



**Board Meeting, September 8, 2010 @ 6:00 pm**  
**Lowell Chamber Offices**

**Present:**

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

**Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of August 11 meeting were approved.

**LARA Treasurers Report** - was given and accepted.

**Old Business:**

**MDNR/MDOT Grant updates** – MDOT Grade Inspection – has been approved for the Alden Nash section. Rest areas and power poles were reviewed – poles have already been cleared with Lowell Light and Power. The three phone equipment boxes on that section will cost \$4,500 each to move, so we will try to work around two of them.

**Timelines** - The Final Plan has a November submission date. Bids to go out right after the first of the year, with boardwalk construction work beginning in February while the ground is still frozen. School property work to be done after school gets out in June.

**Permanent Easements** – grading easements have been calculated at 10% of the value, permanent easements at 50% value of actual strip. Austin projects we will come in under the 10K budgeted amount.

**Permits** – finalizing MDNR permits. Need to get together with Wege representative.

**Non-construction costs breakdown** – MDOT bid will cover signage. MDNR will cover benches, interpretive signage, “steep grade” signage, striping at intersections, trash recepticals and misc. items.

**Alden Nash West** – final agreement is ready to sign.

Chamber Event September 9 – we will participate.

**New Business:**

**Harvest Festival, October 9** – LARA is participating in judging the chile cookoff.

**The idea of a “pre-construction” open house** (not a Public Hearing) was discussed. We will be paying close attention to disruptions to trail neighbors, particularly on the Wege property. It will be helpful to meet with any potentially disrupted parties to set expectations and hear concerns.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15

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](http://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)