

Minutes  
Trails Advisory Committee  
Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, 7:00 pm  
Municipal Board Room 2249 Loop Rd.

Members present:

Joan Barton  
George Stewart  
Mary Barker  
Mike Peters  
Dale Mc Crae

Regrets:

Peter Wood  
Tammy Donaldson  
Paudash Trailblazers ( Dave Weiss/Brian Mc Kinlay)  
Shannon Hunter

Contact Information Update:

Dale Mc Crae : Updated telephone contact numbers: First option : 705 448  
1023, Second Option 705 324 6344  
George Stewart: Updated e mail address: [junglegeorgestew@gmail.com](mailto:junglegeorgestew@gmail.com)

Minutes

Call to order – 7:05 pm

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest – none

Adoption of Agenda:

Moved by Mike seconded by Dale

1. Joan updated the group on the improvements to the Highlands East website re: trails information up to this point, ie a Trails button now appears on the homepage and all our current maps can be reached and downloaded via the button.

2. Mary updated on the promotional information she and her daughter Jodi are preparing for Aaron Berning to be added to the H. E. site for trails:

-A package on the Dillman Hill trail will be sent to Aaron tonight

- The Sucker Lake package will go to Aaron this week
- The Burleigh Hill package will go to Aaron next week
- The Farr Road trail cannot be promoted until it is brushed – Joan to inquire of Shannon whether this can be made a priority for the business and economic staffer when hired so that the materials can go on line this spring.

3. Joan updated group re: Trail HCSA #9 – Paul Gaudin advises that with the early onset of winter the trail was not finished for the opening of the snowmobiling season but has been completed over the course of the year. It has been groomed, and was open for roughly 2 weeks before closed again due to weather. The total investment into the trail over 2016/2017 has totalled over \$200,000.00. Paul hopes to have talks with other trail stakeholders this spring to ensure that usage of the trail does not impede finishing touches on current work or undermine the progress so far.

4. The group reviewed Dales' annotated maps of the Waltham Trail, and agreed that at our April meeting we will confirm who will be volunteering to traverse the trail this spring. Our plan is to have the trail travelled by two to four volunteers with our Highlands East GPS to record the existing route on the ground in order to map it and determine whether or not the existing route traverses private property at any point, if so, where.

Joan will mark up three more copies of Dale's map with the trail details for the next meeting so that our volunteers can have maps to carry with one map reserved for the committee.

5. The group discussed our on going need to find more potential for trails development around Cardiff/Gooderham/ Highland Grove and Harcourt. WE recalled our public appeal for help on this two years ago, which did not produce workable results – Joan agreed to raise this issue with council members and seek their assistance to find local residents willing to contribute ideas.

6. The group discussed interest expressed by Paul Gaudin in participating in our committee in future, and the permitted size of our committee. A consensus was reached that we should inquire of Tammy Donaldson whether she would be willing to give up her seat on our committee, on the understanding that she would still be provided with our minutes, that we value her input particularly on equine tourism and Dysart related issues, and would be pleased to see her at any of our meetings that she felt she would like to attend. ( Note, this has been done, and Tammy is pleased to step down under these arrangements.) This will open a seat which can be offered to a new stakeholder member.

7. The group discussed the question of whether or not we should be producing paper maps or leaflets for the new shorter trails we are developing this season, or preparing web materials only. Jodi Rupnow did the graphics for the Homesteader and Prospector brochures currently in use, and donated her skills.

Mary will talk to Jodi and see if she would be willing to do the work to produce new web maps or brochures for the short trails, and it is the consensus for the committee that this time around she should be paid for the task should she decide to do it. Joan is also to contact Lauralea Dirstin and see if she can obtain a same of the laminated pocket trail maps that were sold recently in Muskoka .

8. Mary updated the group re: current geocaching progress and demonstrated a striking sample pirate cache for the new geoart tour. George has asked Mary for a photo or photos of sample caches so that he can put them out to HATVA members with the information that these kinds of things will be found on the trails, don't hurt them, and in fact they can be rather fun if you try geocaching. Joanne Vaniers webinar for people around the world who are trying to develop their own geotours went very well – the audience was very impressed with the high level of volunteer involvement in our project here.

We also remain at this point still in the running in the competition to bring an episode of CBC's summer comedy program "Still Standing" here, thanks to our unique Geocaching program.

9. Earth Day clean up – individual committee members will mostly be involved in the project with other groups, George will ask HATVA to locate their annual trail cleanup in Highlands East, again this year, as they do from time to time.

10. Meeting adjourned 9:10 pm, moved by Dale seconded by Mike.

Next meeting Wednesday April 5<sup>th</sup>, Municipal Office Boardroom.