Sierra Club
Atlantic ChapterExCom
Meeting AGENDA

1/25/03
10:00 AM
Albany, New York

Resolution Opposting The Awosting Reserve Development
Adjoining Minnewaska State Park
Submitted by Gerald A. Davison January 11, 2003

Whereas: Plans to develop the 2,700-acre property know as "Awosting Reserve" have been submitted to the Planning Board in the Town of Gardiner in Ulster County, New York; and
Whereas: This property adjoins the Minnewaska State Park Preserve; and
Whereas: East of the property is directly on the east slope of Shawangunk Ridge, and runs from the foot of the slope to the top of slope, and ranges in elevation from about 300 feet to about 1,900 feet; and
Whereas: Over 300 home sites are to be created, with those on the sides of the ridge likely to be visible from miles away from points all across the Wallkill Valley, creating a horrendous visual impact; and
Whereas: The availability of an adequate water supply has not been demonstrated and, on a slope like this, septic or sewage systems, and drainage in general, will be problematic; and
Whereas: A golf course is proposed to be built at Tillson Lake at the foot of the slope; and
Whereas: Herbicides and other chemicals used by the golf course are a concern for the groundwater and the lake; and
Whereas: The small roads in the area were never intended to handle the level of traffic this development could create; and
Whereas: Even if some portions of the 2,700 acres area bypassed by the developers, the remaining environment will be substantially fragmented and the biodiversity of the area will ultimately be reduced; therefore be it…
Resolved: The Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter is opposed to any development of the privately owned Awosting Reserve and supports acquisition of the property for addition to the Minnewaska State Park Preserve.

Motion Adopted 1/25/03