

**Minutes of
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE
June 24, 2013**

A meeting of the Burt Lake Trail Committee was called to order by Ann Baughman (Vice Chair) on June 24, 2013, at 7 p.m. at the Burt Township Hall, 7029 Birchwood Road, Cheboygan, MI.

Committee Members Present: Steve Vorenkamp (Chair), Ann Baughman (Vice Chair), Virginia Chenevere, Kim Kihnke, Art Pillen, Mac Richardson, Gary Street, Mary Street and Connie Vorenkamp.

Committee Members Absent: Bert Ebbers, Jay Jontz, Kelley Jontz, Frank Kestler, and John Roberts.

Also attending: Gordon Aittama, Shirl Aittama, Mary Barker, Leo Chenevere, Janice Cheney, Cleta Enck, Tom Enck, Margaret Goerke, Joan Keiser, Lorraine Ostwald, Katie Parker-Ebbers, Thomas Stephane, John Wojeiechowski, Linda Wojeiechowski and Joyce Hutto-Nolan (Recording Secretary).

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Connie Vorenkamp and seconded by Gary Street to approve the minutes of April 29, 2013, as written.

Motion unanimously approved.

Burt Lake Trail Update

Connie Vorenkamp said that she and Gary Street represented the trail committee at a pre-construction meeting on May 2, 2013. They met with C2AE engineers, Amanda Poynter and Larry Fox, and M & M Construction representatives. The purpose of the meeting was to review documentation for scheduling permits. Paper work was submitted to C2AE for its final approval. A letter was sent to Burt Township property owners explaining that trail construction would be starting and that there would be lane closures, trees cut down and some mail boxes may need to be moved. Property owners who had trees cut down in the road right of way adjacent to their property would be given permission to keep their trees if they contacted M & M Construction. Steve Vorenkamp said there is water in some of the draining ditches on the side of the road and that Amanda Poynter of C2AE said filters which have been put in place to keep water from going to the other side of the road have been clogged and has slowed down drainage. C2AE has extended the trail completion date to August 2, 2013, due to adverse weather conditions.

Steve and Connie Vorenkamp attended the MNRTF board meeting in Emmet County. They received approval and support for the progress of the Burt Lake Trail.

C2AE should have information in July concerning the road right of way on the second phase of the trail.

Steve and Connie Vorenkamp met with Karrie Slavik of the U of M Biological Station. The biological station favors a separated trail going through the woods rather than giving an easement on the side of the road.

A trail update will be included in the summer tax letter to be mailed to Burt Township property owners.

Financial Report

Connie Vorenkamp reported for Bill Kanine, CPA. Kanine is helping with the MNRTF Reimbursements. He will submit the trust fund reimbursement requests. Cancelled checks and invoices are being submitted in support of the requests. \$169,591.25 has been collected through donations and the expenses to date are \$144,258. Gary Street said that approximately 90 percent of the pledges have been received and reminder letters will be sent to those with unpaid pledges. Steve Vorenkamp said the Northwest Design Group, Inc. was selected by the Cheboygan Road County to obtain easements. The total paid and unpaid invoices are approximately \$5,000 more than the estimated cost originally given to the Burt Lake Trail Committee. There are three unpaid invoices to Northwest Design Group, Inc. totaling \$5,176.70. Steve Vorenkamp recommended paying Northwest Design Group, Inc. for the three unpaid invoices totaling \$5,176.70 from the Burt Lake Trail Fund.

Motion

Moved by Connie Vorenkamp and seconded by Kim Kihnke to recommend to the Burt Township Board to pay Northwest Design Group, Inc. \$5,176.70 from the Burt Lake Trail Fund.

Motion unanimously approved.

Gary Street said that this addition to the estimate should be taken into consideration for any future work with Northwest Design Group, Inc. Connie Vorenkamp said also to keep in mind that the difficulty with the easement procurements were not expected.

Steve Vorenkamp said that due to unanticipated expenses to obtain easements and for the archaeological study that continued fundraising will be necessary in order to pay for the first and second phase of the trail.

Events Update

Mary Street said the ribbon cutting ceremony and picnic will be held on August 10, 2013, at 11 a.m. at the Jontz property on West Burt Lake Road across from the DNR property. Following the ceremony, a picnic will be held at the Burt Township Hall on Birchwood Road.

The T-shirts with the trail logo have arrived and available for sale.

Kelley Jontz is chairman of the trail's participation in the Fourth of July parade in Alanson. A flier about the trail and the ribbon cutting ceremony will be handed out during the parade.

New Business

No new business

Old Business

A plaque has been ordered (12 x 18 metal sign) required by the MNRTF saying "This project was funded by MNRTF". It will be displayed on the trail.

Public Comment Period

Cleta Enck said that she just moved to the area and is interested in the trail and where it goes and would like to stay after the meeting to learn more.

John Wojeiechowski said the workers who are working on the trail are courteous and do a good job of cleaning up at the end of the day.

Jim Woodward thanked the committee for everything they are doing and is pleased to have a safe place for his grandkids to ride bikes.

Leo Chenevere asked how long before the Mullett-Burt Road will be completed.

Janice Cheney asked what is happening on the curve. She noticed there was activity one day and then it stopped. Janice said she understands about the drainage issue, but what would happen if it persists after wet weather and would there be erosion onto the road. Janice asked if there will be added expense in the future due to this problem.

Gordon Aittama asked which side of the East Burt Lake Road will the trail be located.

Public Comment Period Closed

Gary Street said that silt fences are required to keep silt from draining into the lake. The silt fences were not being cleaned daily. The contractor (M & M) has now been asked to clean the silt fences every day. New culverts will be installed and the engineers said it will not be a problem.

Steve Vorenkamp said the work had been stopped in front of the Porter property. They will be notified when the work begins at the curve so the Porters can be present.

Improving the Mullett-Burt Road is a high priority for the Cheboygan Road Commission.

Two letters were received in support of the trail.

The next trail committee meeting will be July 22, 2013, at 7 p.m at the Burt Township Hall.

Motion

Moved by Art Pillen and seconded by Gary Street to adjourn.

Motion unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Joyce Hutto-Nolan, Recording Secretary