

Lowell Area Recreational Authority
September 7, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Board members present – Amanda Rogers, Perry Beachum, Mark Anderson, Thomas Gossiaux, Janine Mork

Also present – Dave Austin, Janalee Grischke

The meeting was called to order at 6:36pm.

Agenda approval – The agenda was approved as presented with a motion by Anderson, second by Rogers. Motion carried.

Approval of July 21, 2022 minutes – A motion by Anderson, second by Rogers to approve the minutes with one change. Add \$572 payment to Williams & Works. Motion carried.

Treasurer report – Per Amanda, we are on budget currently. Using the budget to actual report to keep eye on balance. Will need to do amendments if it goes negative.

Payments – Anderson made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Also, as part of this motion, approval to order checks that work with Quickbooks since new ones need to be ordered anyway. Mork seconds. The motion carried.

Lowell Chamber Duck Sponsorship	\$150
W&W LARA	\$464.75
W&W City	\$1638.44
W&W City	\$3595.20

Public comment – none

New Business

Perry – maintenance clean up day on trails. October 1 both MSU and UM are away games. Pavilion is overgrown. Low branches, edging...get a group together and clean it up. Amanda – full tree broken on Gee drive. Homeowner hasn't done anything about it. Does that fall to us? Advertise October 1. Meet in morning. Reach out to several high school groups to see if they can help. Need to address wash out area. Mark will donate

truck/trailer. Mark thinks it should be an annual thing. Or twice a year, spring and fall. 1st Sat of October, Love Week? 3rd week of June. April 23rd?? tie into Earth Day. Meet at pavilion, park at Cherry Creek.

Trails at Alden Nash – how to light crosswalk. Perry would like to see trails take on lights at trail crossing. Alden Nash is under Lowell Light & Power. Vergennes is Consumer's. Also, light entrances to school on Vergennes and Alden Nash. Anderson and Beachum will spearhead grant options.

Mark, Dave, and Jerry Hale met with Grand Rapids Gravel. Trying to get as far away from digging and wetland as possible. Asking us to stick to original path but willing to work with us a bit. Dave wants to stake a few spots and talk with them. Productive meeting.

Dave Austin – we are in the middle of permitting process with EGLE. Lots of things to go over. When EGLE gives us permit, there will be hurdles to jump first.

After Stoney Lakeside park, south to River, will not let us put multiple culverts in. We need to do “bridge in a box”. Over 100' long. This is not budgeted. Does not have direct impact to budget yet. Hydraulics – make sure not impacting flood path. City has allowed us to cut corner at water plant. Prevents us from having to go thru steep wet sections on backside of plant. SE corner – move security fence. Puts trail a bit higher out of floodplain.

Meet with whomever is responsible for Reagan property. Mark will set it up for 2 weeks from now.

Next big effort is to get preliminary plans to MDOT once above is settled.

With bridge issue, do we have to borrow from Phase 2 to get Phase 1 done? Money from Meijer Foundation or Community fund to cover that cost? It is a flexible part of project where we could use it if needed. Wait until numbers are firmed up before we decide.

Dykema – willing to pay for test holes. Bowes road is a no-go for trail.

Perry – name section of trail after Betsy Davidson. She was instrumental in getting the trails going. We are in the process of getting a bench in memory of Betsy. Purchase order was done last month. It will take up to 20 weeks to get it finished.

At some point, look at plaques in her name. Naming trail at beginning and end. Put on a rock – that is very permanent. South side of river, at end of bridge – donated by King Milling. Perhaps add a quote to plaque. Something that Betsy said in her Person of the Year speech.

Some printed information shows LARA as the Lowell Trail Committee. Perry will talk to Sue Olin regarding the name and getting it corrected.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Anderson, second by Mork at 7:30pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2022.