



**Board Meeting, April 8, 2015 @ 6:00 pm
Lowell City Hall**

Attendance - LARA Board Members; Al Halbeisen, Mari Stone, Betsy Davidson, Perry Beachum, Gary Goff, Jim Hall.

Minutes – March meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report –Davidson gave a Treasurer's report – Invoices paid included \$30 for Lowell Women's Club ad. She also reported that the budget will need to be adopted in June. Motion by Stone, seconded by Hoffman. Motion carried.

Public Comment – none

Phase 2 / Connections to FMRVRT – Austin could not be present but had emailed a summary of his activities as follows:

- Phase 2 Report – Still no feedback from MDNR. I called again yesterday, but Kristen Bennett is out on Spring Break. I did have a chance to talk with Mike Smith ant MDOT 2 weeks ago in Lansing and with Kristen's permission, emailed him a copy of the report. I have not received any comments from Mike. I will follow up with Kristen again next week after her return.
- Alden Nash Boardwalk Settling – The frost should be totally out now, so we will schedule a visit to the site to take new elevation shots and compare to those we took last fall. We will plan to have a planned correction procedure to you by the next meeting.
- Phase 1A Report – I will finish this and submit in the next week or so.

Development of former Wege Land along Alden Nash, Phase I – Stone and Halbeisen had attended the Public Hearing at the Vergennes Planning Commission meeting. They spoke on behalf of LARA regarding the trail alongside the parcel, and advocated for connections to the Woodland Preserve and Little League property.

Pavillion and Trail Maintenance Issues – Signage is still in the works, and permits are being addressed. Several options for materials were discussed, and it was agreed the bronze version is much nicer. It was noted that anti-growth spray is needed at the pavilion and along the path there. Stone will ask Clean Cut for a bid for 2015 trailside mowing and weed control.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Mari Stone

Respectfully submitted,
Mari Stone
LARA Secretary

Commonly used acronyms;

Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trails – (FMRVRT)
Kent County Road Commission (KCRC)
Lowell Area Schools (LAS)
Lowell Education Foundation (LEF)
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)
Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)
Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
North Country Trail Association (NCTA)
West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition (WMTGC)
Wittenbach – Wege Center (WWC)

Greenville to Owosso – (GO)
Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA)
Lowell Area Community Fund (LACF)
Lowell Light & Power (LLP)
Lowell Cable TV Fund (LCTV)
Michigan Trails & Greenways Alliance (MTGA)
Safe Routes to School (SR2S)
Trail Resources Enrichment and Development
(TREAD)

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