



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

February 10, 2009

North Bay Chamber of Commerce Boardroom
1375 Seymour Street, North Bay

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark King, Chair	Laurie Bachelder, Member-at-Large
Susan Christian, Secretary	Mike Martel, Member-at-Large
Walter Reich, Member-at-Large	

REGRETS:

Bill Beckett, Past Chair	Sharon Kitlar, Member-at-Large
Ken Turner, Treasurer	David Thompson, Member-at-Large
Vic Trahan, Member-at-Large	

ALSO PRESENT:

Jennifer McCourt, Program Manager Julia Hogan, Public Relations Coordinator

1. Welcome

Mark King chaired the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.

2. Adoption of minutes of October 1, 2008

Resolution No. 01-02-10-09 Christian/Martel

“That the minutes of the October 1, 2008 Executive Committee Meeting be accepted as written.”

3. Correspondence

Six correspondence were received – summary attached

4. Voyer Trail Project Committee Update

An official Voyer Trail Committee has been formed, and the first meeting took place at the end of January to discuss the issues and opportunities to formalize the Voyer Trail. A meeting with the City of North Bay’s Trails Committee to discuss the plan was recently held, and the City has expressed their support of the project in principal. One of the City’s issues with the Voyer Trail concerns the CN rail crossing at Poulin's Pit. If the trail were to cross the tracks, the area would require a pedestrian-use designation, and flashing lights and/or wigwags may need to be installed. Discovery Routes will determine what safety precautions are needed in this area.

A meeting at the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines office on February 11 will be held, where funding partners will be in attendance to discuss the project and possible funding opportunities.

5. Trans Canada Trail Event Committee Report

The Trans Canada Trail Event Committee held its first meeting on February 5, 2009. Twelve participants attended, and many ideas and themes were discussed for the grand opening of the

Trans Canada Trail through Callander. An official opening date has not been set, though the committee is deciding upon June 13, June 20, and June 21. A final date will be set within the next week. The Executive agreed that the committee has to ensure that the MPP, MP, and local mayors are able to attend the event in order to attract as much media attention as possible.

6. Discovery Routes Resource Guide

The Recreational Trail Resource Guide is almost complete, and was presented to the Executive. Jennifer has spoken to the North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce and the General Manager of the Holiday Inn Express as to whether this resource would be a valuable tool to those in the tourism industry. Both agreed that the guide would be very beneficial to hotels, information centres, and other tourism operators. The guide will be sold for \$65, and personal sales calls to businesses in the area will be made within the next few weeks.

7. Pathways to Learning Update

Discovery Routes received a grant from the Communities in Action Fund to create the Pathways to Learning school program. This will be a pilot project, where four trails - the Cranberry Trail, Trans Canada Trail, Dam Trail, and either the Voyer Trail or Corbeil Interpretive Trail - will be used in lesson plans for four different classes. The lesson plans will be specific to each trail, including historical, geographical, and scientific information unique to the route. A meeting with a representative from the Near North District School Board will take place to see whether Discovery Routes can garner support from them on this project. Discovery Routes is also looking to partner with the North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority. It is anticipated that these lesson plans will be available for the spring of 2009.

8. Financial Report

An Income Statement and Balance Sheet covering the period from the last Executive Committee Meeting until February 10, 2009 are attached.

The following resolution was carried:

Resolution No. 01-02-10-09 Christian/Bachelor

“That the financial report be approved as presented.”

9. 2009 Budget

The budget for 2009 is attached.

10. Schedule of Meetings for 2009

It was agreed that the Executive Committee meetings would be held on the second Tuesday of each month unless a Coordinating Council meeting is scheduled (summary attached). The next Coordinating Council Meeting has been scheduled for March 25, 2009 at 5:00pm, location TBD. The Committee discussed possible guest speakers and resource people to attend Coordinating Council meetings.

11. New Business

No new business was discussed.

12. Adjournment

The following resolution was carried:

Resolution No. 03-02-10-09 Martel/Bachelor

“That the meeting be adjourned.”