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REGULAR MEETING of the PAINT CREEK TRAILWAYS COMMISSION

Paint Creek Cider Mill Building
4480 Orion Road, Oakland Township, Michigan 48306

CALL TO ORDER: The Tuesday, December 20, 2016 meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Blanchard at 7:00 p.m.

Voting Members Present: Rock Blanchard, Susan Bowyer, Frank Ferriolo, Linda Gamage, Kim Russell, Hank Van Agen, Alice Young

Voting Alternates Present: Donni Steele

Non-Voting Alternates Present: Jim Kubicina (*enter 7:03 p.m.*), Lynn Loeb (*enter 7:05 p.m.*), Martha Olijnyk (*enter 7:08 p.m.*)

Village of Lake Orion Non-Voting Member Present: Brad Mathisen

Voting Members Absent: Brian Birney

Alternates Absent: David Becker, Robin Buxar, Ben Giovanelli, Lisa Sokol, Richard Schultz

Village of Lake Orion Non-Voting Alternate Absent: Shauna Brown

Others Present: Kristen Myers, Trail Manager, Chris Gray, Assistant Trail Manager, Sandi DiSipio, Recording Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All rose and recited the Pledge.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION by Russell, seconded by Ferriolo, ***Moved***, to approve the December 20, 2016 agenda as presented.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Andy Zale stated he was not re-elected to serve, thanked the Commission for being able to serve for four years and hopefully will still be involved. The members thanked him for his time.

CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Minutes – November 15, 2016 Regular Meeting, approve and file

b. Treasurers Report – November 2016, receive and file

MOTION by Young, seconded by Van Agen, ***Moved***, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Van Agen, new Citizen Representative for Oakland Township introduced himself. The Commission welcomed him.

DISCUSSION & APPROVAL: Southeast Rochester Concept Design Plan – Design Team +:

Mr. Ralph Núñez presented the revisions to the concept plan as discussed last month. The observation area and the new trail to the water were marked as requested by Commission. After

discussion, the members agreed that the bridge railings could be extended with additional plantings versus a proposed split rail fencing. It was suggested that DTE be contacted for possible grants for planting trees. The member communities may also have monies in a tree fund available for plantings. Native seed mixes or bare-rooted trees could be planted to block the view to the north. This would be a nice project for the scouts for Arbor Day. A wire mesh railing was proposed for the observation deck to maximize the view. This option would add significant cost to the project. Mr. Núñez described the crowd hydrology gauge and signage that will be placed in the river. An anchored bench where kayaks could come out of the water was proposed at the river's edge. The proposed plan was devised utilizing volunteers to make it simple rather than using contractors, so if professionals are employed a lot of different options could be researched at a higher cost. Mr. Núñez described the pre-drilled concrete piers proposed for the observation deck which are designed based on the soil and frost in this area. Signage in the area is proposed to be consistent with whatever is already on the trail. Mr. Núñez then summarized the cost estimate for trees, resurfacing to the bridge and the new trail, split rail fencing, the two benches and three options for the 12' x 14' observation deck materials (pressure treated wood, composite and trex). He then explained the life expectancy for each. Labor is not included in these quotes as it depends on volunteers versus contractor costs. Maintenance of the material also has to be looked at. Comments were made about how the observation deck could be placed on an angle to maximize the view if designed and built by a contractor. It is the consensus that plantings be done for erosion purposes rather than the proposed split rail fence. If you change the current conditions by putting steps in, then you have to worry about liability. People can still access the water at their own risk because an alternate route has been provided. This project could be done in phases to finish the pathway, additional plantings, the extension of the bridge and the bench by the water - and in the meantime, raise money for the observation deck. Some commissioners feel the observation deck is an important aspect to this plan. Ms. Young added that the Friends Group could be approached for monetary assistance. Municipal "Special Projects" is another option to look at. Ms. Myers was asked to request time for a presentation of this project to Rochester's City Council in February. Mr. Núñez was asked to provide a quote for the additional work required on the concept plans. He stated he is currently over budget, but wants to do the project. The Commission thanked Mr. Núñez for his efforts.

