

Informational Notes as no quorum was present
Lake Vermilion Trail Joint Powers Board and Work Group Meeting
Tuesday, December 4th, 10:00 am - Noon
Greenwood Town Hall
Tower, MN 55790

Joint Powers Board

Present: Tom Lantry, Owens Twp; Tim Johnson, City of Cook. Earl Grano, Beatty Twp; Phil Anderson, Vermilion Twp alternate;

Absent: Greenwood Twp; City of Tower; Bois Forte; Kugler.

Work group, present: Caroline Owens; Char Conger; Carol Booth; Josh Gillson, LVRA; Steve Lotz; Joan Broten.

Chairman Tom Lantry noted that no quorum was present at 10:05 am.

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT UPDATES:

TOWER TO Y-STORE:

- Joan Broten has been in contact with Amy Marrier at DNR Regional Land and Minerals. Marrier has requested information including a base map, list of owners, project plans, timeline, DNR partners as well as other items.
- Joan also asked about a list of appropriate items to include in an informational packet for land owners from outside the area with whom in-person contact was difficult. Suggested items included a revised talking points list, a phase one map with trail connection points, and limited liability information for landowners.

WEST-END:

- A landowner along a possible alignment wants to discuss the Trail when their two sons are both present. Tom Lantry will try to arrange this during the later half of December.
- Carol Booth noted that some grants allow for in-kind matches and it is therefore important that volunteer time be tracked. She will send out a 2018 form as a reminder next week. Char Conger noted that the national volunteer wage is set at 24.69 per hour. It was also noted that un-reimbursed expenses and mileage would also likely qualify as in-kind matches.
- Carol Booth has been in contact with Phil Norvitch of the North St. Louis County Soil and Water Conservation District about potential wetland issues with the Trail. Wetland delineation will be required as a part of any construction project and when an Army Corp of Engineers permit is required that will take considerable time. It should be an early focus so that it does not hold up the project. Norvitch provided a list of delineators and Carol and Joan Broten will contact some local prospects. Tom Lantry will contact Tyler Lampella at St Louis County Planning for his wetland thoughts as well.

FUNDRAISING: raffle update:

- Char Conger has determined that a non-profit must act as fiscal agent for a raffle in order to obtain a MN Gambling Permit. Carol Booth has been in contact with Becky Hampton of the

Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota, which may be able to act as fiscal sponsor for the work group. Hampton provided a list of questions for the group to answer to help determine the Council's participation.

- Question 1 – How much would your group hope to raise through the raffle – answer \$25,000 as in 5,000 \$5 tickets.
- Question 2 – What is the estimated timeframe for the raffle to take place – answer beginning as soon as we are able and running through Labor Day.
- Question 3 - How many items would your group hope to secure for the raffle – answer – a stay at White Eagle Resort, a voucher toward a bike or a specific bike depending on what arrangement might be worked out with a potential donor, a day's pontoon rental, a kid's bike by Broten Construction, a breakfast certificate at Life of Riley Resort, and such small prizes as may be gathered.
- Question 4 - What would be the approximate minimum and maximum values for the items – answer to be determined.
- Question 5 - Do you plan to hire anyone to help with fundraising or soliciting donations, or will it be volunteers – answer volunteers.
- Char Conger indicated that ReGen may also be able to act as the non-profit fiscal agent for a raffle. She will take this to the ReGen Board. Carol Booth will respond to the Parks & Trails Council.

FUND RAISING: other:

- Josh Gilson provided a proposed giving tree layout with breaks of 1 to 99 (water bottle), 100 to 499 (name recognition), 500 to 2499 (name and logo recognition), 2500 to 4999 (kiosk and brochure recognition) , and 5000 and up (more prominent kiosk and brochure recognition). Possible themes were discussed for the levels including bays or parts of the Lake and various animals. Trees were suggested and seemed a safe route to take.
- Company and Institution fund raising for the 25,000 IRRRB match was discussed. Char Conger had been in contact with Mark Bakk at Lake Country Power. He requested additional information. Others to be contacted included Deb Ellingsen at Essential Health Virginia Regional Foundation, Eric Clement at Minnesota Power (Joan Broten), Central Mesabi Medical Foundation (Fairview), and American Bank.
- Points to be made in Fundraising contacts would be to follow the talking points, provide maps with the segments and the connections to existing trails, note that the funds would be used for a one-to-one match for a grant for administrative and operating expenses (each dollar given becomes two dollars for the Trail).
- Carol Booth reported that she had spoken with several local parties interested in making donations.

GMRPTC Legacy Trail Grant Application:

- Tom Lantry was contacted by Renee Mattson on or about November 28. She reported that we will receive funding in this round of Legacy Grants. She was willing to talk more about this and indicated that a major shortcoming was a lack of matching funds. Joan Broten will follow up with Mattson. It was also suggested that Steve Lotz might follow up with Joe Czapiewski.

MARKETING:

- Facebook – new trail route and view pictures are needed for regular updates to the page.
- Tom Lantry noted that he would be attending the upcoming meeting of the Ashawa Ski Club on December 12 at 6 pm at the Crescent Supper Club. There is considerable potential overlap of location and goals with the trail group and communication is important.

ADMINISTRATION:

- Treasurer Steve Peterson was not in attendance. Steve Lotz reported the Peterson had opened the second account. Char Conger will contact Peterson for the necessary information. Steve Lotz noted that Greenwood refunds all hall deposit money at the end of the year.
- Executive Director Job Description was tabled until the January meeting.
- Bylaws discussion was tabled until the January meeting.
- Tim Johnson reported on his continuing insurance investigation. He has continued to work with Liscomb and Hood, or LHM Insurance, a Marsh & McLennan Agency in Duluth regarding coverage. He also contacted Steve Fenske of the Minnesota Association of Townships. Fenske indicated that the Association bylaws were somewhat unclear on such insurance and that he would take this up with his Board. He suggested that Tim contact the League of Minnesota Cities. He has done this and sought permission to proceed. The consensus of those present was that he had such prior permission.
- Joan Broten will send Carol Booth her land ownership template.
- As a point of clarification it was noted that the Fundraising subcommittee will continue to meet at 9 am prior to each regular JPB meeting.
- The JPB meeting schedule as set at the November meeting:

| MONTH | DAY | LOCATION |
|--------------|------------|--------------------|
| January | 8 | Cook Forestry |
| February | 5 | Tower DNR |
| March | 5 | Greenwood Township |
| April | 2 | Cook Forestry |
| May | 7 | Tower DNR |
| June | 4 | Greenwood Township |
| July | 2 | Cook Forestry |
| August | 6 | Tower DNR |
| September | 3 | Greenwood Township |
| October | 1 | Cook Forestry |
| November | 5 | Tower DNR |
| December | 3 | Greenwood Township |

- All regular JPB meetings will be held at 10am.

OTHER:

- Gathering ended at 11:58. A quorum will be appreciated for the January meeting.