



Border Route Trail Association Board Meeting Minutes August 25, 2016

Attendees: John Elliot, Gary Carlson, Bob Jarvis, Deena Reisman,
Ed Solstad, Tom Suter, Bob Westphal, visitor Suma Raghavendran.

➤ Reports

- President – John E.
 - 147 Trail Guides are left. We should start the revision process for the next edition before we need to reorder. Specific changes include adding the Moss Lake Trail and changes to ownership of some lodges.
 - Last weekend's clearing trip was brutal; alder and hazel brush was thick!
 - Everyone involved in trail clearing is asked to watch the Park Service training videos, available online at <http://www.nps.gov/noco> and scroll down to trail safety videos. 8 segments, 3 hours total. John will put the URL out in an email.
 - There is a major safety issue when crews are working both sides of a blockage; people can't see each other and get too close to the power tools.
 - West end of trail is in better shape than expected..
- Treasurer – Deena R.
 - Currently over \$8,800 in checking; we've had some Amazon Smile donations.
 - We received an order for 2 t-shirts with a \$20 donation.
 - Chris F will ask about REI selling trail guides, Ed S will follow up.
- Web Master – John G. not here.
- Marketing
 - Ed S – New trail clearer John Istad is enthusiastic about getting people in Duluth/UMD involved in clearing; wants to have a presentation there.
 - Suma R – Local college Environmental studies students need volunteer hours; great opportunity to rope in more warm bodies!
- Wilderness Coordinator – Tom S.
 - BRTA crew of 5 cleared to Rove Lake .7 mile to long portage; lots of alder. 2nd Day Topper Lake cutoff .25 mile; lots of duck under/crawl over.
 - CCM&I possible deployment Gogebic to McFarland.
 - Caribou Rock trail is open; Stairway Portage cleared.
 - South Lake to Caribou controlled burn planned.
 - Clearwater to Mountain Lake to Watap has deadfalls, snowload brush, and pinetops.
 - Lodges and campsites crowded in mid August.
 - American Hiking Society has volunteers available to clear, but it's a lot of work to set up

trips. Local leaders, food and transport need to be set up.

- Mechanized Coordinator – Ed S.
 - Trips Stump River bridge and Portage Brook bridge show damage from stream debris; 10° degree tilt on decking, supports bent. Repair next May after spring floods. How to get materials in? Snowmobile? Helicopter?
 - Otter Lake cutoff to Meteor Pond overlook 3 miles total cleared. 3 miles more needed to 270° overlook.
- Organizational topics
 - A motion was made and approved to ask Matt to resign the marketing position and become the NCTA liaison instead. We will then be able to vote Suma R onto the board in the marketing position. This will require 100% approval vote of the board, but can be done by email.
 - Annual volunteer appreciation picnic will be held Aug 28; 11 people are signed up. Bob J will bring beer.
- Monthly topics
 - Reviewed/approved with minor corrections meeting minutes from last meeting.
 - Next meeting WEDNESDAY Oct 5 at Gary's. Bob J will bring the beer.