

BURT LAKE TRAIL MEETING
September 17, 2009

Committee Present: Gary Street, Connie Vorenkamp, Ann Baughman, Mac Richardson, Dean Pollard, Bert Ebbers, Kim Kihnke.

Also attending: Harold Koviak, Dennis Dombroski, Larry Fox, Amanda Poynter, Joyce Hutto. Luke Houlton, David Brown and Ken Paquet.

Minutes

Minutes of August 12, 2009 were accepted.

TOMTC Trail Ride

The trail ride of August 22, 2009 began at Topinabee, following the proposed trail and ending at the Brutus Deli.

Tom Stanley, a very active volunteer at TOMTC, has moved to Wisconsin. Tom had been a supporter and consultant to the Burt Lake Trail committee.

MDOT Seminar

Jim Conboy and Gary Street attended a MDOT seminar in Grayling. The NEMCOG will be putting on a similar seminar on September 24.

Trail Finances

Money has been pledged by various associations and individuals. The finances are set up through the TOMTC, a 501c3 organization, allowing donators to receive a tax deduction.

Grants

The application for a grant to the Kodak Foundation has been submitted. The decision should be made known later this month if accepted. The application was submitted to the National Park Service Program for consultation service and that decision of acceptance will be made later this month.

C2AE

Larry Fox and Amanda Poynter of C2AE, engineering company for the Burt Lake Trail, led a discussion explaining their part of the program. They presented an overview of the goals and objectives for the trail. They will present a single trail concept, the location, description of what the trail will look like, develop cost estimates in segments and help the trail committee to apply for grants.

This meeting is a “kick-off meeting” to gather information for the trail. Gary Street and Bert Ebbers drove the proposed trail route with C2AE. C2AE will do visual field observations, looking at key points along the route and will look for alternative routes, easements, etc. Meetings will be scheduled with U of M, Consumers Energy and other interested associations. The concept plan will be finalized by segmenting the project into sections.

The final report will include segmentized costs and priorities, potentials for funding, presentation boards with maps, and the final reports.

Information needed is a recreation plan from each involved township to incorporate the townships studies into the trail study.

Fund Raising

Ann Baughman will set up a meeting to explain the process of fund raising. Discussed will be how much money is needed from grant funds and other funding sources. Also needed is how to target the money to different categories. Ann will email a date to organize a meeting to work on the fund raising committee.

Publicity

Kim Kihnke reported Inland Lakes, Pellston and Cheboygan schools have been contacted about the logo contest and they will get back with Kim before the deadline of November 2.

Information about the logo contest is on the Burt Township website. It was suggested to put an article in the Straitsland Resorter opening the contest to everyone. Connie Vorenkamp will work with the Resorter newspaper to get articles to them on a regular basis about the trail. Mac Richardson is working with the BLPA Newsletter to keep them informed.

Easements

Gary explained GIS mapping and how it will help with getting information for the easements. Connie Vorenkamp suggested waiting until the engineering study is underway to work on the easements. A plan is needed to put in place as how to approach the owners for the easements. Gary will contact Barbara Nelson Jameson for help on obtaining easements. Gary will set up a sub-committee to work on how to go about getting easements

Brochure

A few changes will be made to the brochure. The engineering study will replace the trail ride section. Committee members are to read over the brochure and get back to Ann Baughman by September 22 with any changes.

Next meeting

October 14, 2009 at 7 p.m.

Joyce Hutto
Recording Secretary