



**Board Meeting, April 19, 2012 @ 6:00 pm
Lowell City Hall**

Attendance - LARA Board Members; Al Halbeisen, Andrew Schrauben, Mari Stone, Gary Goff, Betsy Davidson. Guests; Dave Austin, Mark Fritsma.

Minutes of the March meeting were approved with a minor amendment.

Treasurer's Report – There were no invoices to approve.

Friends Volunteer Group – Davidson and Stone are planning to set up a rest stop on the trail to distribute info and collect names of interested trail users. A date of May 22nd was tentatively set up as a meeting to form a group. Invites to various community groups to be sent out, and signage placed along the trail advertising the meeting. Stone is developing a proposed list of duties.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding plowing. The City has an ordinance that requires it, and the townships do not. Until it is determined how LARA will handle this in the future, the city and school district will be asked if they will do it again next winter on trail sections in the city.

Pavilion/Brick Installations, Amenities Package – Austin talked about needs: Bollards at the Alden Nash crossing on both sides, as well as the entrance near the football field; Doggie waste stations; signs – will coordinate the style with what is already used in the community; benches – DNR needs to approve 3 vendors and lowest price will be awarded.

Phase I Extension – Austin presented a proposal and outlined it for the Board. There are funds in our operational account but Davidson needs to sort out how much is actually free. Several grant deadlines have passed, but we will apply for next rounds. Austin offered to begin the work and have invoices held until funding arrives. Stone motioned to hire Williams & Works pending receipt of funding, Davidson seconded, and the motion carried.

Phase II, Connections to Ionia-Greenville Rail Trails – Austin gave a brief summary of the schedule and tasks – obtaining access to REGIS maps is the first step.

Other Business:

Woodland Preserve Easement - Stone told the Board that a signed and recorded easement has been located.

Davidson reminded the Board that the Audit Report recommended the adoption of an Annual Budget, an Investment Policy, and a Capitalization Policy.

Stone will have more information on the Insurance Policy renewal at the May meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

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

Mari Stone

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 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)
Flat River/Grand River Valley Trails – (FRVT/GRVT)
Fred Meijer River Valley Trails – (FMRVT)
Greenville to Owosso – (GO)