

**Hancock Trails Club
Board Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2025**

Attendance: Jay Green, Mark Roberts, John Diebel, Wayne Stordahl, Jason Martin, Mark Klein, Nate Laakonen, Murphy Mallow, Eric Watkins, and Keith Meyers. Absent: Jay Green and Ian Helman

Mark Roberts convened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Agenda: Nate added campground connector trail

Minutes: John noted that snowmobiles are not covered for property insurance. Jason moved that the minutes be approved with that correction. John provided a second to the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Groomers: No bike grooming after a week and half ago due to too much water. Mark Klein noted that the no grooming on the ski trails at least a week or more before then. Nate asked if the no walking signs had been taken down and John noted that some were still up.

Treasurer's Report: John indicated that we are well ahead of last year on membership and that reconciliation is ready to take place. There is \$150,878.00 across all accounts. Sheds and other assets will be added to the 990. Nothing big to report on current transactions. There is still money in the pay pipes. \$350 to Kyle Hiltunen for the second half of the season. Haley Goodreau set up the template. Paid the last of the Barnelopet bills. \$345 was spent and \$75 owed the Gazette ended up being a contribution by them. Equipment reserve fund amount still being determined between John and Jay. The Building Fund is down to \$5,000 as \$56,000 has been encumbered. Eric moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. Jason provided a second to the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Annual Meeting: The meeting will take place on May 20th at 6:00 p.m. The newsletter communicated the meeting. Voting will be based on the membership roster as of March 15th. Simply Voting will go out for May 1st. We are still taking nominations. Ballots will go out on May 5th. We need an estimate on the number of pizzas. Jay will address this. Eric suggested bringing hats and merchandise to sell. Mark Roberts suggested emails to the membership. John will talk to Ian about doing this via Mail Chimp.

Nominating Committee: Mare and Andrew Grohowski, Roger Woods, and Carolyn Meingast were all discussed. It was noted that Jason, John, and Jay's terms are expiring and that Wayne would be resigning.

Visit Keweenaw Destination Development Grant: Nate reported that the proposal was submitted, and we will know in the next couple of weeks. Met with Zach on site. His estimate is \$100,000 for the whole skills park. MEDC Public Spaces Community Places program for grant matching crowd funding will be applied for once we know if we have received the Destination

Development Grant. John noted that this was used successfully for the Dog Park. John also noted that company contributions will be important. Nate indicated that \$20,000 will be the target.

Trail Improvements this Summer: John noted the unfinished drainage issues in the gorge. Nate handed out a summer work tasks list. John noted that \$10,000 is available for summer improvements. Keith will find out if a final inspection is required on the bridge and boardwalk project. John indicated that he was happy to continue mowing. Mark Klein said he could push some of that to Kyle. It was noted that Wolf has done some of the mowing as well. Nate indicated that Kyle has signed the contract for summer work, but surveying could be a conflict. Nate Fettig reached back about summer work and could be a possibility if needed. Nate Laakonen will follow up with him with our list of special projects like Long Bridge and Lower Grillhouse. Eric indicated that we should add the removal of signposts to the list. On ski trail surface improvements, Mark Roberts will walk them and talk with John Pekkala. John suggested checking the small culvert by the new bridge. Eric indicated that we should be looking at the Quincy Trail road crossing and the hill to the Pedestrian Bridge which is angled. Mark Roberts noted that we cannot take action on the Pedestrian Bridge until we know what the Wuebbens will do. Mark Roberts also noted the area behind the church as an area that needs attention. John asked Nate about the St. Urho Trail sign replacements. Nate does not have them. It was also discussed that a walkthrough should be done with Dave Mattila on potential trail incursion.

Hancock Township Property: This is a nine-acre parcel. Jay went to their board meeting on Monday, and this acquisition is close to being finalized.

Business Sponsors: Nate sent out a list of perks and the plan is to roll this out in the next month or so. The committee will follow up with businesses after the initial outreach. Eric mentioned the possibility of catering Glide-N-Gorge as well as moving up the date.

Insurance: John indicated he still needs to handle this.

Letter to Landowners: Unsure where Jay is with this.

Merchandise: Nothing new, but waiting on proof for the tent for the Chain Drive

Community Foundation of the U.P. Grant: The plan is to submit a proposal for \$3,000 toward the side-by-side, but now aware if Jay has submitted this.

Wuebbens: Nothing

Snowcat: Keep working on this.

Campground Connector: The city applied for a Copper Shores Community Foundation Grant

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.