



Bayfield Area Trails Committee Meeting Notes Tuesday July 9th @ 2:30 – 4:30 pm (via Zoom)

Participants:

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

Focus Topics

1. World Trails Weekend – thank you! (5 min.) It was a success – [see blog on website](#)
2. Long-term strategic plan – now named: Bayfield Peninsula Trails Plan (BPTP) (20 min.) Kate
 - a. Kick-off meeting- (see attached agenda as a reference, including participants list & Planning Subcommittee members*).
 - i. Johnson expressed interest in possibly joining in the winter.
 - b. Next steps:
 - i. Planning subcommittee:
 1. Give approval to members. Add other members (e.g. mountain biking, outfitters, etc.?)
 2. Schedule the monthly planning subcommittee meetings
 - ii. Compile & synthesize notes from kick-off meeting (NPS-RTCA)
 - iii. Trail inventory & condition assessments with assistance from the trail adopters
 1. By Aug. 1: Review & select tool (and modify if needed to match our current AAT program)
 2. By Sept. 1: Conduct training - produce YouTube training video
 3. By Oct. 15 (in conjunction with the fall AAT monitoring report): Complete field inventory & assessment on assigned trail segments and on unassigned trail assignments (e.g. Raspberry River, Spring Creek, Echo Valley)
 - iv. Work with the NPS – RTCA to define roles, including the contract position, lay out schedule
3. Flood Report & Proposed Project Schedule (30 min.) Kate
 - a. Flood report sent to all BAT Comm members, Trails & Communications Subcommittees. [Link to flood report on website blog](#)
 - b. Project schedule (attached): based on standard work days (Friday & Sat. am; (1st & 3rd weeks of the month).
4. Town of Bayview follow up (15 min.) Erika & Kate
 - a. The Town Board approved joining BATs. **ACTION:** Kitchell will send MOU for signature
 - b. **ACTION:** Erika & Kate will do site visit to Houghton Falls Nature Preserve with Town Board Chair Don Jenicek. This occurred on July 22nd.
 - i. Volunteer work day will be planned for the fall – late September

- ii. A proposal to Coastal Management will likely be submitted for funding for trail work at Houghton Falls.

Ongoing Activities Reports

5. Trails Subcommittee Report & Input from BAT Comm (15 min.): Wegerson, Ipsen, Johnson
 - a. AAT reports were sent to the BAT Comm members in June: please review for important information about your trails when you receive them.
 - b. Highlight field projects: Big Ravine Headwaters wood chips on woodland trail still in process. Several independent projects completed after the flood
 - c. Agreed to establish standard volunteer work days: Friday & Saturday mornings of the 1st & 3rd weeks of the month.
 - d. Mary Ledin is drafting a volunteer plan for folks to review
 - e. Volunteer Release Forms: still need to look for a way to merge County & BAT forms and process. NOTE: The County form is patterned after the BAT form.
 - i. **ACTION:** Kitchell will discuss options with Jason Bodine at the County to try to create one form. Perhaps also discuss with Mark Abeles-Alison & John Carlson (attorney).

6. Socioeconomic Study: (5 min.) Kate & Peter
 - a. Got some good volunteer responses at Trails Celebration
 - b. No word on funding
 - c. Working on scoping out potential candidates for coordinator

7. Communications Subcommittee (CsC) Report (5 min.):
 - a. Stay abreast via the BAT website & FB page
 - b. Pileated Woodpecker Trailhead Signage: 2 signs installed in time for event; Salmo sign will also be installed.
 - c. Working with Tony on a standard info. piece about BAT (poster, rack card)
 - d. **ACTION:** ask Tony for data about visits to website, FB, Instagram to assess the benefits vs. level of effort.

8. Rapid Round Robin Reports, if any (20 min.)
 - a. **Ashwabay** (Finn/Schalla/Olson): absent
 - b. **County** (Mattson): absent
 - c. **Town of Bell/Cornucopia Trails Club:** (Rothe)
 - i. Worked with the County to clean up and repair trails at Siskiwit Preserve after the big flood on June 19th.
 - d. **Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources Division (TNRD)**(Huinker):
 - i. The NPS – RTCA team was in the field doing work on the Frog Bay Trails Plan.
 - ii. Treaty Natural Resources is hosting an open house on Aug. 14th @ 3 – 7 pm at the old Pow Wow grounds
 - iii. Red Cliff to Bayfield Feasibility Study is started 6/17.
 1. Gathering preliminary GIS data

2. In addition to assessing the Red Cliff to Bayfield route options, the study will include links to key locations: Pow Wow grounds, Clinic, Casino, & Early Childhood Center.
3. O
- e. **Town of Bayfield:** (Kitchell)
 - i. The Town Board approved making the BAT rep. an official representative of the Town appointed by the Town Board Chair. The rep. will report through the Plan Commission.
 - ii. Pileated Woodpecker Trail update:
 1. Anderson Bridges has filed a claim in circuit court against the Town.
 2. **ACTION:** Lang will contact Jim Lemke in the Real Estate Division to encourage timely follow up on this important issue.
 - iii. Ted May is working with the County Weed Cooperative (Ramona Shackelford & Andy Teal) on purple loosestrife control at Big Ravine Headwaters & Salmo Trail. This is being done by pulling & beetles.
- f. **City (Clark/Carrier):** The City is working on a policy for planning and developing new trails. This will be helpful for the City as well as other BAT Committee members.
- g. **Landmark (Lang):** TAP grant for Brownstone did not come through. Other funding options are still being pursued.
- h. **APIS/NPS: (Steve Ballou):** Trail projects in progress around Little Sand Bay:
 - i. Link from the campground to Wilderness Inquiry has been completed.
 - ii. Still on the horizon: trail around the lagoon and Allen Rd. to Pt. Detour (long-term idea).

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday August 13th @ 2:30 – 4:30

9. Future Agenda Topics:
 - BPTP – expect this as a priority focus topic for several months
 - Socioeconomic Study
 - AAT – trails inventory and assessment
 - Volunteer Plan
 - Reaching trail users at trailheads – for volunteering, fundraising, and participating
 - Trail management standards