

**REGULAR MEETING of the PAINT CREEK TRAILWAYS COMMISSION**

Held at the Rochester Municipal Building, 400 Sixth Street  
Rochester, Oakland County, Michigan

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Tuesday, January 15, 2008 meeting was called to order by Chair Blanchard at 7:00 p.m.

**Voting members Present:** Dave Becker, Rock Blanchard, Paul Miller, Maryann Whitman, Ravi Yalamanchi, Alice Young

**Voting Alternates Present:** Linda Gamage (*enter 7:05 p.m.*), Kathy Thomas

**Alternates Present:** Jeff Matis (*enter 7:15 p.m.*), Martha Olijnyk, Edward Peters, Ron Stewart, Michael Webber

**Non-Voting Members Present:** Lois Golden (*enter 7:10 p.m.*)

**Voting Members Absent:** Marc Edwards, Richard Schultz

**Others Present:** John Makris, Attorney (*enter 7:10 p.m.*), Kristen Myers, Trail Manager

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**MOTION** by Young, supported by Miller, ***Moved***, to approve the January 15, 2008 agenda as presented.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**NEW COMMISSIONER WELCOME:** Everyone introduced themselves. The Board welcomed new Commissioners – Jeff Matis, Rochester, Kathy Thomas, Oakland Township, Michael Webber, Rochester Hills and Ravi Yalamanchi, Rochester Hills.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Item 5a was removed from the consent agenda.

b. December Treasurer's Report, receive and file

**MOTION** by Miller, supported by Whitman, ***Moved***, to approve the consent agenda as amended.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Item 5a – Minutes of the December 18, 2007 Regular Meeting**

Correction to Minutes: Page 2, 2007 Per Diem Report, second sentence – change Mr. Edwards to Mr. Peters.

**MOTION** by Young, supported by Whitman, ***Moved***, to approve the December 18, 2007 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**APPROVAL OF INVOICES:** Ms. Myers presented the invoices in the amount of \$7,271.18.

This amount includes the second to last payment for the boundary project. Final payment to Nowak and Fraus will be made after completion of the entire project. Fund balance is estimated at \$48,704.

**MOTION** by Miller, supported by Young, *Moved*, that the invoices presented for payment are approved in the amount of \$7,271.18 and orders be drawn for payment.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ROCHESTER ART PROJECT UPDATE:** Mr. Becker indicated an approximate \$300 invoice for the sample art project and shipping and handling will be received prior to the next meeting, and asked approval for this bill to be paid upon receipt. Mr. Becker passed around the sample panels for review. The Committee will meet in two weeks to approve the project. If approved, the displays will be ordered for placement in the spring. The members commented the sample panels look great and thanked the committee for all their hard work. For the benefit of the new Commissioners, Mr. Becker summarized the nature of the art project.

**POTENTIAL ROUTES FOR POLLY ANN/PAINT CREEK CONNECTION:** Information on a “gap analysis” report, done for the County and developed by Wade-Trim, was included in the packet. Six potential connection sites were identified in the report. More than one connection is a possibility. Cost was not included in the report. A brief discussion ensued relative to these connections. Safety issues, especially crossing M24, are a concern. There are wetland issues throughout Bald Mountain, and the Indianwood connection is speculated to be very expensive. Ms. Myers is looking for Commission input to be discussed at a meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup> at the Oakland County Parks office. Everyone is invited to attend this meeting. Anyone not attending the meeting can email comments to Ms. Myers or Mr. Blanchard prior to the 31<sup>st</sup>.

**MASTER PLAN REVIEW & DISCUSSION – Administrative Structure:** Ms. Myers asked the members how they would like to discuss the Master Plan – it was decided to go page by page. Comments regarding page one – first sentence, add “Paint Creek” prior to Trailways Commission, add the Village in sentence two, and correct “two Commissioners and two Alternates” in third sentence. In the new sentence, change “addition of property” to “addition of trail segment”. Bullet #2 under “The Trailways Commission may” – change to “hire a manager and necessary personnel”. Mr. Becker summarized an organizational chart he developed. Under list of members, change Ms. Myers title to “Manager” (and make that change throughout the entire Master Plan document), correct John Garlicki’s name and refer to “Chair” instead of “Chairperson” and “Vice-Chair” rather than “Vice-Chairperson”. On page 3 operational budgeting – the dollar amounts can’t be inserted until the 2009 budget has been approved, and in the last sentence add “trail surface maintenance” and change the order of member unit responsibilities so that “vandalism” is not the last word. A short discussion ensued relative to budgeted dollars being included in the Plan. Under Uniform Trailways Ordinances – it was suggested a discussion on trail hours is needed at a future meeting, and add a bullet for “no plantings or removal of vegetation without permission of the Commission”. In order to save time, it was suggested a subcommittee be formed to go through suggested changes to the Master Plan. Another subcommittee could be formed to gather public input. It was determined that Ms. Myers will forward the next section of the Plan to the members for review and suggested changes can be emailed. Ms. Myers will forward the changes to the subcommittee for review and that draft will be given to the Commissioners for discussion at the next meeting. A limit of one hour can be placed on Master Plan discussion at each subsequent meeting. Ms. Young, Ms. Gamage and Messrs. Blanchard and Miller offered their assistance to Ms. Myers as part of the subcommittee.

**2007 PATROL PROGRAM REPORT:** A 2007 patrol report prepared by David Moutrie, was provided to the members for review. It was suggested that Mr. Moutrie be recognized for his “above and beyond” efforts with at least a letter, and possibly a spike award at the National Trails

Day Recognition Ceremony for his exceptional contribution to the trail. He is truly an asset to the trail.

**BOUNDARY PROJECT STATUS UPDATE:** Ms. Myers met with Mr. Gary Swem from Nowak and Fraus who completed the boundary survey and the certificate of survey Act 132 for review. The legal description is five pages long. Ms. Myers will be meeting with each Park Director to review their section of the survey. Unfortunately the issue with Letica Road is still unresolved. The survey shows existing conditions for this area. A legal description was able to be completed for the curvature on the east side of Ludlow, but not the west side. To resolve this, the centerline of the pavement was used for this description. The consultant is reviewing the survey results and will recommend acceptance if and when it meets his approval. A meeting will be scheduled with all the communities and the consultant to discuss the findings and answer questions. Eighty-five monuments were installed in December, but no carsonite markers have been installed yet as information is needed from the Commission on where to place them. These will be placed primarily in Oakland Township – Ms. Myers will be meeting with the Parks Commission on the placement. How to mark the trail boundaries should be placed on a future agenda for discussion. GPS training will be held in February. Ms. Myers will forward additional information to the members.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** In addition to the written report, Ms. Myers indicated the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance is selling 2008 calendars – it includes two Paint Creek Trail pictures. WalMart is opening January 23<sup>rd</sup> and Ms. Myers will be in attendance to receive the \$2,500 sponsorship check from last year's National Trails Day. The same day there is a National Trails Day meeting in Lake Orion. Any changes/additions to the roster should be emailed to Ms. Myers. The Commission was reminded that approval of the bill for the Rochester art project sample panels needs to be completed.

**MOTION** by Young, supported by Miller, *Moved*, to approve payment of up to \$400.00 to cover the Rochester art project historic display samples.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** No report given.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS:** Welcome to the new Commissioners. It was stated that the Paint Creek Trail is the oldest "Rails to Trail" trail in Michigan. A pothole was reported near the maintenance shed in Rochester Municipal Park.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** by Miller, supported by Young, *Moved*, to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**NEXT MEETING – February 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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KRISTEN MYERS, Trailways Manager

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PAUL MILLER, Trailways Secretary