



**Board Meeting, September 14, 2005 @ 6:00 pm
Vergennes Township Hall**

Present: Board Members, Dan Edwards, Al Halbeisen, Betsy Davidson, Perry Beachum, Mari Stone, and Guests Alan Rumbaugh, Tamara Karczewski, Paula Blumn and Sterling Massey,

Meeting Minutes

Minutes not reviewed for August.

LARA Treasurers Report

Balance as of 09-14-05 is \$ 6712.83. LAP sent invoice for work to date.

Funding and Grants Report

LARA to request \$7500 from Lowell Community Fund grant to cover LAP work to be performed for easements and field investigations.

LARA will request that Jennifer prepare list of grant opportunities and define the outreach program.

Public Relations

LARA requested to assist with Harvest Hustle on October 8 as part of Harvest Festival.

Mari is attending Rotary on October 19.

Sign standards

Perry reported on City Parks policy for donations. City will use bronze signs, to be paid for by donor.

Easements

Lowell School Easements

Paula Blumn and Sterling Massey, representing the Lowell Education Foundation, presented a lease for the Cooper Woodland Preserve and requested approval prior to next LEF meeting. The lease term proposed is for one year. It was noted that this is not adequate to apply for funding and that a permanent easement would be required in addition to the lease. The board discussed reviewing the lease prior to the LEF meeting and requesting a letter of agreement that a permanent easement would be provided, in accordance with the original intentions set forth in the Cooper Woodland Preserve donation to the LEF and agreed to by that board.

Perry to contact City DPW Director regarding possible work at Foreman Road culvert crossing at Cherry Creek.

Lone Pine Development

Al has sent proposed alternative route for easement through Lone Pine Development to Steve Hanson and is waiting for reply. Steve did not like first response on buffering plan for easement along sanitary sewer easement.

Wege property easement

No progress to report. Additional contacts to be made.

LAP involvement in easements

LARA will make initial contact to individual property owners where easements are needed and then involve LAP in follow up discussions of the types of easements or donations that can be made. Property owners along Foreman Road and Alden Nash will be contacted.

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 October 12, 2005 at 6 pm, Lowell Township 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

Commonly used acronyms;

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
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)