

Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA)

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 9, 2020

Location: Stoney Lakeside Park

Perry Beachum (Chair), City of Lowell Resident
Janine Mork (Secretary), Vergennes Township Treasurer
Betsy Davidson (Treasurer), Vergennes Township Resident
Mark Anderson (Vice Chair), Lowell Township Trustee
Amanda Rogers, Lowell Township Resident
Greg Canfield, City of Lowell Council Member
Laura Garrison, at large rep
Thomas Gossiaux – Alternate (At-Large or Lowell Township)

Board Members Present: Mork, Davidson, Anderson, Rogers, Canfield, Garrison

Board Members not present: Beachum, Gossiaux

Others present: Mark Fritsma

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. Chairperson Beachum was not in attendance.

AGENDA

- Meeting Minutes: Davidson 1st, Canfield 2nd for August 12 Minutes only.
Canfield 1st, Davidson 2nd for all minutes presented
- Treasurer's Report: There are 2 checks to be sent. One for Williams and Works for \$2904.00 And one for Zach's Lawn Care for \$185.
Approval to pay bills motioned by Canfield, 2nd by Garrison.
- Public Comments
None
- New Business
Janalee Grischke – Equestrian Trail: She would like to speak at our next meeting, October 14, hoping LARA can help with developing an equestrian trail. An email was sent to Janine in August.
Bob Rogers – He would like to address Authority regarding Community Center. He will also speak at October 14 meeting.

- Old Business
Bench and platform on Alden Nash: Anderson will follow up with Dave Austin to get it fixed.
- Rail Trail Connection Progress and Update

MDNR, MDOT status – Anderson and Austin will meet this week to discuss.

Easement Status – Dave Austin will start week of 9/14.

Fundraising: Mark Anderson: October 1, 2020 is due date for all funding to be approved.

He is working on approval from Community Fund.

He is asking for an additional 300,000 from DDA, looks promising. The City is on board with it.

There are 7 members, need 4 votes to approve. Almost one mile of LARA trail goes through DDA district. That is 15% of the total trail. Receipt of this money will leave us \$400,000 short of our \$1.5 million goal.

Mark will apply for Wege grant. Should know by mid-November.

Request from Amway was a no on first try. Bert Bleke has connections and will talk to the right person at Amway and Meijer.

Easements – Still need McCaul and Reedy approvals to go behind their properties. Betsy will contact Mr. Reagan to sign his agreement.

Ron Gunderson – trash cans at Foreman by benches need to be emptied. Amanda Rogers will take care of it. Also, move a trash can from north or south end of trail on Alden Nash to trailhead on Foreman by Cherry Creek.

Trees by Metric Mfg. need to be trimmed back. Anderson will contact Zach Beachum to take care of clearing them.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:35pm, Canfield 1st, Davidson 2nd.

The next LARA meeting is October 14, 2020. Location TBA.