

Minutes of the July 11, 2007 Meeting of the Grand Marais Chapter of the North Country Trail

Bar-B-Que! Ten people feasted on hot dogs and burgers served along with an array of potluck delicacies within the confines of the Sharon Marcin Pavilion. The cover of this wonderful donated picnic area kept us dry during a brief shower and the open sides gave us a beautiful look at the double rainbow that materialized in the southeast. It was a sign that a great meeting was in store.



Meeting called to order 8:48 p.m. ten in attendance.

Welcomed to their first meeting were five people, three of whom are new members. Donn and Sally Mechling along with Buck Swanson. Buck has a better half, Zandra, who unfortunately could not attend. Larry and Shirley Vanderlaan attended their first meeting and have also helped with trail work prior to the meeting. Thanks to all for your hard work and dedication.

Approval of June meeting minutes. A change in the wording to three years instead of two for gaining permission from the DNR for the parking area, motion by Kathy G, second Sally M. Change approved as well as previous minutes by all in attendance.

New Business:

LETTERING ADOPTIVE SEGMENTS: Originally numbered to be changed to letters to combat confusion with mileage. Motion by Kathy, second Donn. Ten yay. Nay, zero.

STATE of OUR TRAIL: Steve M. submitted all we have done as far as work, outings, gatherings, etc, etc. To be used by Clare Cain for her presentation at the National Conference. Pictures have been rounded up to compliment the text.

TRAIL WORK UPDATE: Three-mile section complete from Perry's Landing to the Blind Sucker Mouth. Work session scheduled for 7:00a.m. consisting of blazing the connector through town and trail work from the Blind Sucker to Deer Park

Deer Park Trailhead Signs: In need of painting and one is missing and needs to be replaced.

Donn M. suggested to have an article provided for the Grand Marais Gazette informing people of just who we are and what we do. A form of PR to gain interest and members for our chapter as well as to educate people concerning the North Country Trail. He

noted there is a Friday deadline and it will be put in free of charge. Thank you Marc Olgevie!! Donn M. also brought forth the opportunities for “getting the word out” in other publications such as magazines and websites.

A special thank you goes out to Mike and Chris Lawless, owners of the Superior Hardware. Reports are filtering in of their donations of supplies towards our efforts in restoring the trail. Thanks for your support!

Motion by Steve M. for everyone to look at the gorgeous sunset, approved. Meeting delayed, as one was lost in a flurry of snapshots.



Unfinished Business:

PARKING AREA: Steve M. met with the Alger County Road foreman to present the proposed parking area. Meeting went very well and application will be sent in Monday July 23rd for approval. Steve M. will give the local township a heads up and after all are notified and give their expected approval; we will have a groundbreaking ceremony.

CHAPTER BROCHURE: At headquarters for their fine-tuning. Not expected to be complete until September or October.

LOCAL HIKING MAPS: In process.

GPS Training: In process.

CPR TRAINING: Steve M. talked with Lou Bailey and informed him that there are six people interested in taking the class. Lou stated that August or September would be a good time as July is very busy for him. First aid class will be scheduled for spring.

KIOSK: Alan C. gave a cost estimate of 400.00 for materials. Alan also stated that he would be able to construct the kiosk. Our hats off to you Alan! Lori S. stated the possibility of advertisements of businesses for a donation to defray the cost of construction.

SUMMER OUTREACH: 4th of July, a table was set up with all the trimmings. Craisins were passed out along with information and brochures. A marvelous array of photos and maps adorned the table along with the North Country Trail Banner made for a welcome sight to all in attendance at the parade. Thank you Kathy Goulet , Donn and Sally Mechling for your efforts in providing this chapter first public out reach in some time. Looking forward to Saturday, August 11th, at the Music Festival for the second reach out to the public.

Treasurer's Report: Real close to \$2000.00

Motion for Adjournment, Sally M., Second Kathy G., carried.

Submitted by Steve Miller, Secretary