

01/19/2012 LOWELL AREA RECREATION AUTHORITY

Present: Al Halbeisen, Gary Goff, Andrew Schrauben, Betsy Davidson

Also Present: Dave Austin, Mark Howe

*Treasurer Report and Secretary Report will be approved at next meeting.

*Dave Austin – city is paid up. They will receive another invoice for approx \$34k in the next couple of weeks. Betsy needs to contact Firstbank to get checks back that we cashed after the last statement.

Trash receptacles and way finding signs at various points along the trail. Educational signage and recycled items. School property signage (will need to talk to the school) – Dave will present mock up green signs on a stainless steel metal band on the schools light poles. Could make them pink as well. Will be an economical way of doing it.

Mark talked about Jeff McCusker and NCTA – signage along their route. General signage in the downtown area. Thinking about consistency about signs as the community as a whole.

Dave also talked about big signs and mileage signs. We also talked about location – stay away from sign posts. Benches – recycled plastic – very economical and durable. Will send around links/catalogs.

Dave will be contacting us this month with links for us to review.

*Pavilion – Dave has some sketches and will get that over to us.

*Snowplowing – we discussed more options about snowplowing. Discussed the Metric easement and what options in the short term and long term. City of Lowell will take care of snowplowing Metric in the short term this winter. Now we need to work on the long term. Doesn't look like the school is doing their section and then we talked about Gee to Alden Nash. Really need a blower. We need to coordinate with the schools – are they going to do theirs? Will the schools do Metric? Al will talk to the school. Metric should be taken care of today with this City. Long term – we need to look at contracting or purchasing a piece of equipment and contract to have it done.

*Phase 2 – LLP will be developing their site plan. We are talking about different options for easements for the Rail Trail. Talked about the tennis courts as well too. Could look at Riverside as well.

*Funding for Phase 2 has been approved at DNR and Frey – will wait until next month until we get the funding.

*Greenville to Owosso (GO) Rail Trail – Owosso to Fowler is ready to go. City of Ionia is working on Fowler to Ionia and Ionia to Saranac. Crushed limestone in the rural areas

and paving in the city area. Waiting to hear about final funding for the rail trail – need 12 million total.

*The rail trail section in Lowell will be paved by the rail trail money from that group. We will be responsible to coming up with the connecting route within the City Limits. The group needs to talk about naming our section in Lowell depending on what our long term arrangement for maintenance. Lowell section could be pushed out a year.

*Mark – Lot behind the Moose building will be turned into a parking lot. DDA has just approved.

*Mari – none to report on Wege Easement.

*Perry – none to report on Volunteer schedule.

*Friends Volunteer Group – Jodie Seese, John Gruizenga. Betsy has a list of people that signed up. Betsy to talk to campaign cabinet.

*Moose property – Chuck and Mark walked the trail.

*Trail Town Summit – Feb 7th in Dearborn. Tuesday. Full Day. Bus Tour. Andrew could maybe go – he could see if that works.

*Gary – moved to change the accounting year from July to June to January to December. Andrew seconded.

*Capitalization and Investment Policy – ask Sue if she has something.

*There was a car in the trail for a few days. We can also talk about additions the trails in the seasons.

*Meeting schedule for 2012

January, February, March, April third Thursday – Jan/Feb LACC – March April will be City.

Then regular meetings will be second Wednesday at the Chamber.