

HARBOR SPRINGS CHAPTER  
NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ASSOCIATION

October 15, 2009 Meeting Minutes

President Jerry Keeney called the meeting to order at 7:30, after a pot luck dinner at Anne Billiard's house.

Minutes of the August meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Dennis Fay presented the financial report. We currently have a total of \$1087.78 in our accounts.

Trail report: All sections appear to be in good shape. Dennis took the tree out that was down on Section 6.

Boor property. The re-route has been completed. Many local people were involved in this project. The property will be turned over to the city of Petoskey and Al Hansen will be in charge of its management.

The reroute to Mackinaw City is mostly finished. Tim Calloway and the crew from Michigan Works did an outstanding job of clearing the trees and brush. Tim is planning on getting out and blazing it as soon as the weather allows. It will need boardwalks built in spots. Tim calculated 200 feet total over 3 spots. (Does anyone know any Boy Scouts needing an Eagle project?) Jim asked if we can just cut some cedars from alongside the trail and use those for supports, rather than hauling posts in.

Because the Mackinaw City reroute still needs work, it was decided to change the place of the hike on Sunday, Oct. 18. The hike will be from Johnson Road to Maxwell Road, just beyond the Boor property. Hikers will meet at the corner of Division and Mitchell Roads at 10:30 am. Anne will go to the Pleasantview Township Hall at 10:00 to meet anyone who did not receive word of the change.

Jim suggested to NOT put the maps and brochures into the map boxes, as the boxes leak and the maps get ruined. Instead, just put them into the log boxes.

We need to order new maps. Dennis, Tim, and Jerry will get together and go over changes and/or corrections that need to be made. We plan to include GPS coordinates. We didn't get a great response for our request for donations from those businesses whose names are mentioned on our map. They may be deleted from the map. We should have enough maps to get us through the winter. More maps will be ordered by spring.

Dennis has included pdf format maps on the web site. This is a better format for the maps, as they are easier to read.

The kiosk in Mackinaw City at the trailhead (of several trails) is STILL being discussed. At first, the DNR allowed room for 7 sides, but now it's down to only three. Tim is going to contact Sandy Planisek in Mackinaw City and see if we can just erect our own sign with the placard that we have. Jim said he will build it if someone will draw up the design.

Boy Scout Riley Hirn is being awarded his Eagle Scout rank on October 24. Riley is the Scout who did all the fundraising and work to build the boardwalks on Section 3. Tim suggested that we present Riley with a one year membership to the HS Chapter of NCTA. We agreed to do this.

Bruce Allard suggested that we, as a group, might want to "Adopt a Highway." Other members who have been involved in other organizations that have done this, said that it was very difficult to get members to take part in the clean ups. Also, the trail does not run alongside the highway. It was decided that we need to concentrate our efforts on the trail at this time.

The next meeting will be our Annual Meeting and Pot Luck at the Crooked River Lodge in Alanson on Thursday, November 19 at 7:00 pm. More information will follow.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Billiard, Secretary, HS Chapter, NCTA