)

- Event schedule for the fall is on the web and on AttackPoint. Some of the items later in the year we are waiting on permission. Have gotten Night-O permission for Nobscot 9/24, Saturday night. Still need setter; need two courses. Pete Lane volunteers to set it; Ian will selection control locations. We have reflective markers in the locker.
- Limiting factor: recruiting meet directors. Ian has put together an email list of all those who have directed a meet in the past couple of years. He'll be able to bounce ideas off of people.
- CT is putting on an event the weekend of 10/31.
- Meeting on Saturday for Ian and Andy with Karl Stephens about the map that Karl and Don Hall are working on; Pete Lane will attend as well.
- Ian will work with Karl and others on determining when we might hold an A meet at Big River North.
- Other possible location for A meet for the fall?

Education and outreach (Pete)

- Scout-O end of October in Nobscot.
- NOD
- Barb worked with kids from a Roxbury school on Thompson Island for a 7-session orienteering class this summer.
- Added after the meeting at Pete's request:
 - Barb is preparing a 2-week orienteering curriculum for the fall for 85 7th and 8th grade students, culminating in a team navigation exercise

- Barb is working with a 6th grade teacher on a year-long orienteering curriculum for her class.
- About kid/family activities at our local meets:
 - What worked best in the spring was the Capture the Flag map navigation game; people had fun and parents and kids played together. Just regular trainings weren't as popular. Need to think of something creative and attractive.
 - Consider working in the point series in some way. (Pete F)
 - Consider mixing in a social media site (Pete F)
 - Adults are interested in more regular training – consolidate manpower?
 - Joanne to talk with Barb – ACTION ITEM
 - Possible people to involve: Linc's mom? The Shapiros?
- Pete L received a request from home schoolers for orienteering program; will follow up.
- Adult education. Training for epunching is in the works.
- Jim P and Bill Binette did a program for the Helping Hands Foundation's summer outing. The Foundation is for families with children having a upper-limb handicap – each July they have a summer gathering. There were 16 starts and 52 participants. It took place at a large hospital in Canton. Bill made the map from brochure that they had of the grounds.