



**Board Meeting, October 12, 2005 @ 6:00 pm
Lowell Township Hall**

Present: Board Members, Dan Edwards, Al Halbeisen, Betsy Davidson, Perry Beachum, Mari Stone, and Jim Pfaller and Guest Eric Lundstrom

Meeting Minutes

Minutes August and September reviewed. Correction noted for NCTA Coordinator Jennifer. Minutes approved.

LARA Treasurers Report

Balance as of 10-12-05 is \$ 6712.83. Invoice for LAP to be paid this month.

Funding and Grants Report

Lowell Community Fund annual meeting is Monday November 7. The next day is a regular meeting. LARA may want to attend meeting to update status.

Jennifer started list of grant opportunities. Dan suggested looking for grants focused on local projects.

Public Relations

Betsy and Dan assisted with the Harvest Hustle on October 8 as part of Harvest Festival. Public relations efforts to remain low key until defined plan and timeline are set.

Mari is attending Rotary on October 19. Mari will prepare a sample letter of support to give to organizations who support the trails.

Sign standards

Leslie provided information on brick pavers engraved with donor names.

Easements

Lowell School Easements

Lowell Education Foundation has made revisions to lease for the Cooper Woodland Preserve, based on suggestions made by LARA. Some items have not been revised. Next LEF meeting is Wednesday October 19th. LARA members are asked to attend. Al requested that latest version of lease be submitted to LARA prior to meeting.

Perry to contact Larry Mikulski and Dan DeJarden, DPW Director regarding possible work at Foreman Road culvert crossing at Cherry Creek. Ionia County National Bank will hold donation for bridge project until next year and apply it toward Cherry Creek site if desired.

Lone Pine Development

Master plan for Lone Pine Development near approval by Vergennes Township. Mari talked to Steve Hanson and he indicates trail would be in Phase 2, to be developed in about 2 years. *(Al has contacted engineering firm for development to get information on legal description for trail easement.)*

Wege property easement

No progress to report. Additional contacts to be attempted by Eric.

Foreman Road easements

Perry made initial contact with Graatz family. Will follow up with letter, suggesting meeting with Bob Ford of LAP to discuss the types of easements or donations that can be made. Still need to contact Hunt family.

Alden Nash

Alternative route along Alden Nash might be best located along west side of road. Road Commission has wide right of way and houses are set back farther on west side. Road crossing at Foremen would be controlled if intersection is signalized in the future. Signal is a possibility with increased development and accident history.

Dykema property, south of Bowes Road and north of Grand River.

Jim talked to family member about easement. Master plan shows trail from Stoney Lakeside Park to Grand River crossing in southeast corner of property. Suggest requesting easement along east boundary of property, adjacent to City Water Treatment Plant. Easement would allow direct access from Bowes Road and possibly avoid crossing Water property.

Gee Drive

Al suggested that project being designed include construction of portion of trail shown in the master plan. Jim will discuss at next City Council meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 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 November 9, 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

Commonly used acronyms;

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Landscape Architects & Planners (LAP)

Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA)

Lowell Community Fund (LCF)

Lowell Education Foundation (LEF)

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)

List of Past attendees, Mari Stone, Alan Rumbaugh, Dan Edwards, Al Halbeisen, Andy Linebaugh, Paula Blumn, Barry Hobrta, Dave Pasquale, Andy Retberg and Betsy Davidson, and Peter Haefer, Dick Cooper, Marsha Wilcox, Bob Papp, Megan Malone, Tamara Karczewski, Dan Schneider

Board Members, Mari Stone, Dan Edwards, Al Halbeisen, Betsy Davidson, Perry Beachum, Jim Pfaller, and Leslie Stougaard

Frequent Guests;

Alan Rumbaugh, Paula Blumn Jennifer Tripp, Dave Pasquale, Dick Cooper, Tamara Karczewski, Eric Lundstrom

Aaron Ogg (GR Press)