

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, March 18, 2008 meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Becker at 7:00 p.m.

Voting Members Present: Dave Becker, Marc Edwards, Paul Miller, Ravi Yalamanchi, Alice Young

Voting Alternates Present: Linda Gamage, Edward Peters

Alternates Present: Jeff Matis, Ron Stewart (*enter 7:55 p.m.*), Michael Webber (*enter 7:37 p.m.*)

Non-Voting Members Present: Lois Golden (*enter 7:20 p.m.*)

Voting Members Absent: Rock Blanchard, Richard Schultz, Maryann Whitman

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION by Gamage, supported by Yalamanchi, ***Moved***, to approve the March 18, 2008 agenda as presented.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Minutes – February 19, 2008 Regular Meeting, approval

b. February Treasurer’s Report, receive and file

MOTION by Young, supported by Miller, ***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 \$11,251.50. Included in this figure is the 1st quarter wages/FICA for the Trail Manager position and the attorney’s 2nd quarter retainer fee. 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 \$11,251.50 and orders be drawn for payment.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

BROOKSIE WAY (Sunday, October 5, 2008) UPDATE: Ms. Myers reported the permit for this race was approved last November, and it has been brought to her attention that this four-hour event is requested to be a “completely closed course” for the race. This issue was not discussed when the permit was granted. Ms. Myers met with the new Rochester police chief last week for discussion of this issue. The course will involve the section of the trail from Rochester Municipal Park through Tienken. It is anticipated when runners get to this portion of the trail, they will be spread out. It is requested that adequate personnel and signage be in place a few days before the event alerting regular trail users there may be some delays on the trail during race time. Ms.

Myers asked for comments from the commissioners. The only time the trail has been closed in the past was for construction purposes. Concerns raised included the fact that the Commission is supportive of the race and getting people out to exercise, but a very large number of participants is expected for this event. Walkers, as well as runners, will be involved, possibly adding time to complete the race. Mr. Makris indicated he is not sure we can legitimately close the trail for recreational purposes, but given that there are so many people and that this is a timed event, he supposed it could be considered a safety factor and possibly restrict user access during this time. Other issues raised were restoration of any damage to the trail, garbage removal and water stations. Discussion ensued relative to having a "closed course", but the consensus of the Commission is that this is a great event, we will do whatever we can do to accommodate the event coordinators, and we will cooperate in any way to help make the event successful. It was suggested that the portion of the trail utilized during this race be photographed for our protection to denote any possibly safety hazards or protected plants along the path, and that width markers could be placed on the trail. Ms. Myers was asked to work with Mr. Patterson's office and the CRIM personnel to express our concerns and coordinate what can be worked out. Mr. Edwards also offered to work with the event coordinators towards this effort.

RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Ms. Myers reported the subcommittee's recommendation to recognize Linda Raschke, Jeff Phillips, Karen Lewis, the DALMAC Fund, and the Meijer Corporation during the 2008 National Trails Day event. Ms. Myers asked for approval of up to \$300 to purchase the spikes and corporate name plaques. This amount has been budgeted for the ceremony.

MOTION by Young, supported by Miller, *Moved*, to approve up to \$300.00 for the purchase of spikes and name plaques for this year's recognition ceremony.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY UPDATE: Ms. Myers reported a lot of progress has been made during the monthly meetings. Meijer's has indicated they are donating \$2,500 to \$5,000 this year to National Trails Day to be used for a trail project. This might go toward the sign replacement project. McLaren Regional Medical Center, a new sponsor, has given a verbal 10-year commitment for \$2,500 to \$3,500 per year plus 1,000 pedometers for the event. Radio Disney was invited to attend this year, but were told they would have to bring their own sponsors. They have secured one sponsor so far, a competitor of Meijer's. Ms. Myers and the subcommittee will move forward protecting the trail's interest to resolve any issues with the sponsors. Everything is coming together for this year's event.

ROCHESTER ART PROJECT UPDATE & PANEL REVIEW: Life-size copies of the art panels are displayed for review. Mr. Becker asked for a last look at the panels/text before ordering, and that any changes be emailed or called in to him. The subcommittee and the community organizations involved in this project were recognized and thanked for their efforts toward this project. The organizations that helped fund this project are: the Rochester DDA, Rochester-Avon Historical Society, Rochester Historical Commission, the Preede Foundation (part of the Community Foundation of Greater Rochester), the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm, and the Paint Creek Trailways Commission.

LABOR DAY BRIDGE WALK EVENT – September 1, 2008: Ms. Myers indicated she will appear before the Rochester City Council on April 14th to request permission to use Rochester Municipal Park and the trail owned by Rochester for the event from 8:00 a.m. till noon. A couple of routes for walkers and runners are being reviewed. Mr. Becker will apply for the pavilion permit on behalf of the Commission.

2009-2013 MASTER PLAN – REVIEW OF RECREATION INVENTORY: Typographical and grammatical errors can be emailed to Ms. Myers. Going page by page with Ms. Myers explaining the changes, the additional suggested edits include: on page 3, under Chapter V, last sentence, Table 5.2 – change text to read “Table 5.2 lists the major Oakland County Trails, and add the Paint Creek Trail at the top of the actual table; highlight the PCT on the map on page 4; the link for other “rails-to-trails”(table 5.3) could be listed under table 5.2; on page 8, change the sentence about enhancements to read “a ¼ acre vest pocket park, gazebo and amphitheater is adjacent to the bridge, and a similar sized vest pocket park (the Rotary Park) exists just west of the library”; on page 15 add Unger Park and Swiss Village Park to Table 5.8; on page 18 distinguish Clarkston/Kern parking spaces in #1 and #2 as south or north; and on page 27 in the list of grants, it is suggested all grants secured should be listed. The grants could also be listed in Table 5.9. The Master Plan should also be forwarded to all grantors. It was suggested that a paragraph be added listing sponsors of the trail. The subcommittee was thanked for their work; the next section “Action Plan” will be forwarded to the members in the next few days for review.

TRAIL MANAGER’S REPORT: In addition to the written report, Ms. Myers indicated an updated mileage breakdown list including emergency access points was included tonight’s information – this list was given to the public safety agencies. The information has been posted on the website. Ms. Myers is still working on the bollard issues with Oakland Township. More information will be available next month on the wrap-up of the boundary survey project.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT: Nothing in addition to the written report.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS: GPS training information will be forwarded to the members when available.

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon **MOTION** by Young, supported by Miller, ***Moved***, that the March 18, 2008 Regular Meeting be adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Respectfully submitted,

KRISTEN MYERS, Trail Manager

PAUL MILLER, Trailways Secretary