

Lowell Area Trails Meeting
October 15, 2003
4:00 - 5:30pm
Athletic Office Conference Room
Lowell High School

Present: Dave Pasqaule, Mari Stone, Dan Edwards, Al Halbeisen, Tamara Karczewski, Barry Hobrla, and Paula Blumn

The following are notes from our meeting to the best of my recollection. Please review and share your additions or corrections at our next group meeting on Wednesday November 19, 2003 at 4:00pm.

Alternative to Joint Building Authority (JBA) Paula has given Mari and Al a copy of Act 156 of 1917 which provides for creation of recreation authority without the powers of condemnation and millage. Mari contacted Mark VanAllsburg to get his opinion of the Act, but did not have the summary available. Mari will contact Mark regarding his costs to help us establish this type of authority.

Mari Stone reported that the **Lowell Chamber of Commerce** will be meeting this Friday and is interested in the development of the trail. They will look into visiting the Portland Trail system. They also want to investigate making the connection between Healthy Lifestyles and trail use. Al noted that this has been part of the West Michigan Greenway Coalitions promotional information. The Lowell Area will have a community Health Director starting November 1, funded by the Lowell Community Fund.

Government Liaison subcommittee will need to work with municipalities to get board approval for setting up authority. Need to lay out presentation of the trail covering the organization, funding, maintenance and phasing.

Public information website has been started. Dan has list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and will distribute them.

NEXT STEPS: Prepare proposal for forming recreation board. Determine who would handle funds and how funding would be distributed.

Respectfully submitted,
Al Halbeisen, P.E.

Next Trails Meeting: Wednesday November 19, 2003 at 4 pm, Lowell High School