

**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 June 17, 2008 meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Becker at 7:00 p.m.

**Voting Members Present:** Dave Becker, Paul Miller, Richard Schultz, Maryann Whitman, Ravi Yalamanchi, Alice Young

**Voting Alternates Present:** Edward Peters, Kathy Thomas

**Alternates Present:** Linda Gamage, Ron Stewart

**Non-Voting Members Present:** None

**Voting Members Absent:** Rock Blanchard, Marc Edwards

**Others Present:** John Makris, Attorney, Kristen Myers, Trail Manager

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**MOTION** by Schultz, supported by Young, *Moved*, to approve the June 17, 2008 agenda as presented.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Minutes, Regular Meeting – May 20, 2008, approval
- B. May Treasurer's Report, receive and file

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

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**APPROVAL OF INVOICES:** Ms. Myers presented the invoices in the amount of \$19,540.02. This amount includes 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter wages and FICA for the Trail Manager and Bike Patroller, and the necessities purchased for National Trails Day. Fund Balance remains at an estimated \$54,000.

**MOTION** by Schultz, supported by Whitman, *Moved*, that the invoices presented for payment are approved in the amount of \$19,540.02 and orders be drawn for payment.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**OAKLAND TOWNSHIP WET PRAIRIE – Deer Enclosure on Trail ROW:** Ms. Myers indicated a deer enclosure has been erected at the wet prairie site. The enclosure was supposed to be located on township property, but mistakenly was placed on trail property encroaching by ten feet. A letter from Matt Vance, Natural Areas Stewardship Manager for Oakland Township explains they would like to maintain this enclosure where it is now located as an educational and natural areas tool, but would be willing to relocate the structure if the Commission wanted it moved. Ms. Whitman explained that native plants have been planted in the interior and exterior areas of the enclosure as part of a long-term study. The enclosure is part of a larger deer management project/plan. Signs will be placed on the actual enclosure explaining its purpose. It was also suggested that brochures describing the native plants be placed on site, and an annual project update be provided to the Trailways Commission.

**MOTION** by Miller, supported by Young, *Moved*, that the Commission supports Oakland Township's request to leave the structure where it is located on trail property, place descriptive signage and native plant brochures at the site, and provide an annual project update to the Trailways Commission.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**SUPPORT FOR OAKLAND UNIVERSITY TRAIL NETWORK CONCEPT:** Ms. Myers indicated she has received a request for a letter of support from Jake Isley, a student at Oakland University, who is planning a network of trails through the University's campus. Mr. Isley is also seeking support letters from other trail organizations and groups. He is not asking for monetary or labor support from the Commission – only support for the project, guidance and advice throughout the planning and construction process. The concept is that the trail would interconnect with campus sidewalks and streets while running through the forests on campus, and would be open to all who wish to enjoy it. Ms. Myers does not feel the requested support will require a lot of her time. After a brief discussion, it is the consensus of the Commission that they support the general idea.

**MOTION** by Yalamanchi, supported by Young, *Moved*, that the Commission supports Mr. Isley's concept for the trail network at Oakland University, and directs Ms. Myers to write a letter of support and assistance on behalf of the Commission.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**2009 BUDGET:** A draft of the 2009 budget incorporating last month's changes was included in the packet. The per diem amount was decreased by \$3,000 - \$1,000 was transferred to miscellaneous/contingency and \$2,000 was put into Trail Projects – Encroachment Enforcement. A new line item was added for "Phase 3 Art Project" and "Trail Improvement Project" with zero dollars budgeted at this time. Suggested changes include changing "directed budget" to "designated budget" under Trail Projects. It was also suggested "land acquisition" be listed under Trail Projects with a zero budget.

**MOTION** by Young, supported by Schultz, *Moved*, that the Commission approves the 2009 proposed budget as amended.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ROCHESTER ART PROJECT UPDATE:** Mr. Becker reported that five of the six art displays were ordered today with the sixth being ordered next week, and that the project should be complete for a Labor Day dedication.

**NATIONAL TRAILS DAY REPORT:** Ms. Myers circulated photographs of the event and reported National Trails Day was attended by approximately 800 people and the weather cooperated even though it was very hot. Over 500 pedometers were given out by McLaren Health Care and there are extra T-shirts available for Commissioners. The Recognition Ceremony went well, and the Rainbow Connection was happy with participation in the event. Ms. Myers and all the volunteers were thanked for their coordination and participation. It was suggested that a formal thank you/appreciation letter be written from the Commission to Lois Golden, Village of Lake Orion DDA, for her support and assistance in this event.

**MOTION** by Miller, supported by Thomas, *Moved*, that the Commission directs Ms. Myers to write a letter of appreciation to Ms. Golden and the Village of Lake Orion DDA thanking them for their cooperation in National Trails Day.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**MASTER PLAN – Preliminary Survey Results:** A small sampling of 29 responses from National Trails Day to the questionnaire was provided to the members for their information. The survey information has been posted to the website and a press release about the questionnaire will be published. Most people who responded use the trail on the weekends for exercise and are very satisfied and feel safe on the trail. The number one suggested improvement on the trail is an extension to the Polly Ann Trail. A “clean-up day on the trail” was suggested. More responses are expected over the next couple of months. Ms. Myers indicated that next month’s meeting will be devoted to re-reviewing the first few sections of the Master Plan to ascertain that all suggested corrections have been made. We will meet at the regular time, discuss the Master Plan, and then adjourn to a site visit to the south end of Rochester.

**BIKE PATROL PROGRAM – AED Discussion:** Mr. Becker indicated he would like to draft a letter to Crittenton Hospital for possible grant assistance towards the purchase of a portable AED for our bike patroller. It is the consensus of the Commission that Mr. Becker draft a letter on behalf of the Commission to Crittenton Hospital for this purpose.

**MANAGER’S REPORT:** A trail inspection will be completed this week and the report will be forwarded to the members. A letter was received from Oakland Township Zoning Board of Appeals relative to a rear yard variance request for a property that is adjacent to the trail, but would not directly affect trail property. Ms. Myers has written a letter to the Zoning Board that there are concerns about the addition to the east side of the property that would possibly encroach on trailway right-of-way and that the rear yard setback is very close to wetlands possibly affecting proper water run-off. Ms. Myers will advise the Commission of the outcome of this variance request.

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

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS:** Mr. Stewart reported he is unable to attend the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Upon Motion by Miller, supported by Young, *Moved*, the June 17, 2008 Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Ayes: All      Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**NEXT MEETING – July 15, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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KRISTEN MYERS, Trail Manager

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PAUL MILLER, Trailways Secretary