RAIL TRAIL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

July 4th, 2008

9:30 a.m.

Present: Chair - Councillor Bill Davis, Councillor Cheryl Murdoch, Mike Burke**,** Pamela Marsales, Russ Hemphill

Support Persons: Tegan Moratz - Haliburton Highlands Trails & Tours Network

Regrets: Ken Hoeverman
Thom Lambert

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Mike Burke; Seconded by Cheryl Murdoch
Be it resolved that the agenda of July 4th, 2008 meeting of the Rail Trail Management Committee be approved as circulated.
Carried

Late Arrival – Pamela Marsales

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

No declaration of interest reported.

Acceptance of Minutes from June 6th, 2008

Correct the Warden's Report

Moved by Cheryl Murdoch; Seconded by Mike Burke
Be it resolved that the Minutes of the June 6th, 2008 meeting of the Rail Trail Management Committee be approved as amended.
Carried

Business Arising

<u>Special Event Permit Policies & Procedures</u>

Moved by Mike Burke; Seconded by; Russ Hemphill
Be it resolved that the Special Permit Policies and Procedures created by the Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours be adopt as amended.
Carried

Rail Trail Inventory

Tegan Moratz from Trails and Tours made a presentation of her findings along the Rail Trail. The following is what she highlighted for the committee;

Funding Opportunities

- Federal Grants
- Fund Raisers (Re-Discover the Rail Trail, etc.)
- Large Corporate Donations (Honda, Yamaha, etc.)
- Adopt A Metre Drive (big push at Hike Haliburton, etc.)

Studies and Monitoring

- Trent University is fully on board to conduct an economic impact study, environmental scans and rail trail monitoring.
- Trails and Tours will also begin a photo study of the impact along the trail.

Inventory Summary

- The only washroom facilities along the Trail are in Kinmount at the visitor information centre and Lochlin at the community centre/library.
- There are Picnic tables at Ritchie Falls and Kinmount.
- There are two self-guided tour brochures that have been created for people using the Rail Trail (Trails and Tours and a group out of Kinmount).
- There are interpretive markers along the last two Kilometres of the Rail Trail starting at Howland Junction.
- The Rail Trail surface is currently only suitable for mountain biking and cannot be accessed by wheelchairs.
- Activities within the 5 potential linear parks can include Hiking, Biking, ATVing, swimming, kayaking, canoeing, Geocaching, photography, picnicking, wildlife viewing, fishing.
- Amenities that we could include in the linear could be benches, picnic tables, privies, viewing blinds, parking, trailheads, brochures, interpretive nodes, raised Boardwalk and a flat/hard pack surface to accommodate wheelchairs and cyclists.
- Other uses can include commuter traffic, i.e. Hiking and cycling to work.
- The Rail Trail is also rich is multiple ecosystems and pioneer heritage.

A decision will be made as to what area(s) the Committee would like to focus on first when all committee members are present.

Discussion Side By Sides and Argos on the Rail Trail
The committee reviewed the information provided by KATVA and Russ Hemphill and decided that to make any decision they would need further clarification from the OPP in regards to the regulations around these machines. Tegan will follow-up and contact the OPP.

Correspondence, Ute Wright Follow-Up
Deferred until the next meeting. Tegan will find out who owns the land that is mentioned in Ms. Wright's letter and see how the committee might be able to help them stop unwanted trespassers.

Granite Screenings Recommendation
Deferred until the next meeting.

Trail Wardening/By-law Enforcement

June 2008 Wardening Report

Since the last HCRT (June 6/08) meeting, this is what HATVA has done to warden on the HCRT All dates are weekends, Saturday or Sunday:

June 7
- 18 ATVs with valid passes
- 1 car (also stopped by By-Law Officer Rogers who issued a warning)
- 2 joggers

June 14 – no report

June 21
- 20 ATVs (1 with no pass, but a visitor to the area with a friend with a pass)
- 3 walkers
- 3 bicycles
- 1 deer

June 29 - 18
- ATVs stopped or seen (5 without passes they were asked to leave the trail)
- **2 OPP officers on duty**
- 2 big dirt bikes with no plates near Gould's Crossing... told to turn around and leave the trail...they went back to Haliburton
- 1 ATV with no pass was polite after being given a ticket by the OPP 5 minutes earlier for failing to provide license, ownership, insurance, etc.
- 9 walkers (2 with dogs)
- 5 Cyclists

Other Business

<u>Letters to the Editor</u>
It was motioned that all persons with concerns in regards to the Rail Trail from this point forward be contacted directly so that committee can see what they can do to help. The committee would like to open communication to the general public as well as adjacent landowners.

<u>Correspondence</u>

Wayne Bennett

Deferred to the next meeting.

Murray Cowan

Mark Coles of HATVA has addressed the concerns of Mr. Cowan by cutting back vegetation from stop signs, replacing a stop sign as well as posting 2 Caution Horses signs.

Early Departure – Cheryl Murdoch

New Business
Pamela Marsales verbally resigned from the Rail Trail committee as of 11:50 a.m. Bill Davis asked that she provide Trails and Tours with an official letter of resignation.

Next Meeting
The next Rail Trail Meeting will take place August 1st, 2008 starting at 9:30 a.m. at the County Council Chambers.

Action Items for Trails and Tours

- Tegan will contact the OPP for clarification in regards to Side by Sides and Argos
- Tegan will contact the landowner of the trail beside the Iron Bridge in Gelert.
- Thom will follow-up with Ute Wright
- Thom will report back to the committee as to where he recommends the granite screenings should be applied.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Moved By Mike Burke
Be it resolved that this meeting be hereby adjourned.
Carried

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William Davis – Chair Tegan Moratz – Recording Clerk