

## Tittabawassee Chapter Minutes

Gaylord, MI

May 6, 2006

Attending:	Vern & Cora	Ron Wiley	Doug Sowle	Bob Schrems
	Andy & Peg	Lyle	Doug Bedell	Barb Dzieszinski
	Denny Mashue	Don Masseli	Bonnie Deslover	Gary

- Meeting called to order by Gary @ 1004
- Introductions, several new people attending
- Gary gave an explanation of why we are meeting in Gaylord – to give new members a chance to attend a meeting without traveling across the state.
- Approval of Minutes from March 2, 2006 meeting
- Financial Report – current balance \$1996.76
- Gary announced that our guest speaker from DNR is unavailable because of fire training
- Lyle gave a brief report on the Buckeye Trail work and the Roving Trail Crew. An invitation was given to join us on the trail project in the UP in late summer. More information will be sent out at a later date.
- Gary gave an explanation of the National Trails System, showed a map of the trails system.
- Gary gave an explanation and history of the NCTA. Also plugged the National Conference in Clarion, PA this coming August.
- Gary distributed Sponsored Membership cards to those who were not yet members
- Peggy explained the Ridge Runner program that puts a trail representative on the Jordon River section of NCT every weekend during the summer. The purpose is to assist any hikers who are having difficulty, and to act as an ambassador for the NCT. Bonnie DeSlover was introduced as our most consistent Ridge Runner. Peg distributed a sign-up sheet for anyone who wants to help out.
- Gary showed slides of of the road marking signs that we are attempting to place or have placed at all major road crossings. Gary also showed the Carsonite posts and the markings that go on it.
- Gary explained the importance of reporting Volunteer Hours.
- Cora reported on trail projects.
  - Passed around a card of thanks for the storage company that gives us a break on rental of our storage unit each summer.
  - Briefly described the trail adopters program
  - Described the Maintainers Reports and how vital they are. Also showed the on line reports.
- Schedule
  - Gary discussed National Trails Day. Requested ideas and support from the membership. Suggested that we advertise in Traverse City for any future events. The consensus was to postpone the planned Trail Days events until fall.
  - Gary discussed Backpacking Days at Jay's in Clare.
  - June 23 – 24 maintenance trip
  - Gary announced that Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> is Hatchery Days – TBW will have a booth
  - September meeting and fall walk-through – meeting place to be determined
  - October – fall color hike
- Gary would like to establish Chapter Newsletter
- Gary conducted a drawing for door prizes donated by Jay's
- Discussion of Gold Star certifications.

- Discussed possible locations of trail maintenance (re-benching) that needs to be done.
- Vern discussed some safety precautions with the Brusher. Also reported that the clutch and belts have been replaced. Extra belts are in the trailer.
- Gary adjourned the meeting at 1130