

T77T Minutes
September 27, 2013
10:00 am
Lake Shore City Hall

Committee Members Attending: Teri Hastings, Steve Sundstrom, John Poston, Kris Driessen, Ron Faust, Perry Beaton, Jon Ingleman, Susan Amacher

Attending from SEH: Matt Reid, Greg Kimman, Heidi Peper

Minutes of the August 5th meeting were approved after the call to order at 10:00.

Trail Funding:

- Heidi Peper reviewed feedback she had gotten from a prior grant review. Our application had been scored at 47 and the approvals went down to 50. The Rocori trail took eight years from early planning to ribbon cutting on the first phase; 96% of the cost came from grant funding.
- Marla Yoho had suggested that we make a presentation to Fairview Township in March.
- Legacy Grant Applications are due on October 25th this year. A Local Trail grant program application will be due in March. Although Legacy grants have no max and no match requirement, all the trails approved last year had at least a 10% local match.
- Because Nisswa's tunnel has been called a "tunnel to nowhere" that city has accelerated it's interest in getting their section of the trail to Lake Shore done.
- The route of Nisswa's trail will connect from the tunnel to Hazelwood Drive, then south. It will pass north and west of Wendy's to continue west along Highway 77 past Grand View to Lake Shore.

Friends of Gull Lake Nisswa Trail:

- John Poston suggested we avoid the "trail to nowhere" criticism by planning the entire trail from Nisswa to East Gull Lake at one time. This would make it a regional project which would tie municipalities together, improving chances of grant funding or even funding through the state bonding bill.
- Private contributions could be collected by creating 501c-3 nonprofit status through partnership with the Brainerd Lakes Area Community Foundation. City matching funds could also be placed in that fund to dedicate them to trail construction.
- A new team would be created to represent Nisswa, Lake Shore, and Fairview Township in the process. A memorandum of understanding, a mission statement, brochure, web site, and Nisswa, Lake Shore and Fairview Township web site links, and a Facebook page would be created.
- Strong support from Cass County has been expressed for this plan, and even a pledge of funds from Zorbaz for a Memorial Mile of the trail in honor of Clayton Houff.
- Although the suggestion was that the trail would be built from Nisswa west, Ron argued that it would still be reasonable to build the southern and northern parts of the trail though Lake Shore first since these were the most dangerous sections of the

road. These phases include the part south of Sherwood Forest Tavern and the northern part crossing the bridge at Bar Harbor.

- Chris said early on it might be hard to expect Lake Shore residents to contribute to a trail starting in Nisswa with construction not getting to Lake Shore until years later.
- The plan to tie Nisswa, Lake Shore, and Fairview Township together and plan and build the trail as a regional entity was approved by T77T. John Poston and Susan Amacher were asked to take it to the Lake Shore City Council for approval.
- The Legacy Grant Application will be revised and submitted by October 27th. Committee members should submit suggestions on the 2012 draft to Heidi Peper directly.

CSAH 77 Project Update:

- A planning company other than SEH has been chosen; public hearings will start in October.

The meeting adjourned at 11:28.