

BURT LAKE TRAIL MEETING
May 19, 2015

The Burt Lake Trail Committee was called to order by Co-Chairs Art Pillen and Gene Hodulik on May 19, 2015, at 7:00 pm at the Burt Township Hall, Cheboygan Michigan.

Attending: Gene Hodulik, Art Pillen, Virginia Chenevere, Mac Richardson, Steve & Connie Vorenkamp
Absent – Kim Kihnke

Also Attending: Gary Street, Leo Chenevere, Jim Larson, Donna McDougall, Recording Secretary

Co-Chair Hodulik led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: February 23, 2015

MOTION: Moved by Pillen, supported by Chenevere to approve the Burt Lake Trail minutes of February 23, 2015.

MOTION APPROVED

Burt Lake Trail Route - Hodulik

Co-Chair Hodulik said the goal from this meeting was to consider routes to get from the trail on West Burt Lake Rd. to East Burt Lake Rd.

A meeting will be held on June 5, 2015 with Kari Slavik, Newt Needlehoffer and Bob Vandlekopple from U of M to present the route options and request permission to cross U of M property.

Hodulik said he talked with Kari yesterday and U of M still wants the trail to go across on Hogsback Rd.

Hodulik said Riggsville Rd. is not an option as MDOT will not support the trail with TAP funds as the road is, in their opinion, in poor condition.

The committee discussed the following options:

1) Hogsback Rd.

Ann Baughman, Pillen and Hodulik attended a Munro Township board meeting, and Munro Township supported this option (as well as adding six foot paved shoulders to Riggsville Rd.).

Concerns with this route:

a) Safety Issue

Hogsback Rd. is narrow and has two-way traffic. Connie & Steve Vorenkamp met with the Patty O'Donnell from the Heritage Trail who said it might be easier to work creatively with problems, i.e., making it a one-way road and with a "beauty road" designation and limiting the speed to 25 mph. More information will be obtained on the Heritage Trail. Street said the road itself is 66' but foliage has encroached on it, but one-way traffic would solve that problem.

Connie said that MDOT denied the first application for funds because of the U of M.

b) Hodulik said there are some big drop-offs. Street said that U of M wants to replace the culvert which would cause less damage to creek.

c) Snowmobilers use it in the winter.

Hodulik will talk to the Road Commission for their opinion on changing from a two-way to a one-way road before for the meeting on June 5th.

2) Power line north of Hogsback

Concerns:

- a) U of M does not want the trail going along this two-track road as they do not want trees cut or motorized vehicles on the property.
 - b) The road could be improved but is still hilly.
 - c) This route would need a bridge or detour back down to the Hogsback Rd. to cross the bridge.
- 3) Powerline Rd. off Riggsville Rd. (after gorge)
Street suggested this route as it would not be necessary to go back down to Hogsback Rd. to cross the bridge. Minimal construction would be needed for this route.
Concerns:
- a) This is still U of M property and would need their trustees' permission.
 - b) MNRTF would like this trail but not MDOT.
 - c) U of M may not want snowmobilers to use the trail.
 - d) Easement may be needed for the Riggsville Rd. portion of the trail.

Mullet-Burt Rd. - Hodulik

TAP funds are needed to make the trail a part of the paving program in 2017. Need to get legislators involved. This trail is good access to the Iron-Belle Trail.

How to raise funds? – Hodulik

Baughman is still writing grants. As DTE now has a presence in Burt Township, that is a good resource for funding. BLPA has supported the trail in the past and is a good option. Chenevere suggested Ford Motor Company.

Comments:

Mac Richardson asked who should go to June 5th meeting. Hodulik said himself, Pillen, Steve Vorenkamp and Gary Street will be attending, and he will e-mail the results of the meeting to the other members.

Adjourned at 8:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Donna McDougall, Recording Secretary