MOTION by Bowyer, seconded by Young, *Moved*, that the Commission approves the concept plan with the modification to the bridge railing extension, that the observation deck will be designed by a contractor to optimize the view area, that there will be additional plantings, and wire mesh railings be proposed for the deck.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL: Resolution #2016-05: To Encourage finalization of the Land Exchange Case (No. 2012-0191) between the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Charter Township of Orion:

MOTION by Steele, supported by Young, *Moved*, that the Commission approve Resolution #2016-05:

WHEREAS, the Paint Creek Trailways Commission, an Intergovernmental Commission formed under the Urban Cooperative Act of 1967, Public Act 7 (Ex. Sess) owns, manages, and operates the 8.9 mile Paint Creek Trail in Oakland County, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the Commission owns approximately 14.82 acres of land, as part of the Paint Creek Trail, within the Township of Oakland, known as Tax Identification Number 10-18-503-007; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Orion purchased 19.08 acres adjacent to the Paint Creek Trail and Bald Mountain Recreation Area at 2510 Orion Road, known as Tax Identification Number 10-18-376-008; and subsequently split off the residential home and barn creating a new 14.50 acre parcel (“Parcel A”) in November 2015 (Exhibit “A”); and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources owns property in the Charter Township of Orion known as Tax Identification Number 09-21-201-002 (“Parcel B”) and will be exchanged for Parcel “A”; and

WHEREAS, Parcel “A” will become part of Bald Mountain State Recreation Area and is an important acquisition to connect the Paint Creek Trail with the Polly Ann Trail in the Charter Township of Orion, and a Land Exchange Case (No. 2012-0191) has been created between the Charter Township of Orion and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, on September 14, 2014, the Commission believed it was in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the public using the Paint Creek Trail to enter into an Ingress/Egress Easement with certain property owners near Parcel “A” in Oakland Township who had been utilizing a portion of the Paint Creek Trail as the sole means of access to their respective properties in order to facilitate the property exchange between the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Charter Township of Orion; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the Paint Creek Trailways Commission of Oakland County, Michigan, hereby encourages the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to finalize Land Exchange Case (No. 2012-0191) with the Charter Township of Orion to improve access to Bald Mountain State Recreation Area from the Paint Creek Trail, which will help secure a future connection with the Polly Ann Trail in the Charter Township of Orion.

AYES: Blanchard, Bowyer, Ferriolo, Gamage, Russell, Steele, Van Agen, Young
NAYS: None
ABSTENTION: None

MOTION CARRIED.

REPORT: 2016 Summary of Events & Accomplishments: Staff prepared a report of the 2016 events and accomplishments for the Commission’s review and approval and asked for any additions. When this report is accepted by the Commission it is passed on to the communities for information. The Southeast Rochester Concept Design Plan and Land Exchange Resolution will be added for December.

MOTION by Young, seconded by Bowyer, *Moved*, to receive and file the 2016 Summary of Events and Accomplishments report.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL: 2016 Per Diem Report: Ms. Myers reported the 2016 per diems at a total of 129 meeting attendances for a total of \$4,515.00. Thank you to everyone for their continued support and dedication to this Commission and high attendance.

MOTION by Ferriolo, seconded by Steele *Moved*, to accept and approve the 2016 per diem report in the amount at \$4,515.00 and incorporate this amount into the invoice total for approval tonight.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

RECESS – 8:30 – 8:58 p.m.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES: Ms. Myers presented the invoices in the amount of \$31,741.36. In addition to the recorder’s monthly fee, this amount includes the per diem amount of \$4,515.00,

Oakland County Mounted Staff Services for Oct & Nov 2016, Foster Swift Attorney services through 11/23/16, Design Team + concept plans, staff's 2016 phone service, rental costs, and postage, 4th quarter 2016 Manager, Assistant Manager and Bike Patrol wages and FICA expense, staff's shared 4th quarter copier costs, Trail Manager's Annual mileage reimbursement, and the Bike Patroller's reimbursement for trail supplies. Estimated unrestricted fund balance will be approximately \$93,000.

MOTION by Gamage, supported by Young, *Moved*, that the invoices presented for payment are approved in the amount of \$31,741.36 and orders be drawn for payment.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

DISCUSSION & APPROVAL: 2016 Final Amended Budget: The per diem line item was changed to reflect actual 2016 costs. The Commission is putting \$5,482 into the fund balance from this year. The unrestricted fund balance at the end of the year should be \$93,915. The restricted funds are at \$2,465. The budget stands at \$97,087 for the year.

MOTION by Young, supported by Van Agen, *Moved*, to approve the final 2016 budget as amended.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Ms. Myers added nothing to her written report.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS: Commissioner reports were heard. Congratulations to the staff for acquiring the MNRTF Grant – Great Job!! Happy Holidays to all.

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon motion by Young, seconded by Gamage, the Vice-Chairperson adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

NEXT MEETING: January 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. – Paint Creek Cider Mill

Respectfully submitted,

KRISTEN MYERS, Trail Manager

ROCK BLANCHARD, Vice-Chairperson