

**Recreational Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 5th, 2012**

Committee Members Present: Del Bergseth, Hank Ludtke (VC), Katherine Warren, Karen Mulari (C), Larry Knutson, Ray Vlasak, Gerry Schram, Lonnie Neuner

Staff Present: Martin Wiley, Guy Fischer

Audience/Guest Participation Per Agenda: Steve Lindow, Patrick Hollister, Willis Mattison, Matt Davis, Neal Powers

1. Chair Welcome/Introductions:

- New RAC member Lonnie Neuner introduced.
- May Meeting Minutes Review/Approval (Ludtke motion; Bergseth 2nd)
- June Agenda: Del requested adding the subject: closing individual trails and biodiversity areas (as #7); agenda approved (Bergseth motion; Vlasak 2nd)

2. Open Forum

- Steve Lindow: Attended Forest Township Board Meeting – unaware that RAC had been discussing ATV issue/options. Interested in hearing about possibilities. Most damage he's seen are along roads not damage on trails, side trails. Around Bad Medicine, up to 113, Sockeye – haven't seen any ATV damage. Concern about Forest Township Resolution's passage - Don't close it all. Comments: Survey moving forward (Mulari); East side of Bad Medicine soils are sandier (Warren); Same resolution as was presented to Sugar Bush Township – that township wanted to be notified/consulted if GIA trail is being considered within Township(Vlasak); Since conversation with Steve (could not find information on the RAC online) a link has been created from the County jump page to the RAC minutes)

- 3. Survey Review:** A few changes were suggested: Q10 change wording to management: g. "County management of recreational resources"; Comment: raise concern about attitude about motorized recreation (Mattison) (Response: there is a comment section – Mulari); Q11 change so to add "that diminished your recreational experience" (Davis); If possible suggested changes to survey per review would be done.

- 4. Parks:** Looked at Chilton and topography around lake – maybe a trail makes sense (campsites – not so much, concern about maintenance, parking issues, safety issues) (Wiley); interest in creating campsites (Bergseth); Bass Lake/others to keep an eye on things (Ludtke); don't know that you will find volunteers who are interested (Mulari). Issues of registration of campers, fees to maintain campsite (Bergseth). What does Tamarack do – (Mulari)?; North Country Trail campsites? (Fischer); Tamarack has RV sites for volunteers who keep an eye on things (Powers); North Country Trail has 5 campsites – use is tracked via charcoal from fire pits (Vlasak); Lets start with the County property located on the East side of Height of Land for developing campsites – lake access, but needs prep work (Ludtke); Good test – pretty open, could develop sign up list/registration (Knutson); Registration could be onsite, unmanned

using a cash box for fees with campers depositing envelopes – self policing, \$8-\$18 a night fee (Mattison). General interest in cash box idea – fees provide for maintenance, make area attractive, is there interest in using HOL as a trial? (Mulari); something the board would entertain (Schram); Motion by Del, 2nd by Ludtke to explore HOL as a possible campsite.

5. Closing Trails/biodiversity areas: Aren't we already closing some trails in some of these areas? (Bergseth); Working on Forest Management Plan –would like to have done by Christmas, will be IDing bad spots as part of inventory and mapping them out (Marty); if there are issues we can act now (Mulari); what is the definition of sustainable – if you start placing trails on map, use will skyrocket (Vlasak); I'd like to see a status report (Bergseth); ID problem areas, if people can see that problem areas are being fixed and dealt with then negative PR can be lessened (Lindow); Are these trails sustainable/desirable? (Davis); The issue areas are off roads, user made trails skid trails (Mattison); On tribal lands the tribe will need to make a decision on classification (Wiley); can't close trails to tribal members (Warren); ID bad spots, Sockeye worst to drive on, log roads fairly accessible/o.k. (Lindow)
6. Other Business: Ray Vlasak announced he is resigning from RAC. No meeting in July. RAC will reconvene in August.