



**Board Meeting, November 12, 2008 @ 6:00 pm
Lowell City Hall**

Present:

LARA Board Members, Mari Stone, Jim Pfaller, Linda Regan, Betsy Davidson and Al Halbeisen. Guests; Jim Hall and Dave Austin.

Meeting Minutes

September and October meeting minutes approved.

LARA Treasurers Report

Checking balance \$40,150.33. \$114,851.84 in Money Market Account. Report approved.

Old Business

TREAD Fund Development Committee (Dan, Mari, Jodie and Betsy) – Pledges are nearly 1/3 of goal of \$750,000. Next cabinet meeting is November 13. Not meeting in December, but will stay in contact. Decision on Frey Grant expected this week (\$50K).

Five proposals for Design Services received to be considered by board. Al will distribute Excel file with selection criteria and scoring system to assist board members with review and ranking of proposals. Each member to get one vote.

Tentative schedule for proposals;

December 1, LARA board review proposals and rank firms, present questions or request presentation via e-mail to Al.

December 10, LARA votes to select Design firm

New Business

Board appointments need to be renewed in December. Mari will stay on board, but will step down as chairperson.

Jim Hall reports that the MSU School of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture has proposed a student project to study the feasibility of an RV park on City Land. Kendra will submit a grant request through LACF to cover student expenses and mileage.

Ionia Rail-Trail will need connection from Ionia County (Montcalm Road) to City of Lowell.

NCTA is still working on Elmdale route. Currently being review by Attorney Generals office.

Easements

Cooper Woodland Preserve

Board approved \$1 annual lease payment.

Foreman Road

Last month Perry, Theresa and Al met with John Gratz's daughter to discuss easement options. She responded that trail should stay in right of way.

Lowell Area Schools

No action.

Alden Nash West

No action.

Wege property

Al received call from Pete Gustofson and followed up with Mark Pursley. Details of easement dimensions have been agreed on. Pete has submitted easement revisions. Next step is to have legal description for the easement written. Al will contact LAP to have revisions made by same surveyor that did first draft easement.

Other

Meeting ended @ 6:40.

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 December 10, 2008 at 6:00 pm, Vergennes Township Hall.**

Respectfully submitted,
Al Halbeisen, P.E.
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For more information refer to the website

www.lowellareatrailway.org

Commonly used acronyms;

Friends of Lowell Area Trails (FLAT)

Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA)

Lowell Area Community Fund (LACF)

Landscape Architects & Planners (LAP)

Lowell Area Schools (LAS)

North Country Trail Association (NCTA)

Trail Resources Enrichment and Development (TREAD)