

**Minutes of
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE
August 27, 2012**

A meeting of the Burt Lake Trail Committee was held at the Burt Township Hall, 7029 Birchwood Road, Cheboygan, Michigan on August 27, 2012, at 7 p.m.

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

Committee Members Absent: Connie Vorenkamp, Jay Jontz, Kelley Jontz, Bert Ebbers and Patti Johnson, Frank Kestler, Kim Kihnke and John Roberts.

Also Attending: Jim Larson, Jim MacMillan, Mary Ann Ryan, Bob Porter, Janice Cheney, Paige Porter and Joyce Hutto-Nolan (Recording Secretary).

Minutes

The July 23, 2012, minutes were not approved due to a lack of a quorum.

Financial Report

Gary Street reported that the Burt Lake Trail Committee has achieved the goal of \$140,000. The total income to date is \$140,231.25. Payments totaling \$13,000 are pending from DALMAC and PHSCF. Pledges of \$22,450 have not been paid. The income as of August 27, 2012, is \$175,681.25 including paid and unpaid funds. Most of the expenses paid to date have been paid to C2AE for engineering services. The fund balance through July 2012 is \$62,048.96.

Trail Route and Easements

Gary Street reported that the engineering study for the trail route has been completed from Maple Bay Road to Hogsback Road with the exception of one easement which needs to be obtained.

Donor Recognition

Mac Richardson reported on using bricks as a way to commemorate donors. Mac had a drawing of an 8' x 8' section of bricks which would be placed at mile markers with donor's name engraved on each brick. Mac visited a business in Tower, Michigan which does this engraving and was quoted a price of \$10 to \$12 to engrave each brick. Gary Street will contact C2AE about how the bricks could be installed and to determine if there are any MDOT requirements.

New Business

Public Comment Explanation

Mary Street explained the procedures for public comment. Mary said that public comments help to make the committee aware of the public's questions or concerns. When those questions or concerns are received, the committee will respond to that person.

Public Comment

Jim MacMillan asked: (1) has a price been received for paving the 6 foot wide shoulder from Mundt Road to Mundt Road and from Indian Point Road to Mundt Road; (2) where does phase one end; (3) where does the trail go from Nash Road to Indian Point Road; and (4) how many

trees will be taken down from Maple Bay Road to Mundt Road compared to trees being taken down from the Vanamatic property to Riggsville Road.

Bob Porter asked: (1) when will the results of the curve study details be released; (2) when will the actual details of the route be released; and (3) what liability insurance does the township or county have for property owners on the trail.

Paige Porter said the people are not opposed to the bike path, but that the exact trail route is unknown.

Jim Larson asked who will do maintenance on the trail and who will pay for it.

Jim Larson asked if the township will hire an attorney if a property owner is sued and needs to defend himself.

Answers from Committee

Gary Street said Tim MacArthur (Burt Township Attorney) said individuals do not have liability unless there is a deliberate hazard created by the property owner.

Gary Street said: (1) Burt Township has passed a resolution agreeing to maintain the trail; (2) a committee of trail volunteers will take care of minor issues such as picking up litter; and (3) major problems such as fallen trees will be maintained by hired contractors.

Steve Vorenkamp said the trail route has not been finalized, but when it is, a detailed map of the trail will be presented to the public.

Steve Vorenkamp quoted Emily Meyerson, Consultant, concerning the trail proceeding along West Burt Lake Road versus along Mundt Road as follows:

“When looking at an aerial view of the area you can see the roads and the population centers, thus the need to improve West Burt (it’s where the people live and West Burt is the road they walk, drive, bike, jog, etc. on).

Mundt may have potentially been easier because of fewer residences, but even if Mundt were possible, area users and especially those on Colonial Point, Elmhurst, Burt Lake Springs and the bypassed section of West Burt would still not have a safe way to get to Mundt. West Burt would therefore still need to be improved.

In addition once West Burt was selected, access to the North end of the Little Traverse Conservancy became an integral part of the design submitted to MDOT for the TE grant.”

Motion to Adjourn

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Next meeting will be September 24, 2012, at 7 p.m.

Joyce Hutto-Nolan, Recording Secretary