

**Thornapple Trail Association Minutes**  
**Village of Middleville Hall**  
**October 7, 2013**

Present: Phil and Betty Van Noord, Jean and Cal Lamoreaux, Mike Gormley, Rick Moore, Mark Fritsma, Alan Stover, Blair Miller and Tom Ackerman

Call to Order: Mike Gormley opened the meeting at 7:05 pm. Tom Ackerman offered to take the minutes in Jean Lamoreaux's absence.

Approval of minutes: **Motion** by Miller, second by Ackerman to approve minutes as amended of last meeting, September 9, 2013. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Phil Van Noord reported a current checkbook balance of \$16,238.00 between the accounts at Hastings City Bank and Lake Michigan Credit Union. **Motion** by Miller, second by Moore to accept September report. Motion carried. P. Van Noord also reported on an email from *Michigan Trails Magazine* regarding 2014 issue. **Motion** by Gormley, second by Miller to continue our local advertising similar to last year. Confusion about web site ad was cleared up by J. Lamoreaux saying we are there *gratis* because we were one of the first.

Election of Officers: **Motion** by P. Van Noord, second by Moore, to re-elect Mike Gormley as president. Motion carried. After current vice-president, C. Lamoreaux withdrew, **motion** by Moore, second by Gormley to elect Blair Miller VP. Motion carried. After J. Lamoreaux withdrew, **motion** by P. Van Noord, second by Moore to elect Ackerman as secretary. Motion carried. **Motion** by Moore, second by C. Lamoreaux to re-elect Phil Van Noord as treasurer. Van Noord will file incorporation papers with the state listing the officers as well as C. Lamoreaux, Fritsma, Moore and Stover as directors.

North Paul Henry: **Motion** by Ackerman, second by Moore, to accept the same Maintenance Agreement with the Village of Middleville for the North section as is currently in place for the South section except for Part C dealing with Boardwalk Maintenance. Motion carried. President Gormley will meet with Fleury to address our concerns. Document is required for grant approval.

East Paul Henry: Miller reported that the trail and river cleaning was well attended by 40 kids and 20 adults who had a great time though there was little work to do this year. He will attempt to determine if bids will be let yet this Fall or if it will have to wait till Spring. Miller has also responded to Ron Pulver's request to take pictures for the magazine yet this Fall, but has not yet heard back.

Maintenance Director's Report: In regards to the Village's requests for quotes for trail sealcoating, Moore reminded members that the original agreement was for the Village to be responsible for the pavement if TTA would mow the unpaved section, which we have been doing for 10 years. Some boards and railings on the bridges should be replaced before winter. The Boy Scouts, with Moore's assistance, have erected 20 poles for maps and directions, but no maps have been posted yet. Moore reported that he is battling with poison ivy as a result of the Day of Caring. A new section of trail from Saranac to Ionia has been paved with crushed limestone.

Volunteer Hours on the Trail: Moore reported 43 hours on the paved section with 29 hours on the unpaved since September.

Barry County Parks and Recreation: This body is still working on the 5 year plan and is making good use of heavy trail-centered responses to the survey.

TTA Web Site: Fritsma reported on the status of the plan to change to Inspiration Studio. Friends of the Muskatawa Trail have indicated a willingness to proceed and their board even committed \$200 in donations for the project. There are financial incentives to deciding and paying promptly. May come out closer to \$3,000. Both domain names have been transferred to Inspiration. Miller will work with Fritsma to determine what is needed regarding graphics and content. We will continue with the current situation with Facebook as a back-up until next meeting.

Comments: J. Lamoreaux was thanked by the body for her tireless efforts on behalf of Thornapple Trails. She indicated that her health and wellness efforts have inspired her in another direction, though she will continue to be our main contact with Michigan Trails, Woodpecker Festival and other organizations.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Ackerman, TTA secretary