

North Country Trail Association – Grand Marais Chapter  
March Business Meeting Minutes  
March 14, 2007

**Held at Steve Miller's house**

Eight people in attendance

New and Renewing membership is now fourteen, yeah!

January: Mike and Kathy Ballard, Eric Frick, Thomas Kaiser, Edward Marx, Roger Pilon, and Thomas Taylor.

February: Bill and Cathy Egerer and Richard Janny.

**DVD Vignette: The Old and In The Way Gang.**

The adventures of a fifty year and above age group that traverse a section of the North Country Trail every year in the fall. One member is an octogenarian. Their travels will bring them into Grand Marais this year and plans for a red carpet welcome will be considered.

The agenda was approved after the addition of two items for unfinished business: Chainsaw Cert. Class and Spring Logging.

Sue R., motion, Roger P. second, approved.

**New Business**

April election meeting tabled after much discussion. Those in attendance decided it would be best to wait for increase in attendance of members. Date to follow for regular April meeting.

Web Site Submitting; please notify our web master, Lori Savage, before submitting. The membership will then be notified. Please notify the same of any updates found on our web-site or the nationals from hikers and other interested parties. Sections of trail will be numbered and made available for ease of location when submitting updates.

Adopt A Trail: Steve S. and Sue R. were anointed as Grand Marais Chapters first trail adopter coordinators. The walking stick of honor was passed from shoulder to shoulder bestowing the honor upon them along with a rousing round of applause. The search continues for a coordinator for the east sections. Numbering is complete and these sections are open to persons interested in caring for a section of trail. Please contact Steve Scneck or Sue Robishaw for the Valley Spur sections west to

Rock River. Steve Miller for sections east of Grand Marais to the Two Hearted River entrance into Lake Superior. Individuals or groups can adopt these sections. More the merrier.

Eastern Division:

1. Mouth of the Two Hearted River to Reed and Green Bridge. 6+ miles
2. Reed and Green Bridge to Deer Park. 6 miles
3. Deer Park to Blind Sucker Mouth. 3.5miles.
4. Blind Sucker Mouth to Perry's Landing. (Lake Superior Campground) 3 miles
5. Perry's (Lake Superior Campground) to H-58 crossing. 2.5 miles.
6. Blind Sucker Loop. 3 miles.
7. H-58 crossing to east -west two track in School Forest. 4.25 miles.
8. East west two track to Grand Marais Creek. 3 miles.
9. Grand Marais Creek to Old Seney Road. 2 miles.
10. Old Seney Road to H-58 trailhead. 1.25 miles.
11. H-58 trailhead to the West End of Woodland Park. (Road connector) 2 miles.
12. Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. Not for adoption by us but included in the numbering as it is a part of our trail concern. 40 miles.

The mileage figures for the Eastern Division are only an approximation; your mileage may vary.

Western Division:

12. Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore
13. Munising falls to M-94 trailhead 5 miles. (road connector)
14. M-94 trailhead to Valley Spur Parking Lot. 2.6 miles.
15. Valley Spur to FS2276. (The Ponds) 1.5 miles
16. FS2276 to FS2274. (Camp Au Train) 2.5 miles
17. FS2274 to FS2482. (Buck Bay Creek) 2.8 miles
18. FS2482 to Forest Lake Rd. 1.3 miles
19. Au Train – Forest Lake Rd. to 2384/ Samuelson Rd. ( misprinted 2483/Cemetary Rd on NCT map) 2.2 miles
20. 2384 to Rock River Rd 2.5 miles.

Work to be done in accordance with the Adopter Handbook and overseen by the Grand Marais Chapter Trail Coordinators, who then will report to the board of directors.

Steve S. and Steve M. will research large maps of the trail, for use in numbering and ease of location for adoption.

Sue R. suggested a workshop to cover the proper techniques for work performed by the trail adopters and the group as a whole. Steve M. suggested also this could be incorporated into the regular meetings.

Landowner packets: This is material compiled to approach landowners for the purpose of gaining access across their land for the trail. Nothing was received from Bill Menke concerning these packets.

Summer event planning: Two events were chosen for outreach activities for the town of Grand Marais. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Music Festival. Steve S. suggested the taste and glide at Valley Spur next winter and he will be also looking into another event for the Munising area for this summer.

### **Unfinished Business**

Chapter brochure: Lori will send everyone a copy of the new version of the brochure for input and approval. Steve S. will then attempt to incorporate a map into the pages if feasible. A copy of the brochure will then be sent to Headquarters.

Parking Area: Steve M. met with Jeff Stampfly from the DNR. They are still hashing it out internally of the best way to approach approval. Here is the last note from Jeff.

We are still discussing internally how best to deal with the parking lot. Dan Moore, our recreation specialist for the Eastern Upper Peninsula, has become aware of a way to lease the development and maintenance of the parking lot to your organization. If it can be done this way it may be a better arrangement than a volunteer agreement, which has to be renewed annually.

Dan is working on the lease now and once he has it prepared and I've reviewed it, I'll send it to you for your review. It's Dan's belief that this has to be approved up through the DNR and ultimately at the Department level in Lansing.

Jeff Stampfly, Unit Manager

Steve M. has asked for the help of our regional trail director Bill Menke. Maybe a phone call from him will spur these folks into some quicker action.

Steve M. asked for the members to submit pictures and ideas for a proposed kiosk at the parking area. We must remain confident that this simple parking area will be approved...someday.

Local Hiking Maps: No report from Mike Ballard.

GPS Training: No report from Richard Janney.

Chainsaw Cert. Class: Tentative dates for the Forest Service Class would be the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in April. Only four slots may be available for interested parties from Grand Marais. Final counts as well as the date is not finalized. Stay tuned.

Spring Logging: Flagging of the trail within the logging area needs to be done. Steve M. to call when conditions are prime for an expedition into the wilds for this venture. (At the time of this writing it has been completed by Steve M., Lori and J.C.)

Treasury report: 1,810.09. Increases from new and renewed membership. Keep up the good work!

Adjournment: Motion by Roger P. Second, Ed M. carried.

Keep the fire burning! Steve Miller, Secretary