

Harbor Springs Chapter, North Country Trail Association
Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Jerry Keeney. Members present: Sheila Malleis, Ken Kelsey, Ralph Mueller, Tim Calloway, Jerry Keeney, Jim Stamm, Nancy Stamm, Margo Hodder, Dennis Fay, Anne Billiard.

We received word that Nancy Zebko's 98 year old mother was killed in a car accident. We all have Nancy and Gary in our thoughts at this sad time.

Minutes from last December's meeting were read.

Dennis Fay received the checkbook from Lenny.

Jerry has an email in to Ken Phillips (DNR) to set up a time to have the reroute in Mackinaw City marked. He is waiting to hear back.

We are also waiting to hear back from Emily Myerson from Mackinaw City about the kiosk at the trailhead center.

As we do every spring, we will update our list of trail monitors. **If you plan on monitoring the same section, or a new section, please let me know.** We would like to have at least two people monitoring each section.

Currently, we have:

Sec. 1 – Jim Ellis, Nancy & Gary Zebko

Sec. 2 - Anne Billiard, Margo Hodder

Sec. 3 – Margo Hodder, Dave Irish

Sec. 4 – Ken Kelsey

Sec. 5 – Tim Calloway

Sec. 6 – Dennis Fay

Sec. 7 – Dennis Fay

Sec. 8

Sec. 9

Sec. 10 – Nini Sherwood

Sec. 11

We would really like ALL members to contact either Tim Calloway or Anne Billiard any time you walk a section. Just let us know what condition the trail is in and what problems, if any need to be addresses. We need to hear if it's in good shape, too.

We will be calling our 'core group' of workers when we have work days, and email the rest. We will also detail the types of jobs to be done, and estimate the length of time for the work.

Volunteers to lead hikes:

May 17, Section 10 – Tim Calloway (Jerry was going to try to get Peg's list of flowers)

June 6, Section 2 – Anne Billiard

July 12, Section 7 – Margo Hodder

Sept. 27, Section 8 - Tim Calloway (?) Park stickers will be needed to drive your car in to the park for this hike.

Tim will draw out maps for parking and shuttling cars for the hikes.

Once we receive approval from the Wilderness State Park Supervisor, we will move our signs and log boxes for sections 8 and 9. Section 8 will run from W. Lakeview to Goose Lake. Section 9 will run from Goose Lake to Cecil Bay Road.

Tim will order new maps as soon as possible.

Ralph pointed out that better signage is needed at the end of Valley road where it crosses Chadderon. It gets confusing because of the cross country ski trail. Jim Stamm will mark it with the NCT signs that he made.

Jerry will ask for more of the big NCT signs.

Dennis will be our GPS expert. He will contact National as far as how often they want way points marked.

Jerry reported on the “Getting Kids Outdoors” organization in Emmet County. There is a breakfast meeting being held on May 1, and so far there are over 100 community leaders signed up. For more information, go to the web site HYPERLINK "<http://www.gettingkidsoutdoors.org>" www.gettingkidsoutdoors.org

Jerry called National urging them to get with the DNR to discuss the key issues. There are differences in use policies that need to be addressed. The National Park Service states “Foot Traffic Only,” while Michigan DNR has a multi use policy. Since most of our trail runs through state land, the two organizations tell the public conflicting rules.

National has revised their web site. Check it out!

Boy Scout Riley Hirn has been approved to build a boardwalk on parts of Section 3 that go through the wetlands. He will build a minimum of 80 feet, and as much as 300 feet, if he can make enough money. We agreed to donate \$200.00 at this time to his project. Riley will get with Tim to determine how wide it needs to be.

Tim, Ralph, Jim, and Ken were going out on Sunday, April 19 to cut the huge tree off the trail in Section 2 by Brutus Road.