



Border Route Trail Association

Board Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2016

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

➤ Reports

- President – John E.
 - 140 Trail Guides are left. Should be good until next summer. Do we have the digital version of the guidebook? It needs to be revised for the next edition. We should talk to the NCTA about a joint trail guide.
- Treasurer – Deena R.
 - Balance reported.
- Web Master – John G.
 - Worked on shopping page, hopes to have beta for review in a few days.
 - Trail condition updates are posted on website; more are coming from Tom S.
 - Individual emails are available on BRTA site for info, officers, trail reporting, etc.
- Marketing
 - Ed S. is working with John Istad to schedule a presentation in Duluth/UMD. He would prefer a date that is closer to the spring clearing season, if possible.
 - Do we need fund raising activities to help pay for CCM&I?
- Wilderness Coordinator – Tom S.
 - The 9/22 trip finished Clearwater and Mountain Lake overlook to Watap section; conditions better than expected. Met some thru-hikers in this area who mentioned that they had been misled by blue tape on the Caribou Rock trail. NCTA will be asked if there are tape color conventions for the whole trail system (main line vs access trails, etc.)
 - The ridge E of Stairway Portage, Rose camp W from South Lake to Mucker lake cleared by FS crews. CCM&I crew will start Mon 10/10 clearing from Gogebic to McFarland; will probably be able to do more than that.
 - FS is doing a lot of work, as Flathead fire crew is in the area, probably waiting for planned controlled burn.
 - There is a problem with the base map that shows the Birch Lake flow in the wrong spot; signs have been put up to lessen the confusion.
 - Will work in Topper Lake area on 10/6 trip.

- Mechanized Coordinator – Ed S.
 - The Pigeon River Section of the BRT has been cleared of deadfalls and all overhanging brush from the 12/2015 ice storm; A recon hike followed by selective brushing & deadfall removal will be done in the Spring of 2017.
 - The Crab Lake trail has been cleared of brush and deadfalls from the Loon Lake Trailhead through to the east end of Crab Lake. The BRT has been cleared of brush and deadfalls from the power line cut westward to Loon Lake.
 - Hestons trip on 10/13 will brush Magnetic Rock to the connection with the West End ski trail. If a boat is available, BRT will be brushed from the western BWCAW boundary west to the North Loon Lake Rd. Other sections of the Gunflint section of the BRT and connecting trails will be cleared as time permits.
 - A motion was made, passed, and then rescinded that we cease maintaining the redundant section of the Crab Lake Trail from the Crab Lake Cutoff eastward to the BRT. John E. will discuss this with Tom Kaffine.

- Organizational topics
 - Matt D. agreed to resign the marketing board position.
 - Tom S. made a motion, seconded by Deena R. to appoint Suma R. to the vacant marketing board position, and appoint Matt D. to the NCTA liaison position. The motion passed.
 - Tom S. wants to donate map sets to the Forest Service, Gunflint Lodge, and Gunflint Pines.

- Monthly topics
 - Reviewed/approved with minor corrections meeting minutes from last meeting.
 - Next meeting Thursday, Nov 10 at Gary's. Bob J will bring the beer.