

Thornapple Trail Association Minutes
Lamoreaux residence
January 5, 2015

Present: Tom Ackerman, Mike Gormley, Mark Fritsma, Cal and Jean Lamoreaux, Blair Miller, Larry Pio and Phil and Betty Van Noord.

Call to Order: Chairperson Gormley called the meeting to order at 7:22 pm owing to a location change forced by the locks being changed at Village Hall.

Approval of agenda: **Motion** by Ackerman, second by P. Van Noord to approve. Motion carried

Approval of minutes: After corrections to North Trail and North Country Trail sections, **Motion** by Pio, second by P. Van Noord to approve. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: With no action except interest payments, P. Van Noord reported a current balance of \$15,709.42 as of January 5, 2015 between the accounts at Hastings City Bank and Lake Michigan Credit Union. **Motion** by Ackerman, second by Fritsma to accept the November 3 to January 5 report. Motion carried. Van Noord also shared a Quick Books accounting of all transactions since 9/5/13.

I. Old Business:

A. Trail Expansion North: P. Van Noord reported that the first DNR grant will be re-let for bids this month and that the second DNR grant to acquire the bait shop for \$135,000 just awaits formal signature to be approved. The big snag is on the MDOT grant for trail behind Bradford-White that had to be rerouted. Concern about Indiana Brown Bat habitat. When actual trail route is established, may need NCT Sawyers to remove some trees prior to bats return in April. We were also informed that the Main Street bridge replacement will result in East bound traffic only, requiring West bounders to use Crane Rd. to exit downtown.

B. East Paul Henry: Miller shared a letter written to MDOT investigators detailing his concerns about the billing practices of the Eaton County Road Commission. It was determined to table the Maple Valley Schools request for our additional \$9,000 until receiving MDOT's response. Eaton County presented him with a used plow truck for only \$300. Now is in need of a Boss blade for Quick Hitch II, either V or straight. He also presented fuel bills for \$36.00 and \$37.00.

C. Airport: Tabled until next month

D. Website Sub-committee has not met, but will soon.

E. Barry County Parks and Rec: Tabled until next month.

F. Maintenance Director's Report: Tabled until next month.

G. North Country Trail: Pio invited all to a presentation by one of our own, 600 mile thru-hiker Tom Ackerman on Jan 14 in Delton. He also has reserved tables at the Quiet Water Symposium to promote our trails.

H. Fundraising: Beer tent at Barry-Roubaix has the possibility of raising \$2,000. Need about 20 volunteers March 28, 2015. Gormley will complete application and secure insurance.

II. New Business:

A. Mission Statement: Ackerman inquired about the existence of our mission statement and the need to revise it in light of our dwindling finances.

III. Final Comments May have to reschedule March meeting for second week

IV. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

V. Next meeting, February 2, 2015 at 7:00 pm at Middleville Village Hall

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Ackerman, TTA secretary