



**Board Meeting, April 13, 2005 @ 6:00 pm  
Lowell Township Hall**

**Present:** Board Members, Mari Stone, Dan Edwards, Al Halbeisen, Betsy Davidson, Perry Beachum, Jim Pfaller, and Leslie Stougaard and Guests Alan Rumbaugh, Rob Corbett and Jennifer Tripp.

**Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve the March Meeting Minutes passed.

**Old Business;**

Sign standards – Leslie reviewed information she received on different type of plaques and benches to use for donors. Motion by Jim, seconded by Leslie to establish a limit on cost of sign/bench based on amount of donation.

**Lowell School Easements**

Trail route is marked in Cooper Woodland along the west side, north of the sign.

Lowell Education Foundation meeting is next Wednesday. Betsy and Al will attend to discuss the urgent need to get the easement approved. LIVE 5 bridge project is on hold until easements can be obtained.

**Wege property easement**

Easement has not been approved. Mari reports there is some reluctance by real estate people involved to establish permanent easement until after development is started.

**New Business;**

**NCTA Grant Coordinator**

Rob Corbett of NCTA introduced the new Grant Coordinator, Jennifer Trip. Dan and Betsy will work with Jennifer to set up a timeline for fund raising.

Kent County Fair Board Chair (Mike) was at the Expo and talked about the potential for a Flat River pedestrian bridge crossing between the Fairgrounds and City property on east side of Flat River. The master plan included a Flat River bridge crossing, in line with the south end zone of the old football field.

NCTA would like to review alternate routes through the City, including the Flat River crossing or a route over the Division Avenue bridge instead of over Hudson Street.

Rob requested a copy of the Lowell Area Trailway study that was prepared by LAP.

## **Administration Items**

Tax ID #20-253-0274

Discussed liability coverage for board members. Municipal members are covered by local government policy. At large member may need special coverage and treasurer needs to be bonded.

Discussions are ongoing with insurance providers. Rob Corbett indicated that Michigan has a Recreational User Act that limits the liability of property owners for injuries to recreational trail users.

### **LARA Treasurers Report**

Balance as of 04-13-05 is \$ 8838.

Meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

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 May 11, 2005 at 6 pm, Lowell City Hall.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Al Halbeisen, P.E.  
2120 Parnell Ave SE  
Ada, MI 49301

616-897-0074, hhengltdgr @ aol.com

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 Community Fund (LCF)

Lowell Institute for Volunteer Excellence (LIVE 5)

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)

Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

North Country Trail Association (NCTA)