

RAIL TRAIL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

August 1st, 2008

9:30 a.m.

Present: Chair - Councillor Bill Davis, Councillor Cheryl Murdoch, Mike Burke, Russ Hemphill, Ken Hoeverman, Thom Lambert, Eleanor Harrison

Support Persons: Tegan Moratz - Haliburton Highlands Trails & Tours Network
James Rogers – By-Law Officer

Guests: Eric Christenson, Liz Danielsen (The County Voice)

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by; Mike Burke Seconded by; Ken Hoeverman

Be it resolved that the agenda of the August 1st, 2008 meeting of the Rail Trail Management Committee be approved as circulated.

Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

No declaration of interest reported.

Acceptance of Minutes from July 4th, 2008

Add Eric Christenson to the Guests in attendance.

Moved by; Russ Hemphill Seconded by; Cheryl Murdoch

Be it resolved that the Minutes of the July 4th, 2008 meeting of the Rail Trail Management Committee be approved as amended.

Carried

Business Arising

Rail Trail Master Plan – Decisions & Discussion

Granite Screenings

- For long term planning a really great family biking trip would be from Haliburton to Donald were they can have ice cream and play a game of mini putt.
- The wetlands after the quarry would be the perfect place to start spreading the granite screenings.
- The screenings would stop at Nailers Road and start again on the higher ends of the Rail Trail.
- It was proposed to add to the Committees wish list for the county roads department to build up the surface of the Rail Trail just before Nailers Rd.
- Thom will go out and GPS the area for specific coordinates and will make arrangements with Fowler Construction in regards to the screenings
- We may have to rent a roller to spread the granite screenings.

Trent University Research Projects

The committee was all in favour of moving ahead with the various research projects that U-links has proposed for the Trent University students.

Fleming College Applied Project

The committee was all in favour of having the 2008/2009 students of the Ecotourism and Adventure Management class do a thorough inventory of the proposed linear park that would stretch from Haliburton to the Fish Hatchery. The proposed project would be a complete trail plan which would include locations for benches, interpretive nodes, the appropriate surface and so much more.

James Roger's arrived.

Follow-up Discussion – Side-By-Side & Argos on the Rail Trail

It was agreed that any vehicle with skid steering will not be permitted on the Rail Trail. As for Side-By-Side usage on the trail in order to make a decision the following information was needed;

1. Can a Side-By-Side cross municipal roads at 90 degrees legally? Ken was going to look into this information for us as well as ask for a letter of opinion from the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario in this regard.
2. What the Rail Trail Insurance encompasses?

It was also discussed that we may be moving a bit prematurely on this topic as new legislation in regards to Off Road Vehicles is expected for the Spring of 2009.

Correspondence, Ute Wright – Follow-Up

Thom followed-up with Ute and gave her By-law Officer, James Roger's cell number for any future infractions. She also stated that she believed that ATVs were on the Rail Trail strictly as a pilot project and that there was to be a follow-up meeting in regards to the master plan. She was unaware of the wardening efforts put fourth by HATVA and KATVA on the Rail Trail.

Moved By Mike Burke Seconded Thom Lambert

Be it resolved that the Haliburton County Rail Trail Management Committee recommend to County Council to facilitate a public meeting in the fall of 2008 in response to the 5 year review in the Master Plan, as well as review the motorized use of the Rail Trail.

Carried

Trail Wardening/By-law Enforcement

HATVA has revamped their wardening program which will it turn be more focused and consistent. They will also provide Trails and Tours with the dates, times and areas wardened as well as any observations such as the number of users motorized and/or non-motorized and what activities they were taking part in.

July 5 - 23 ATVs (8 KATVA, 9 HATVA all with valid passes) & 6 day passes

- July 12 - 6 ATVs; 4 with day passes; 2 with KATVA passes
2 bicyclists
1 Jogger
6 people catching bug (they were not very friendly)
- July 13 - 4 ATVs with valid passes; 1 ATV with no passes who played cat & mouse with the wardens
- July 19 - No report

Other Business

Acceptance of Pamela's Resignation Letter

Her letter was accepted at Council.

Recognition Signage

Tegan will create a signage plan for the County Rail Trail which will include;

- Recognition signs
- Advertisements along the Trails
- Dimensions of signs
- Standard look for signs

Grass Cutting Along the Trail

The sight lines on the trail are being impaired by tall grass. Tegan will contact the county to brush along the edges of the trail.

Action Items

- Thom will go out and GPS the area for specific coordinates and will make arrangements with Fowler Construction in regards to the screenings.
- Bill will get Thom the contact information for Fowler Construction.
- Ken will contact the MTO in regards to side-by-side legislation.
- Tegan will draft a signage plan for the Rail Trail
- Tegan will follow-up with Roy in regards to brushing the trail and building up the surface of the trail at Nailers Rd.,
- Tegan contact U-links and Fleming College in regards to the proposed applied projects.

Adjournment

Moved Mike Burke

Adjourned 11:00 am

William Davis – Chair

Tegan Moratz – Recording Clerk