



North Country National Scenic Trail

Tittabawassee Chapter

February 2006



Tittabawassee Chapter Minutes 11/3/05

Present: Lyle Bialk, Stella Thelen, Douglas Sowle, Bob Schrems, Gary Johnson, Andy Zeek, Joe Bevirt, Willi Bevirt, Cora Killinger, Vern Killinger, Jerry Allen

- Jerry called the meeting to order at 1907
 - Jerry presented Trailblazer award to Peg. Andy Zeek accepted on behalf of Peg. This award had been originally presented at the conference in Petoskey.
 - Minutes from Sept. approved
 - Financial report approved
 - Jerry told of the Highway sign of NCTA logo. \$400 each, available through Challenge Cost Share
 - Jerry reports that the Arden Johnson Memorial bench is well secured and looks very good
 - Jerry thanked everyone for their good showing at the National Conference
 - Jerry explained the difficulties we have had with DEQ - regarding the Jordon River Valley and its designation as a wild and scenic river. Per DEQ we need permits for any and all structures. These permits cost \$150 each. Clare Cain from NCTA is working with DEQ to come up with a solution. They also
- objected to our mowing the existing trail. We now have permission to mow existing trail. Discussion followed. People are concerned of their personal liability now doing work in the Jordon Valley.
- Jerry read the correspondence from Clare regarding the mowing
 - Jerry reported that the section of trail through North Central Michigan College is close to Gold Star Certification. We would like to concentrate on this section to hopefully become one of the first Gold Star certified trail sections. A small re-route is needed, also some modification to an existing bridge. Jerry explained that due to many areas that are open to bicycles, not much of our trail is a candidate for Gold Star.
 - Jerry announce various priority projects for next year:
 - o Cory Adgate Property
 - o Continue puncheon construction in Jordon Valley (with proper permits)
 - Brief discussion of the changes at the NCTA office. Assurances were made that there should be limited changes in how we interact with the office staff.
 - Jerry gave a brief report on the Teddy Keiser Hike event.
 - A loose discussion of the By-laws of the chapter ensued, including po

ossible amendments. It was pointed out that we should have a board of directors, made up off the chapter officers plus one at-large member.

- Bob Schrem Nominated Gary Johnson as president, was seconded by Stella
- Stella nominated Andy Zeek as vice president seconded by ?
- Willie nominated Stella as Sec/Treas, seconded by Joe Bevirt
- Stella nominated Cora as the at-large member of the Board of Directors, seconded by Joe
- Jerry expressed his desire to remain the Tittabawassee Chapter representative to the Lower Mich Trail Council
- Lyle explained the formation of the DNR's Forest Management Advisory Committee - we hope to get some representation on this comittee
- Gary reported on the Oct. 15 information table they had at Deadman's Hill. They spoke with about 100 people, many of them locals who knew nothing about the NCT.
- The meeting was adjourned at 2036

National Conference

The 2006 North Country Trail Association national conference is August 10– 13 in Clarion, PA. Clarion , PA is only 6 1/2 hours drive from Breckenridge. Consequently, it is about the same distance as going to Marquette in 2004.

Calendar of Events

- March 2 Meeting in Sanford
- May 6 Meeting in Gaylord and Spring Walk Thur
- May 20 Backpacking Days Jays Clare
- June 3 National Trails Day Gaylord



Backpacking Days

May 20th is the annual Backpacking Days at Jays in Clare. They will have special sales. Also, Sales Reps from various manufacturers will demonstrate the latest and greatest hiking gear.