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# GITCHI-GAMI TRAIL ASSOCIATION

April 12, 2018 Meeting Summary  
MnDNR Trails & Waterways Office –Conference Room



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## WELCOME

1. Welcome & Introductions – Meeting called to order at 10:07am

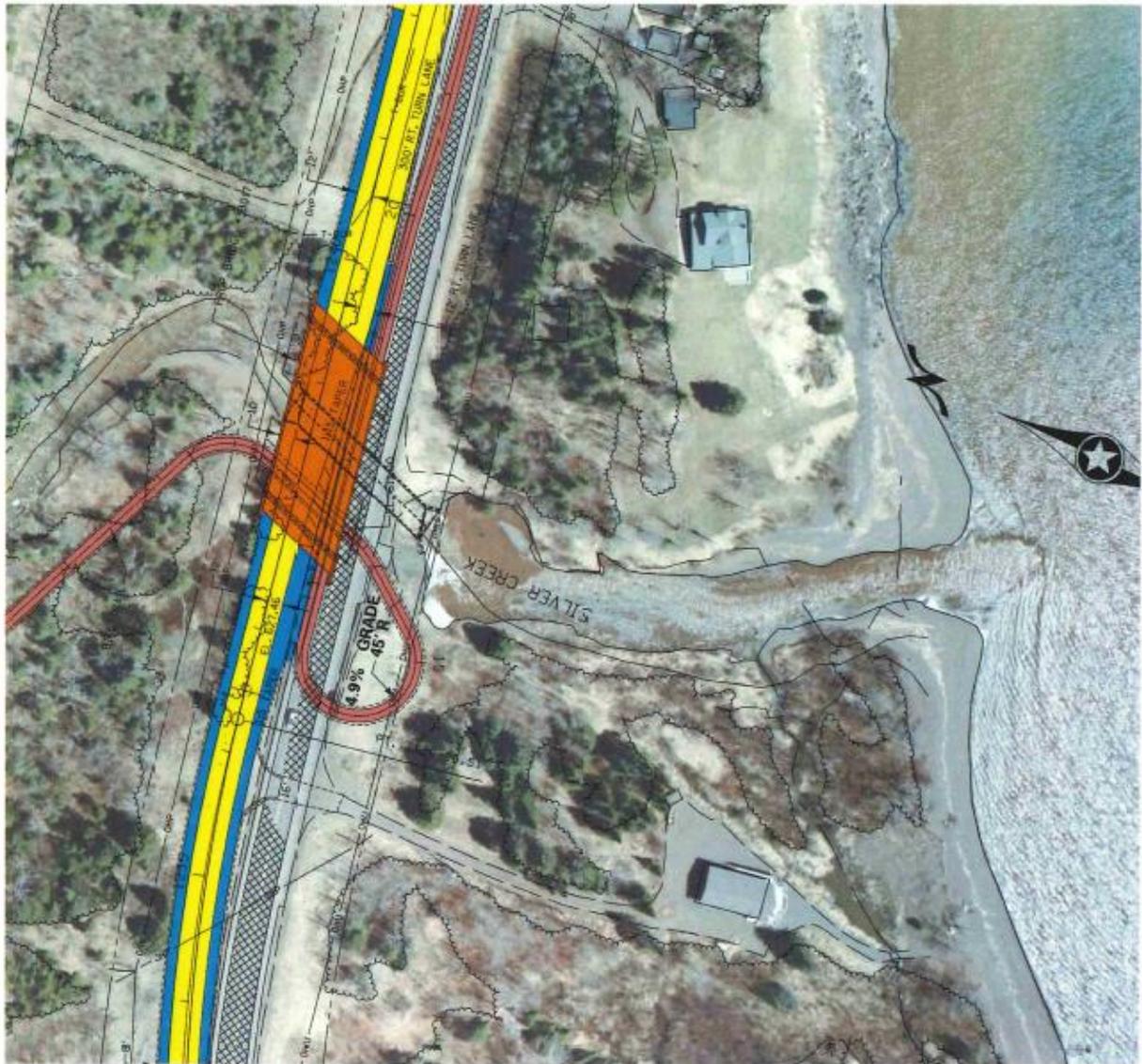
Find meeting summaries and GGTA documents at:

[www.ardc.org/GGTA](http://www.ardc.org/GGTA)

In attendance: Tom Peterson (President), Bruce Martinson (Vice President), Bill Blank (teleconferencing), Rod Garver, Dan Cruikshank, Ginny Storlie (Cook Co. Commissioner, ex-officio), Mark Rudningen (MnDNR), Kevin Johnson (MnDNR), Tim Anderson (City of Beaver Bay), Erik Larson, and Michelle Pierson (Ex. Director)

## COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. President/Vice President's Report – President Tom Peterson greeted meeting attendees and brought to the group's attention to a couple upcoming important events:
  - Annual Meeting of Members-
    - Saturday, May 19, 2018, 10:00am at Two Harbors Federal Credit Union -801 11th St, Two Harbors, MN 55616
    - Will include informative presentation about the GGTA and the trail.
    - Will be held in conjunction with the Spokengear "Yard Sale" Gear Swap (located across 11<sup>th</sup> Street)
2. Trail Coordinator's Report-
  - The NE terminus of the Tofte segment of trail is going out for bid soon. This one mile gap in the trail will be completed in phases. Construction 2018 season will see the trail extend from its current terminus on the lake side of 61 down to the Commercial Fishing Museum. From there, trail users may still use the Bluefin board walk (walking their bicycles) and then use the Town Park Road, carefully cross Hwy 61, and pick the trail back up near the Tofte Ranger Station building on the inland side.
  - Grand Marais to Cutface segment – engineering almost completed. Out for bid late fall or at least by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Construction anticipated in spring 2019
    - M. Pierson noted that folks from Cook County Moving Matters had reached out about this project. DNR staff noted they would be in touch with the county in the fall to perhaps present at a Cook County Board meeting and invite city folks and other stakeholders to go over the project
  - Silver Creek Bridge – Mark Rudningen passed along a potential design for the Silver Creek bridge which would accommodate the trail two ways. It would provide a pedestrian/bikeway on the bridge surface and provide a cloverleaf underpass access which would also benefit fisherfolks. (See image)



- Ribbon Cutting Event for West Road/Beaver River Bridge segment (and Caribou Falls Wayside)
  - MnDNR officials Erika Rivers/Phil Leversedge will be on the shore to attend/preside over the two ribbon cutting events
  - Mark Rudningen, Jason Peterson (Tettegouche Park Manager), Michelle Pierson, will work to plan the ribbon cutting events. Cheri Zeppelin from DNR will handle the media aspects and produce an invite to stakeholders.
  - Current plans are to hold the Caribou Falls Wayside ceremony at 11:00am ( a brief ceremony) and plan for noon or 12:15pm for the Beaver Bay ceremony
  - Tom Peterson has been requested to speak on behalf of the GGTA. GGTA is being requested to provide light refreshments and some supplies for the Beaver Bay ribbon cutting.
  - DNR will do its best to get the trail swept before this event-
- Erosion Control on West road – project manager will work with the contractor on a few ‘punch list’ items to fully wrap up the West Road project

### 3. Guest Presentation

- Taconite Harbor to Schroeder Scoping (Segment 19) by Erik Larson  
Mr. Larson presented the powerpoint file he sent us and went through potential trail routing between Taconite Harbor and the current terminus in Schroeder. Bruce Peterson noted that he'd reached out to John Paulson at Minnesota Power about the idea of this routing but hadn't heard back from him. There are many things to consider in regard to this potential trail route including potential partners/stakeholders/landowners to get in touch with (Cliffs, MP, and more). Association members thought that perhaps this summer one or more of us can walk the route with Mr. Larson.

#### 4. Executive Director's Report

- Legislative Update – We heard from Judy Erickson that the word is the House/Senate will come in with a \$800 million bonding bill. The Governor's bill is at \$1.5B, so it may be that with the requirement of a super-amajority, the bill may end up over \$800 million. HF2850 is authored by Rep. Ecklund and the Senate companion bill SF2718 is authored by Sen. Bakk.
- Business Sponsor solicitation – was sent out and some businesses have already committed funds.
- Newsletter – Hope to have out in early May to notify members and trail supporters about legislative updates, the Annual Meeting, the Spokengear Yard Sale, the Annual Ride and it was noted we could use this as platform to seek ride volunteers.
- Annual Ride
  - T-shirt – simple tshirt this year with logo big on the back with the date, and a pocket logo on the front
  - Brochures – discussion was had about developing a rack card in place of the 4 panel brochure to save costs
  - Two ads: HaveFunBiking(\$235) and MnTrails(\$380) magazines
- Parks & Trails Council of MN – Annual Dinner, April 17<sup>th</sup>

#### 5. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's Report – see attached. Motion to approve report by Dan Cruikshank/Rod Garver, no objections, carries.

#### 6. ARDC Report

- Paved Trail Economic Impact Assessment update
  - Survey review: please look over this draft form of the trail user survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JNW6XP6>
- Through-Two Harbors/Stantec/MnDOT update – The plan has now been published here [http://ardc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/D1-Route-Feasibility-Study4.09.18\\_compressed.pdf](http://ardc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/D1-Route-Feasibility-Study4.09.18_compressed.pdf)
- MnDOT District One Bicycle Plan update- This project will wrap up this fall. You can learn more about the project here: <https://districtonebicycleplan.com/>

#### 7. Other Business

**NEXT MEETING:** Date: Annual Meeting, May 19, 2018: 10am Location: Two Harbors Federal Credit Union