

**Minutes of
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE
August 26, 2013**

A meeting of the Burt Lake Trail Committee was called to order by Steve Vorenkamp (Chair) on August 26, 2013, at 7 p.m. at the Burt Township Hall, 7029 Birchwood Road, Cheboygan, MI.

Committee Members Present: Steve Vorenkamp (Chair), Ann Baughman, Art Pillen, Mac Richardson, John Roberts, Gary Street and Connie Vorenkamp.

Committee Members Absent: Virginia Chenevere, Bert Ebbers, Jay Jontz, Kelley Jontz, Frank Kestler, Kim Kihnke and Mary Street.

Also attending: Gene Hodulik, Jim Larson and Joyce Hutto-Nolan (Recording Secretary).

Minutes of July 22, 2013

Approval of the minutes of July 22, 2013, was continued due to the lack of a voting quorum.

Burt Lake Trail Update

Ribbon Cutting/Picnic

Steve Vorenkamp said the ribbon cutting ceremony which took place on the Jontz property on West Burt Lake Road on August 10, 2013, was a success. Approximately 150 people attended the event. A picnic was held at the Burt Township Hall following the ceremony.

Phase One Status and Completion Date

The planned completion date for phase one of the trail is mid September 2013. Direction, stop, yield, and informational signs are being placed along the trail.

Brutus Road Segment

Steve Vorenkamp said the State of Michigan has budgeted \$500,000,000 for roads. If the money is appropriated for Brutus Road improvements, Emily Meyerson will submit a MDOT grant for a two foot extension for each side of the road which would result in a four foot shoulder on both sides of the road.

West Burt Lake Road/Riggsville Road/East Burt Lake Road Segment

Gary Street distributed a handout of a Google earth map and a handout of the pros and cons of possible trail routes along the U of M Biological Station property connecting phase one to phase two of the trail. These handouts are attached and made a part of the minutes of this meeting.

Gary spoke with a representative of Consumers Power, Karie Slavik and Bob Vande Koppel of the biological station, and Mike Roper of the Cheboygan County Road Commission concerning the different routes. Gary explained the pros and cons of each route.

East Burt Lake Road/Mullet-Burt Lake Road Segment

Steve Vorenkamp said decisions will need to be made concerning easements and shoulders on East Burt Lake Road. Ann Baughman suggested an open house to reach out to people for their ideas.

Extension Road Segment

Extension Road will be a joint project with Mullet Township. Applications to MDOT will be made for the funds for the shoulder work.

Financial Report

Gary Street reported that donations of \$167,397.35 have been made. The money from the Indian River Summerfest Kayak-Bike Biathlon has been received, but not recorded. If all pledges are made, the total will be \$184,562.35.

Connie Vorenkamp is working with Bill Kanine, CPA, on the reimbursements. All the invoices are being submitted to MNRTF even though not all invoices are qualified for reimbursement. This will give a complete report of what is paid for the trail.

Events Update

Ribbon Cutting/Picnic

Virginia Chenevere and Mary Street worked hard and made this event successful. Meijer of Gaylord donated the food and the paper products. Ann Swayze donated the ice cream for the picnic. Mac Richardson cooked the food.

Publicity

The event was reported in the Petoskey News Review.

New Business

U of M Biological Station Field Study Course Report

Steve Vorenkamp said Dr. Phil D'Anieri's of the University of Michigan Biological Station has completed his report. Dr. D'Anieri's study suggested that in 2014 the trail committee have more structure and a better understanding of road building, finances and the politics involved in trail construction. Emily Meyerson, planning consultant, will be asked to help.

Old Business

Parking Lot/Trailhead Grant

Emily Meyerson is working on the grant for the parking lot/trailhead and should receive a response in December 2013.

MNRTF Sign Placement

The sign from MNRTF has been ordered. Art Pillen will install the sign.

Donation for the Burt Lake Trail

A donation will be made for a bench as a memorial to be placed along the trail. Policies on how to receive and handle donations will be discussed at future meetings.

Public Comment

Gene Hodulik said he has received a map from Cheboygan County showing property owners on the east side of Burt Lake.

Gary Street said C2AE and construction workers on the trail did a good job of repairing driveways.

Next Meeting

The next Burt Lake Trail meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2013, at 7 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn

Moved by Ann Baughman and seconded by Connie Vorenkamp to adjourn.

Motion unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Joyce Hutto-Nolan, Recording Secretary