

**Aaron Mair**

**Petition Candidate**

**RESIDENCE:** Schenectady, New York

**Lifetime Membership# 41911717 SINCE:** 2000

**OCCUPATION:** Adirondack Council Wilderness Campaign Director

**SIERRA CLUB LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** **Sierra Club President Board of Directors (2015-2017);** Sierra Club Director (2019-2022); Sierra Club Director (2011-2017); Finance & Risk Management Committee (2011-2017); Sierra Club Foundation(2015-2017); Environmental Justice Committee (2006-2008); Diversity Committee (2008-2010).

**Atlantic Chapter** Chair (2002-2003); Chapter Excom (2002-2004); Environmental Justice (2009- present)

**Hudson Mohawk Group:** International Human Rights/Environment (2003); Water Quality/Habitats (2006 ); Marine (2012); Waste (2002).

**OTHER LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** Hudson River Sloop Clearwater (Anti-Nuclear) (Board); NY League of Conservation Voters; Arbor Hill Environmental Justice

**STATEMENT:**

I am a Sierra Club Life Member who has have served the Sierra Club for over two decades in various grassroots leadership and organization transformation capacities. It was under my leadership that the Club codified its Sierra Club Diversity Statement and established its Department of Equity, Inclusion, and Justice. As Club President, I traveled to dozens of Chapters, aiding and facilitating local group connections to communities of Color that have been historically ignored by the environmental movement. Assisting Chapters and Groups in becoming welcoming and inclusive communities, that truly enlist from our nation's rich diversity of peoples, and strengthen the broader environmental movement, has been my passion. I will hit the ground running to build Chapter and grassroots capacity to work with diverse groups, and I will work to enhance funding for wildlands protection, and will support outings, including removing unnecessary burdens on outings leaders and participants.

Strengthening grassroots networking between Sierra Club, labor, civil rights, progressive and environmental justice groups, while not changing our environmental mission, will be

essential in our efforts to restore our democracy and reverse the damage done to our environmental legacy.

The Sierra Club has relied for more than 129 years on a healthy democracy to protect millions of acres of land for our kids to explore and enjoy; to pass the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and other bills that we need the Biden administration and Congress to restore and strengthen. The foundational environmental protection work that dates back to John Muir is at risk due to partisan & corporate greed.

We are at a turning point in our organization as to what kind of Club we will be, and whether or not we remain a true grassroots managed and led organization. Your vote will now decide that very question of how we can best support volunteer leadership and control in the Club.

It's time to work together. We know we can't do this alone. We're strongest when we stand together with our progressive and just transition labor movement allies advocating for a real Green New Deal. We have a long way to go and I am asking for your vote in strengthening our grassroots values so that we can continue.

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