



Board Meeting, April 14, 2010 @ 6:00 pm
Lowell Chamber Offices

Present:

LARA Board Members; Al Halbeisen, Mari Stone, Linda Regan, Perry Beachum, Andrew Schrauben and Betsy Davidson. Guests; Dave Austin

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of March 10 meeting were approved.

LARA Treasurers Report

The Treasurers Report was reviewed and accepted – Motion to authorize payment to W&W.

Old Business:

Replacement for Edwards – Gary Goff has been contacted and is considering the appointment. Each municipality should give approval if he agrees, and then the LARA Board will appoint.

Meeting with KCRC – Austin met with the Road Commission and discussed drainage, retaining walls, crossings – there were no major issues in these preliminary reviews.

MDNR Grant – Austin is attending a presentation by MDNR on May 6th, which will discuss administrative responsibilities. Davidson and Stone will also attend.

Lowell Schools Easements – Easements to be formalized with HS & CC properties.

Alden Nash West Easement – Need revised landscaping plan, and need to work out cost adjustment (from grants) with Hanson for any earthwork done now.

The plan is to have a May 21st submittal date with Bids opened on October 1st. By July we will need the preliminary plan, and all easements.

New Business:

Planning and fundraising for Phase II - Further discussion regarding planning of Phase II. Some ideas floated included a connection to the Ada trail, connections to the Greenville/Ionia rail trail, and areas on the East side of Lowell city connecting to Saranac/Ionia. It was noted that we may want to consider getting formal public input for Phase II planning purposes.

Formal Groundbreaking Ceremony - Further discussion was held regarding the community event on Thursday, September 9 that is intended to be a roving outdoor Expo. Tentatively planning a groundbreaking ceremony at Creekside Park during this event. Could involve bike demonstrations using the Gee Dr. trail.

Austin attended a meeting held in Belding to consider a friends group to support the Lowell to Greenville trail. The discussion centered on whether it should be formed as separate local groups or one big one.

Meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

The foregoing constitutes my understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached.
Please review and share your additions or corrections at the next Board Meeting.

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Respectfully submitted,
Mari Stone
LARA Secretary

For more information refer to the website
www.lowellareatrailway.org

Commonly used acronyms;

Kent County Road Commission (KCRC)
Landscape Architects & Planners (LAP)
Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA)
Lowell Area Schools (LAS)
Lowell Community Fund (LCF)
Lowell Education Foundation (LEF)
Lowell Institute for Volunteer Excellence (LIVE 5)
Lowell Light & Power (LLP)
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)
Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)
Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Michigan Trails & Greenways Alliance (MTGA)
North Country Trail Association (NCTA)
Trail Resources Enrichment and Development (TREAD)
West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition (WMTGC)
Wittenbach – Wege Center (WWC)
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
Safe Routes to School (SR2S)