



**Bayfield Area Trails Committee Meeting Notes
Tuesday January 10 @ 3 – 4:30 pm (via Zoom)**

Participants:

- Committee members present: Arik, Kitchell, Lang, Mattson, Rothe
- Committee members absent: Fahrenkrog, Finn, Van Stappen
- Communications Subcommittee: Fentress
- Trails Subcommittee: Ipsen, Johnson, Wegerson

Round Robin Reports from Committee members (5 min./each)

1. **Landmark** (Lang):

- Brownstone Trail Counter Stats.: Charly is back on board & he'll send stats. via email.
- Landmark closed on the Maki property purchase: HOORAY!!! The Makis have a 5-yr. lease on the property to transition their business.
- Winter 2023: start design & planning
- Spring 2023: permitting
- 2024 Initiate restoration
- During 2023 field season, they will install a grass waterway based upon a NRCS design in the area below Seagull Bay to try to deal with the runoff and potential slumping in that location.
- Starting discussions with the Town of Bayfield and County about long-term ownership; they have more access to restoration grants and are better positioned for long-term management and public use.

2. **County** (Mattson, replacing Jen Bratsch):

- Trail Counter Stats. will be sent via email.
- Privies installed and operating at Siskiwit & Lost Creek
- Siskiwit trails have been packed; looking for options for grooming. Temporary signs will be installed within the next couple weeks.
- The County and Landmark collaborated to purchase 160 acres in the headwaters of Lost Creek. To be managed for conservation and public access; possibly as a Special Management Area (SMA) by the County.

3. **Town of Bell/Cornucopia Trails Club**: (Rothe): Working with the County at Siskiwit trails.

4. **Red Cliff** (Melis): see notes below related to naming the Pikes Creek Trail

5. **Ashwabay (AOEF)** (Finn): not present

6. **Town of Bayfield** (Fahrenkrog): not present

- Headwaters wetlands quiet for now. Trail work next season.
- See Pikes Creek Trail below.

7. **NPS** (Van Stappen): not present

8. **City**: (Kitchell): Based upon the City's 5-year Outdoor Rec. Plan, the Parks & Rec. Committee in thinking about initiating a "master plan" for trails. This could include additional trails in the Big Ravine, trails on the City's west side, and trails leading out of the City limits to Dalrymple campground, possibly along the lakeshore. This would include public outreach/engagement, possibly dovetailed with the BATs Trails Forum in the spring.

Ongoing Business:

1. Pikes Creek Tributary Trail: Kitchell et al

- a. Fundraising goal of \$55,000 achieved: currently \$56,437 with \$2,500+ pending
- b. Request for Bids to be initiated 1/17/23: Bids will be due 2/7/23, with bid selection by NLT 2/21/23. Goal is to install bridge in June/July, but NLT Aug. 15, 2023
- c. Selecting a trail name: update report from Melis Arik
 - i. Options at bottom

- ii. Melis initiated communication with THPO Marvin Defoe and traditional Ojibwemowin language contacts Calvin Hartwig and Edwina Buffalo to inquire about one or more traditional names in and around the location of the trail.
 - 1. The Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) atlas does not show any traditional names.
 - 2. To date, no traditional name has been identified.
 - 3. She will follow-up with a request for feedback by the February 14th meeting.
 - 4. The name Creek Trail would be easily translated to Ziibiins Miikana
 - iii. The group discussed how to approach trail naming going forward. **The group agreed to the following guiding principles going forward:**
 - 1. BAT Comm. will place a priority on naming new trails with a traditional Ojibwemowin place name, if one exists and if there is Tribal support.
 - 2. Absent #1, BAT Comm. members will determine trail names; and wherever possible, include the Ojibwemowin translation on signage.
2. Socioeconomics Project Proposal from the Survey Research Center (SRC) (\$12K WCMP funds & Town of Bayfield \$6K):
- a. Although most members had not closely reviewed the SRC proposal, the following key points were identified:
 - i. Clarify that the survey would gather input on the user experience & user preferences.
 - ii. Need to better specify the field sampling design: location, frequency, target population numbers at trail locations. This is important for understanding project implementation.
 - iii. Benefits and objectives of the proposal should be articulated:
 - 1. To quantify the economic and social benefits and contributions of trails. This is relevant when assessing trails in relation to other land uses.
 - 2. To help evaluate “return” on investments made by the BAT Comm. members (e.g. City, Town, Landmark, AOEF).
 - 3. To understand what trail users prefer & want as the basis for guiding where the BAT Comm. should focus future efforts.
 - b. We need to clearly determine what other resources would be needed to implement this. The CAMBA project plan could provide a template/example. For example:
 - i. iPads
 - ii. Volunteer involvement in field interviews
 - iii. “Incentives” for survey participants and volunteers.
 - c. Next Steps
 - i. **ACTION: Rothe** will contact Ron Bergin at CAMBA to request the project plan or other possible information to help answer the implementation questions.
 - ii. **ACTION: Kitchell** will follow up with Shaheer Burney to address and clarify topics listed under a. above.
 - iii. **ACTION:** Determine if there is a need for additional funding. If so, should we apply for a JEM grant, due April 1st?
 - iv. **ACTION:** Determine if we want to proceed; preferably at the Feb. meeting.
 - v. **ACTION:** Need to submit proposal to WCMP: Kitchell
3. Chamber Visitor Guide and Landmark Trail brochures undergoing revisions to reflect new info.
4. Chequamegon Rd. to Salmo: Wegerson, Lang, et al. – no report due to inadequate time.

Trails Subcommittee (TsC): Wegerson/Ipsen – no report. Next meeting: 2/6/23 @ 5 p.m.

Communications Subcommittee (CsC) (5 min.): nothing new

New Business:

- 1. Open discussion: reflections on Bayfield Area Trails – ran out of time: will gather via online survey
 - Each person offers 1-3 ideas: what is going well and why?

- Each person offers 1-3 ideas: what can be improved & how?
 - **ACTION:** Kitchell will send out online survey to gather input
 - **ACTION:** Synthesize and review results and incorporate into 2023 plans and priorities
2. Initiate discussion about 2023 priorities:
 - **ACTION:** BAT Comm. members will be asked to review and provide comment via email prior to next meeting.

Adjourn: 4:37 p.m.



NEXT MEETING: Tuesday February 14 @ 3 p.m.

Potential Future Topics:

1. 2023 Priorities
 - a. Trails Forum: rethinking the date – May?
2. Update on Fiscal Sponsorship with RFR

NAMING THE NEW PIKES CREEK TRAIL

Top 3 for the Main Trail

1. Ziibiins Miikana (Creek Trail)
2. Hatchwabay Trail

Choices for the Overlook Spur – in priority order

1. Meme Miikana (Pileated woodpecker trail)
 2. Chickadee Point
 3. Pileated Point
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