



Board Meeting, June 12, 2013 @ 6:00 pm
Lowell City Hall

Attendance - LARA Board Members; Al Halbeisen, Andrew Schrauben, Mari Stone, Gary Goff, Betsy Davidson, Mark Anderson and Perry Beachum.

Minutes – May minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer’s Report – Davidson gave Treasurer’s report, and presented proposed budget. Motion by Beachum, seconded by Schrauben to approve the 13/14 proposed budget. Motion carried.

Motion by Beachum, second by Schrauben, to approve \$933.00 for Mutt mitts, \$5,016.48 for Environsigns (to be reimbursed by grand funds) and \$30 to Lowell Women’s Club.

Public Comment – Jeff McCusker gave a presentation and update on the National Park Service NCTA. They have received a grant to enhance Lowell as a “Trail Town”. Also purchasing land for various trail extensions, moving north route out of Lowell to move west to Seidman Park. He also inquired about LARA’s maintenance plans, and suggested cooperative ventures with NCT, FMRVRT. Privatization could be an option, and group pricing could be beneficial to all.

Dave Austin noted a longitudinal crack in front of metric Manufacturing. Should crack seal. A backless bench has gone missing. Discussion on better security for the ones installed in asphalt. Will file a police report and inquire regarding coverage.

Discussion/Agenda Items:

Phase 1 – Sign foundations were set and signs/green dots at HS will be installed over the next week. Connector section on Ridgeview between Gee and Sibley will be paved this summer.

Phase 1-A and Phase 2 / Connections to FMRVRT – Draft report will be done by July meeting.

Pavilion Project – There is \$35,101 available for this project, with \$21,400 from LACF, and \$13,701 from Rotary. It was decided to re-visit the 16x16 structure that was discussed in March of this year, installing “bare minimum” requirements such as the cement base, excavating, topsoil, and basic structure. There were discussions regarding what could be accomplished with volunteer labor. A work day could involve staining, assembly of tables/cans. Showboat Garden Club has expressed an interest in in plantings. It was thought that Rotary could work on the donor wall and brick pavers. Thus, the project will be in two parts – “basics of earthwork, flatwork, structure” and “landscaping, brickwork”.

Anderson will get an updated bid from Rich Anderson for the basics. There are two Rotarians who are licensed contractors who will also be offered an opportunity to bid. Motion by Beachum, seconded by Schrauben, to put the project out for bid, with bids due July 1, to be awarded on July 10, and construction complete by August 30. Anderson will have the authority to accept the bids. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 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