



**Board Meeting, February 13, 2008 @ 6:00 pm  
Lowell City Hall**

**Present:**

LARA Board Members, Mari Stone, Dan Edwards, Al Halbeisen, Betsy Davidson, Perry Beachum, Jim Pfaller, and Linda Regan.

Guests; Jim Hall, Dave Pasquale, Liz Baker, Dave Austin, Keith Hopkins and Jodi Vokes

**Meeting Minutes**

December and January meeting minutes approved.

**LARA Treasurers Report**

Checking balance \$17,418.44 includes \$8,000 Fundraising Assistance Grant. \$12,000 paid to Hopkins. \$12,630.00 in Money Market Account. Reports approved.

**Old Business**

**TREAD Fund Development Committee** (Dan, Mari, Jodie and Betsy) – Keith Hopkins gave presentation of Capital Campaign Feasibility Report. Summary of report includes positive trends, cautions and recommendation. Keith indicated it was best to act within 6 months.

Study of Wege property. Report submitted to Wege.

**New Business**

Discussed formation of 501.c.3 “Friends of Lowell Area Trail” to accept contributions for LARA. Lowell Chamber of Commerce can also be used to accept contributions.

LARA is on agenda for Lowell Community Fund meeting on March 11 @ 4:30 at Flat River Outreach Ministry (FROM) to report on Capital Campaign Feasibility Report.

The LARA Board passed the following motions;

- Move forward to create Fund Raising Campaign for first phase of trail construction.
- Create 501.c.3 to accept contributions for fund raising.
- Request Chamber of Commerce to accept contributions on behalf of LARA until 501.c.3 is established.

March meeting agenda to include report on LCF meeting, proposal on Fund Raising assistance from Keith and others, discussion of chairpersons for campaign and planning for Lowell Expo. Lowell Expo is Saturday March 22, 2008.

## Easements

### **Foreman Road**

Perry to contact Graatz's for meeting to discuss options.

### **Lowell Schools**

Discussed route options at High School. A portion of the trail could be left unpaved until funding is available. Larry Mikulski is working on parking lot expansion plan, possibly with provisions for walkways.

### **Alden Nash West**

Second phase to be developed within 6 months. Easement in Master Deed, described within sanitary sewer easement. Need to build within 4 years.

### **Wege property**

Committed to easement along Alden Nash as indicated in study report.

## Other

Meeting ended @ 7:50.

The foregoing constitutes my understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Please review and share your additions or corrections at our next board meeting on **Wednesday March 12, 2008 at 6 pm, Vergennes Township Hall.**

Respectfully submitted,  
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For more information refer to the website

[www.lowellareatrailway.org](http://www.lowellareatrailway.org)

### **Commonly used acronyms;**

Landscape Architects & Planners (LAP)  
Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA)  
Lowell Area Schools (LAS)  
Lowell Community Fund (LCF)  
Lowell Education Foundation (LEF)  
Lowell Institute for Volunteer Excellence (LIVE 5)  
Lowell Light & Power (LLP)  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)  
Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)  
Michigan Trails & Greenways Alliance (MTGA)  
North Country Trail Association (NCTA)  
Trail Resources Enrichment and Development (TREAD)  
West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition (WMTGC)