



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
February 23, 2010
North Bay Chamber of Commerce Boardroom
Seymour Street, North Bay

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark King, Chair
Susan Christian, Secretary
Sharon Kitlar, Member-at-Large
Vic Trahan, Member-at-Large
Mike Martel, Member-at-Large

REGRETS:

Bill Beckett, Past-Chair
Ken Turner, Treasurer
Walter Reich, Member-at-Large
Laurie Bachelder, Member-at-Large
David Thompson, Member-at-Large

ALSO PRESENT:

Jennifer McCourt, Program Manager Julia Hogan, Trails Tourism Coordinator

1. Welcome

Mark King chaired the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.

2. Adoption of Minutes of December 7, 2009

Resolution No. 01-02-23-10 Trahan/Martel

“That the minutes of the December 7, 2009 Executive Committee Meeting be accepted as written.”

3. Correspondence

11 correspondence were received – summary attached.

4. Beachburg Subdivision Rail Line

Discovery Routes has been in contact with the local MP and MPP, as well as the Trans Canada Trail Foundation regarding the sale of the rail line in the Township of East Ferris to a private land owner. Both the MP and the MPP have offered their support in the issue. Discovery Routes informed the Trans Canada Trail that a partnership has been formed between Discovery Routes and District 11 Snowmobile Association to explore the option of purchasing the remaining rail line through Chisholm, Bolter and Lauder townships. Further research into the expenses is required before a final decision is made.

5. Trans Canada Trail Foundation

The Trans Canada Trail Foundation has issued termination of employment notices to members of their staff, including two Trans Canada Trail Ontario employees. Trans Canada Trail Chair Valerie Pringle has approached the Minister of Finance, Jim Flaherty for assistance in extending the Federal government’s \$3 million commitment to the Foundation in order to continue employing staff until the end of the year and fulfill any outstanding funding commitments.

6. ATV Raffle

The ATV raffle generated a total of \$12,900 between June 2009 and January 23, 2010. After expenses, both the Nosbonsing Anglers and Hunters and Discovery Routes each received \$2,700 in profits. The Board has expressed an interest in partnering in a raffle again this year, and the Chair and Program Manager will discuss it further with the Anglers and Hunters during their club meeting in February.

7. National Trails Coalition Project Update

The City of North Bay has made substantial progress on the Booth Road extension of the Kate Pace Way and is on target to complete the engineering phase of the project prior to the March 31st deadline. Discovery Routes has been informed by the NTC that this project will be one of the eight projects in Ontario to undergo a Federal audit. The audit begins March 2, 2010.

8. Voyer Trail Project Update

a. Endangered Species Permit

New regulations under the *Endangered Species Act* require that a permit be obtained prior to any development work on all lands both private and public. Since Blanding's Turtles are in the vicinity of the Voyer Trail, the project will likely require such a permit. Rod Bilz of FRi Ecological Services has indicated that it would cost roughly \$3,000 to do the assessment work and apply for the permit. Discovery Routes will approach the Voyer Trail committee for their input as to whether to proceed with the permission immediately, or whether to wait until the issues within the Township are resolved.

b. Fundraising Auction April 24

The Knights of Columbus and Discovery Routes are holding a steak dinner and auction on April 24, 2010 to raise money for the Voyer Trail. The event is being held at the Corbeil Park Hall. Tickets will be \$15 each. Discovery Routes is in the process of collecting items for the auction.

9. Trail Signage Funding Update

FedNor is currently in the process of reviewing the funding application for the trail signage project. Discovery Routes has applied to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for the provincial portion. The deadline for Trillium is March 1, 2010, and Discovery Routes will know by the end of June whether the application has been approved.

10. Bike Train North Internship

Discovery Routes had applied to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation for an internship grant in partnership with Bike Train, the City of North Bay, and ONR. The application was approved for 90% funding. The three partners will contribute the remaining 10%. There is a posting on the Job Bank, and an advertisement will be posted in the North Bay Nugget requesting applications for the job. The deadline is March 12, 2010. Discovery Routes will be meeting with the Bike Train committee on March 11 to further discuss the details of the internship.

11. Financial Report

An Income Statement and Balance Sheet covering the 2009 fiscal year and from January 1, 2010 until February 23, 2010 was presented.

The following Resolution was carried:

Resolution No. 02-02-23-10 Christian/Trahan

"That the financial report be approved as presented."

12. 2010 Budget

The 2010 budget was presented to the Executive. See attached.

13. New Business

The Voyageur Multi-Use Trail System invited Discovery Routes to attend the Sportsman Show with their organization. Discovery Routes will send maps and the display with VMUTS, but will decline the offer to attend.

14. Date of next Coordinating Council Meeting

The Coordinating Council Meeting is being held on March 11, 2010 at 5:00pm at the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority's Natural Classroom. Justin Lafontaine of the Bike Train will be making a presentation to the group.

15. Adjournment

The following resolution was carried:

Resolution No. 03-02-23-10 Kitlar/Martel

“That the meeting be adjourned.”