

Lowell Area Recreation Authority
March 9, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Board Members present: Janine Mork, Mark Anderson, Amanda Rogers, Cliff Yankovich, Laura Garrison, Betsy Davidson via Zoom.

Absent: Perry Beachum

Others Present: Thomas Gossiaux, Dave Austin, Mark Fritsma, Janalee Grishcke

Approval of Meeting Agenda – Yankovich, Garrison

Approval of February 9, 2022 minutes – Mork, Yankovich

Treasurer's Report – There was a motion to approve the treasurer's report and pay the Williams and Works bill of \$743.80 by Yankovich, seconded by Rogers. Motion carried.

Public Comments – None

New Business

Review Audit results -Andrew Thompson of Siler & Kolb, CPA Not present. Reschedule?

Old Business

Lowell Expo – Mark Anderson and Amanda Rogers will work out logistics for having Trail information at Expo.

Tri-folds – Amanda reviewed it and sent recommended changes to Betsy. Hooper will print and have ready for Expo.

New Website Proposal – Betsy emailed her proposal to board. The website development would be not to exceed \$1500. Annual web hosting is \$350. Yankovich motioned to approve Betsy working on website for \$1500 and hosting for \$350 annually. Garrison seconded. Motion passed.

Trail Maintenance funding – Require \$20,000-\$30,000 a year. Break trail into 1/10 mile sections. Sponsor a section for \$300 brings in \$24,000 if all sold. \$400 a year brings in \$32,000. This plan is good to go. Move ahead with advertising and signage.

Rail Trail Connection Progress and Updates

MDNR, MDOT status – Mark Anderson and Dave Austin

Update regarding easement on Grand Rapids Gravel property. There is no flexibility on route right now. Once they start excavations, they will have better idea of what they are dealing with.

Current trail route is wet. It would need a 2000 foot boardwalk at a cost of \$2.5 million. Moving it as suggested by Dave would lower property values. He will go to EGLE and ask “what if”. We may be able to dig some test holes to see what is there. That may sway their decision.

DNR/Railway. Dave will contact Roger Storm for an update.

How does Grand River trail connect to Lowell? It dead ends to nowhere. Need to come up with some options. Dan DeLoof.

Mark Anderson – there is a lot of grant money available for projects like this. Kent County Parks is planning a LaCrosse field near corner of Alden Nash SE and Cascade Road. Betty Yeiter’s house will be used as office space. The community center will be next to the house. A trail will connect to the fields.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Yankovich, seconded by Garrison. Meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm.