



MN Rovers Trail Committee meeting, July 8 2004, Ed Solstad's

In Attendance: John Elliott, Mary Gute, Tom Harris, Tom Johnson, Chris Lenhart, Torsten Muller, Ed Solstad,

Incorporation and 501(c)(3) tax exempt status

Ed retrieved the required form for the name change with the Secretary of State, but was waiting on a copy of the Articles of Incorporation. Because of this delay, no further work has been done on the 501(c)(3) application with the IRS. Ed will fill out the name-change form.

Specifics of Membership in the BRTA and its relation to the Minnesota Rovers

The committee discussed the specifics of the BRTA with regard to membership and the ties to the Minnesota Rovers Outing Club. The committee agreed on an annual membership fee of \$15, and a reduced fee of \$10 for members of the Outing Club. At the next Rovers board meeting, Torsten will inquire about a reciprocity to offer members of the BRTA a reduced membership rate in the Minnesota Rovers. For the annual fee, members would get the following benefits: regular e-mail updates and board meeting minutes e-mailed in pdf-format. Further, discounts on merchandise and the BRT Trail Guide will be granted to members.

The sign-up sheet will be available on the yet-to-designed brochure and on the web-site. There are no plans to offer a web-based sign-up option due to the small number of potential members and the associated cost and effort. Membership application will have to be mailed in. The BRTA will use neither the Rovers PO Box nor rent its own mailbox. Ed Solstad offered his home address for mailings. Ed and John are working on an accounting system for keeping the books. It is envisioned to be set up in a portable format, likely Microsoft Excel.

The BRTA will also hold weekly "social" meetings on Tuesdays, in conjunction with the Minnesota Rovers regular meeting. We will try to work with the Rovers Presidents to point out the people working on the trail at every meeting, so new people interested in the trail know who to contact.

Since the BRTA will be a tax exempt organization, people who want to sign up at the same time for membership in Rovers and in the BRTA will need to write two checks.

The committee also discussed the issue of the trails coordinator position on the Rovers board. It was decided to have Liaison persons who attends Rover board meetings on request of the Rovers board or if the BRTA has information to share that directly affects the Rovers. This liaison person will be chosen depending on the issues to be discussed and will not necessarily be the same person every time. It was also decided that there will not have to be a BRTA member at every Rovers meeting. The board position for trails in the Rovers will be discontinued.

Torsten will go to the Rovers board meeting on July 12 to present these decisions to the Rovers board.

Rovers 50th Anniversary Meeting August 6-8

The committee discussed how to tap the anniversary meeting for former members that were involved in the trail. The possibility of a T-Shirt with the new BRT logo was discussed and dismissed due to the fact the the Rovers will already offer two types of T-Shirts at the meeting. It was instead decided to get

the brochure ready by that time and potentially have the custom-printed Nalgene bottles ready by that time. Torsten will contact Rudi and get an idea of lead time.

It was also suggested to give a slide show on the BRT at the meeting. Mary and Chris will contact Chuck Hoffman to give a slide show or loan the slides for someone else to give a slide show on the BRT. Tom also mentioned the banner map that the USFS gave Rovers a few months ago and that was used at the Spring Boat Expo and Midwest Mountaineering. The whereabouts of that map are unknown, but it was suggested to check the cage. Tom Harris will contact the Rovers' cage person to check on it.

Fall Trail Clearing Trips

The Superior Hiking Trail Association offered to include a 150 word article into their summer newsletter with details about the upcoming trail clearing trips. We set the deadline to find trip coordinators to Friday, July 17 to give Gayle from the SHTA time to include our text. So far, Tom and Ed have trips that will be announced in the newsletter:

- September 10-12, Clearwater Lake, Coordinator: Tom Harris
- September 11-12, Cross River (Gunflint Trail End): Coordinator: Ed Solstad

Mary is still waiting for answers from John Taylor, Scott Murray and Tom Matheney.

Miscellaneous

- Tom reworked the brochure to include the trail from Clearwater Lake to Loon Lake and found that the brochure was unreadable and cluttered. He reverted back to the original and will send it to Joanie for further work.
- Torsten is still looking for pictures before sending out the letter to James Wellman. Mary had a CD with pictures by Mike Sweet, and Torsten will contact Scott Murray for further pictures. A selection will be made into prints and sent along with the letter and an offer for more pictures on CD.
- Tom Matheney mentioned in the latest Rovers board meeting that the trip costs paid by participants doesn't cover expenses. He suggested to raise trip prices in the future.
- Also suggested at the last Rovers board meeting was to hold an MWTA seminar in preparation for the spring trail clearing trips next during a regular Rovers meeting to make it easier for Rovers to attend. This will have to be cleared with the MWTA and will be brought up in the planning of next year's trips in December.

The next trail committee meeting was set for Thursday, August 19th 2004 at 7:30pm at Ed Solstad's house.