

# Lake Vermilion Trail Joint Powers Board Meeting Notes

## 4/26/18 – Cook Community Center, Cook

Called to order at 10:00 AM

### **Board members**

Cathi Hiveley – *Beatty Township*

Tim Johnson - *City of Cook*

Larry Tahija - *Greenwood*

Tom Lantry - *Owens Township - chair*

Terri Joki-Martin - *City of Tower*

Stephen Peterson, Jr. - *Vermilion Lake Township – treasurer*

### **Work Group**

Carol Booth - *Beatty alternate*

Elizabeth Storm – *City of Cook*

Steve Lotz – *Vermilion Lake Township*

Josh Gilson - *Lake Vermilion Resort Association*

Joan Broten – *Minnesota DNR*

Russell Habermann – *Arrowhead Regional Development Commission*

Holly Larson – *National Park Service*

The agenda order was changed to ensure that any late arrivals would be present for the Master Plan discussion.

#### 1. Marketing

- a. Banner – Carol Booth has been working with W. A. Fisher of Virginia on a banner design, which was distributed by email on 4-10. It is colorful, the logo is prominently displayed, and the trail users shown are generic silhouettes. Carol noted that additional trail brochures will be needed for the summer season and that the brochure needs to be updated, which should be done before another printing. She will work on an updating draft.
- b. Summer community events – there was some question as to the weekend of the Cook Timber Days, which was determined to be June 8 through 10. Carol Booth will contact the Timber Days Committee to obtain booth space. Staffing of the booth was discussed, which led to a discussion of the various contact lists that various individuals had. Russell has updated the contact lists that ARDC has and the lists will be updated again with the contacts offered at the Open Houses. The lists will be given to and maintained by JPB chair Tom Lantry.
- c. Half marathon with Range Runners – Shane Johnson brought up this possibility at the March meeting. No one else had information and no action was taken.

## 2. Administration

### a. Transition of fiscal agent

- i. Steve Peterson recommended setting up an account at Frandsen Bank & Trust in Tower as they are familiar with government entities and have branches in multiple locations in the region. He also reviewed the process with the Internal Revenue Service for obtaining an EIN, which would be required to open an account. The number and source of signatures required for disbursements was discussed. It was decided that the three officers, chair, secretary, and treasurer would be named authorized signers with signatures of any two of the authorized signers required on checks. Motion by Tim Johnson – Cook, second by Tom Lantry – Owens to direct Steve Peterson to obtain an EIN from the IRS and open accounts at Frandsen Bank & Trust, six ayes, zero nays, motion carried.
- ii. Motion by Tom Lantry – Owens, second by Steve Peterson – Vermilion Lake, to authorize up to \$200 for two banners as presented by Carol Booth from W. A. Fisher/Fisher Graphics, six ayes, zero nays, motion carried.
- iii. The position of a vice-chair was discussed. It was felt important that there be sufficient officers present to conduct business. Motion by Steve Peterson – Vermilion Lake, second by Tom Lantry – Owens, to create the officer position of vice-chair, designate the position of vice-chair as an authorized signer, and to name Tim Johnson – Cook as vice-chair, six ayes, zero nays, motion carried.

b. Billing Joint Powers Board members for 2018 dues – Steve Peterson reported on Post Office Box options and rates at the Tower Post Office with a small box available at \$54 per year. He also presented a draft invoice for the dues billing to be sent out. Motion by Tom Lantry – Owens, second by Tim Johnson – Cook, to authorize Steve Peterson to obtain a PO Box at Tower, six ayes, zero nays, motion carried.

c. Division of duties – JPB & work group – it was decided that given the overlap of work and of membership the JPB and the work group would meet jointly for the time being.

3. Future meetings – motion by Steve Peterson – Vermilion lake, second by Tom Lantry – Owens, to set the next meeting for May 24 at 10 am at the MN DNR building in Tower, six ayes, zero nays, motion carried.

## 4. Master Plan

a. Public meetings summary - Holly Larson reported on the Open Houses to present and to receive comments on the Master Plan held at Tower, Cook, and Greenwood and she distributed summary sheets of comments received at the Open Houses and on line.

- b. Proposed Master Plan changes – the revised Master Plan was projected on a screen and jointly reviewed. A number of typo and spelling corrections have been made. Language was changed to provide for alternative materials for the trail surface to allow for board walks and for shared trail surfaces of alternative materials for short distances. Another lengthy discussion was had regarding hunting and the Trail. Language was changed to provide maximum flexibility for future policy regarding hunting. Motion by Steve Peterson – Vermilion Lake, second by Tom Lantry – Owens, to approve the hunting language as changed, six ayes, zero nays, motion carried. Trail segment priorities were again reviewed based on comments received, both the individual segment rankings and the ranking format. The present categories were retained and Segment 3A, the Oak Narrows spur, was moved from low to medium priority.
  - c. Motion by Cathi Hiveley – Beatty, second by Tom Lantry – Owens, to adopt the Plan with changes as indicated, six ayes, zero nays, motion carried. Russell Habermann discussed the process for the Plan going forward. It will be reviewed by the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks & Trails Commission. Lobbying representatives at the Federal, State, County, and local levels will be helpful. If the Plan does not receive a successful review feedback will be provided by the GMRP&TC.
5. Other business – Russell Habermann indicated that the work plan for the Regional Transportation grant includes the Lake Vermilion Trail. He also reported that \$2,500 of Lake Vermilion Resort Association funds with the ARDC remained.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 24, 2018 10 a.m. to Noon  
at the MN DNR building, Tower**