
GITCHI-GAMI TRAIL ASSOCIATION

May 19, 2018, 10:00am

Two Harbors Federal Credit Union – Conference Room
801 11th Street – Two Harbors, MN 55616

Meeting Summary



WELCOME TO THE GGTA ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

1. Welcome & Introductions- Meeting of Members called to order at 10:05am. In attendance: Tom Peterson (President), Bruce Martinson (Vice-President), Chad Pierson (Treasurer), Ginny Storlie (Ex-Officio, Cook County Commissioner), Michelle Pierson (Executive Director), Dan Mettner, Bob Nesheim
2. Presentation: The Gitchi-Gami Trail Association—Supporting a Great Trail on a Great Lake
Michelle Pierson and Tom Peterson presented a Powerpoint highlighting our 2017-2018 work
3. Questions & Answers
4. Elections
 - a. President and Vice President roles will serve as a three year term, this beginning the second year in that term. Thanks to President Tom Peterson and Vice-President Bruce Martinson for your continued service to the board.
 - b. Call for nominations for Publicity/Communications – none brought forward. Please consider sharing news of this vacancy with trail supporters to see if we can fill this board role with an individual who could have great impact on the GGTA's work.
 - i. Bob Nesheim, member, mentioned that he is working with another trail group on the North Shore and lessons he is learning he would gladly teach the GGTA board in regard to an updated membership database and method to communicate with members when they last renewed membership.
5. Meeting adjourned at 10:35am

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Board Updates
 - West Road Ribbon Cutting – Coming up on May 24th, 2018, at noon at the Beaver Bay trailhead. GGTA has volunteered to provide coffee and treats and has worked with Camp61 owners to make those for the event. Bob Nesheim and Dan Mettner intend to bike behind the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

UPDATE: The ribbon cutting was a huge success. Big thanks to Bruce Martinson for representing the GGTA and to Ginny Storlie for attending, too! Check out the news story here on WDIO: <https://www.wdio.com/news/caribou-falls-wayside-rest-gitchi-gami-trail-north-shore/4923406/>, there was coverage by Lake County News Chronicle: <https://www.lcnewschronicle.com/sports/outdoors/4451793-new-trail-section-connects-silver-bay-beaver-bay>, and our Facebook post here: <https://www.facebook.com/GitchiGamiTrailAssociation/posts/1611699158879244>
 - GGTA Trailer-
 - Work Day – Rod Garver, Bill Blank, Michelle Pierson and Chad Pierson intend to meet on Monday, June 11th, to begin Annual Ride planning and to look at the trailer. Rod Garver mentioned he may take the trailer home to put in some

rehab hours on it, build shelving. He is offering his labor as volunteer project, and will save receipts for supply costs. Comments about rehabbing the trailer included using a bit of Rustoleum for some of the metal components on the exterior and maybe some magic erasers can remove some of the rust streaks.

- Outer design – we have a quote from Silver Creek Design that was shown at the May 19th meeting and a quote for \$580. When trailer is cleaned up, we'll gather more comments and try to get the trailer looking ship/shape.
- When trailer is fully ready to go, Dan Cruikshank mentioned he could store the trailer at his home, out of view—this could assist insurance coverage.
- Legislative Update
 - Bill Tracker – Should bonding bill get stretched beyond the anticipated \$825M mark, our projects may be considered.
 - Conservation Strategies Update – Read a memo from Judy Erickson regarding the tail end of the session.

UPDATE: The session came to an end at near midnight on Sunday, May 20th. The Bonding bill was held to the \$825M mark, and the GGST project line items were not included. The LCCMR bill was signed in conjunction with the bonding bill. MnDNR has noted that their \$5M ask for parks and trails priorities in the LCCMR bill was funded at the \$2.5M level and means that the Tofte South portion of the GGST was included in this funding source.

- Annual Ride – August 18, 2018
 - Set planning meeting – Set for Monday, June 11th at 12:45pm at Spokengear
 - Registration is live on the website and some registrations are coming in
 - Boreal no longer hosts websites, we've navigated over to Two Dogs
 - Insurance needs –Michelle will work with McKay Insurance to fill out paperwork for liability insurance for the ride
 - Chad Pierson asked for a motion to permit boosting Facebook postings regarding the ride. Bruce Martinson/Tom Peterson made a motion to approve up to \$200 in expenditures for Facebook advertising costs for the ride. Carries.
 - Online calendar postings – Michelle will work to get the Gitchi ride on a list of online calendars.

2. Treasurer's Report – Treasurer's report was distributed by Chad Pierson. No questions. Motion to approve by Bruce Martinson/Tom Peterson. Carries.

3. Trail Coordinator's Report – Mark Rudningen was unable to attend.

- Trail construction has begun in the Tofte North segment. Greg Fangel sent us a photo of the project kicking off.



- GGTA provided MnDNR with a check for \$1600 to help the DNR pay for a weed whipping attachment for their mower to make it easier to mow around trail posts.
4. Other Business
- ARDC Contract renewal- The ARDC/GGTA contract will expire at the end of June 2018. A motion was made by Bruce Martinson/Tom Peterson to contract with ARDC for continued staff support with a contract amount of at least \$10,000. Chad Pierson abstained. Motion carries.
5. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 11:15am

NEXT MEETING: Date: July 12, 2018, 10am

Location: MnDNR Parks and Trails Offices – Two Harbors