



**Bayfield Area Trails Committee Meeting Notes
Tuesday March 12th @ 2:30 – 4:30 pm (via Zoom)**

Participants:

- Committee members present: Clark (left early), Huinker, Kitchell, Lang, Rothe
- Committee members absent: Ballou, Finn, Mattson
- Trails Subcommittee present: Johnson, Wegerson
- Communications Subcommittee present:
- Others present:

Focus Topics

1. World Trails Weekend Celebration (see attachment) (30 min.): Kate & Kris
 - a. Summary report on logistics: Kris
 - b. Summary report on program (see attached map): Kate
 - i. Lang suggested that we should try to make it clearer: perhaps print one copy in full size and evaluate how to improve
 - ii. Rothe will bring 2 easels
 - iii. Clark will provide 3 large flipchart pads
 - c. Role of BAT Comm. members: Kate & Committee

2. DRAFT project calendar (30 min.): Kate
 - a. Added Brownstone project: replenish gravel between below Wild Rice Retreat and bottom of steps; clear drainage ditches
 - b. Move Gil Larsen bridge assessment to May
 - c. Add reroute or rehab Flying Squirrel to project list with West Rim of Big Ravine
 - d. Adopted working draft
 - e. **ACTION:** Kate will ask Ashwabay if they want to add projects (often in the fall)

Ongoing Activities Reports

3. Annual MOU Review: Final version attached – no further action needed.
4. Proposed Long-term Plan Update (5 min.): Kate
 - a. 2 grant apps. submitted: 1) DSACF for facilitator; 2) NPS RTCA program
 - b. Introduce at Celebration
 - c. Target start date: late July
5. Trails Subcommittee Report & Input from BAT Comm (10 min.): Wegerson, Ipsen, Johnson
 - a. AAT:
 - i. an email was distributed to previous adopters to determine who will continue/not continue.
 - ii. will conduct broad outreach via BAT Comm. email list and Facebook to recruit more
 - b. Trails Maintenance & Management Document is close to final. Will put on upcoming BAT Comm. agenda.
6. Communications Subcommittee (CsC) Report (2 min.):
 - a. Focused on outreach for Celebration

- b. CsC is working on its annual work plan to include
 - i. Pileated Woodpecker Trailhead Signage
 - ii. Recruitment:
 - 1. Younger volunteers/members
 - 2. Adopt a Trail participants
 - 3. This year's field projects
 - 4. Economic impact study trail user surveys
 - iii. Expanding email roster and volunteers; emphasize engaging younger folks
 - iv. Expanding CsC membership: photography, graphics, social media, GIS/maps
 - v. More education/stewardship in addition to continuing communication via website, Facebook, & email outreach
7. Economic Impact Study Refresher (15 min.): Peter gave a detailed update
- a. Awaiting WCMP funding
 - b. Trail user survey locations & process
 - i. Minimum needed: 550 hrs. volunteer time; 275, 2-hr. shifts
 - c. Trail Counter locations: Kate asked for input on where to place 2nd trail counter on Big Ravine trails
 - d. Recruiting and hiring coordinator – need help with spreading the word
 - e. Recruiting volunteers: need help with recruiting; will sign up volunteers at the Trails Celebration
 - f. Need help with collecting incentives for volunteers & survey participants
 - g. Revisit at May BAT Comm meeting
8. Rapid Round Robin Reports (20 min.)
- a. **Town of Bayfield:** (Kitchell)
 - i. Issues with Anderson Bridges are still unresolved.
 - ii. Planning to work with Chairman Hoopman on bridge remediation & access rehab. when timely.
 - b. **City (Clark):** Trails in the Big Ravine are clear and dry: expecting to remove closure signs and tape soon.
 - c. **Landmark (Lang):** Brownstone: DOT grant decision expected in early summer; FEMA grant decision end of year.
 - d. **Ashwabay (Finn/Schalla/Olson):** not present
 - e. **County (Mattson):** not present
 - f. **Town of Bell/Cornucopia Trails Club:** (Rothe): Fred Erickson & wife conducted 2 pruning training sessions for volunteers; Volunteers conducted 4 pruning sessions on 60+ trees at Siskiwit River Preserve orchard. Things are looking lots better. Erika Lang mentioned that it would be acceptable to prune the fruit trees near the outhouse.
 - i. Genevieve asked if all of the Siskiwit trails have been mapped and if they should be posted on the website. Volunteers could assist with this, if needed. Kate subsequently asked this in an email to Lindley Mattson; no response received as of the date of note preparation.

- g. **APIS/NPS:** (Steve Ballou): not present
- h. **Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources Division (TNRD)**(Huinker):
 - i. Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH) was selected as the contractor for the trails feasibility study. Currently negotiating the final contract scope and cost. They plan to conduct outreach at 1) Trails Celebration; 2) Annual Pow Wow; 3) Red Cliff Days; 4) one more special event TBD. Final plan to be done within a year.
 - ii. Looking forward to working on Frog Bay trails with BAT volunteers in May
 - iii. Applied to the NPS Rivers, Trails, & Conservation Program for Tech. assistance on a plan for the Frog Bay trails, especially the boardwalk replacement.
 - iv. There may be improved opportunities to collaborate on trail naming in the future via the new language and culture specialist.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday April 9th 2:30 – 4:00 pm Central (Kitchell will not be present)

- 9. Future Agenda Topics:
 - World Trails Weekend
 - Project calendar
 - Economic Impact Study
 - Long-term planning proposal
 - Reaching trail users at trailheads – for volunteering, fundraising, and participating
 - Trail mapping
 - Trail management standards