RAMARA TRAILS COMMITTEE MINUTES –JUNE 3 1:00 PM MEETING via ZOOM

ATTENDANCE

Artena Hutchison Chair

Bob Masching Vice Chair

Larry Barton

Annalynn Faulkner Stefanie Moy-Shuster

Paul Grunsten Jack Green

Janet Masching Secretary

John Pinsent CAO, Ramara Township

Ashley Watson Business and Communications Director Ramara

Sarah Karabin Ramara Works Department

REGRETS

David Snutch Councillor, Liaison with Ramara

1. Artena welcomed John Pinsent, CAO of Ramara.

2. The Minutes of the April 29, 2020 meeting have already been approved. Janet advised there was one omission. In Par. 7-2 add: Rob Love advised Larry he will be looking into doing the chipping and brushing on Boundary Rd trail in the next month.

3. John Pinsent re Boundary Rd-Casino- Airport Rd trail:

We can now do the Boundary-Casino trail work. We need to let John or Sarah know when we are starting, as he will advise the Casino.

John has a surveyor's map of this trail; he will send a copy to the Committee.

The proposed trail from the current Ramara Trail, through the Casino and continuing onto the rail bed in Rama First Nations was discussed and there is a general consensus that an agreement can be reached by Rama First Nations, Casino Rama and the Township.

Helen Cooper, manager of the Casino Rama Resort(also member of the board of Lake Country) has asked for a cost estimate for the trail from the Casino to Airport Rd. Trans Canada trails may provide funding for a community-First Nations project like this. The Casino will likely not contribute. Bob advised that based on previous work done, the cost of the approximately 1.6 km. trail will be in the range of \$57-65,000. [This does not include any infrastructure which may be needed on the Casino driveway or parking lot]

Snowmobilers will likely not use this part of the trail, will use the road/trail to the east of Boundary-Casino trail.

John Pinsent re Talisker and Lagoon City trails

Bob will send John the map for the Laguna Parkway-bridge trail. We have a quote which includes raising the bridge and are ready to go. John will speak with Talisker.

Larry and John will meet this Monday at the Laguna Parkway entrance and walk part of this trail.

Regarding the private landowner of the rail bed from the Lagoon City trail to Side Road 15, John

will see if he can meet with him.

4. Bob Masching: Financial Report

The cost of the Laguna parkway-bridge trail is \$16,282 which includes raising the bridge. This will use up the OMCC grant and part of the Simcoe County matching funds.

The estimated cost of the Boundary Rd-Casino trail is \$29,959 (less \$500 if trucks can use the Casino driveway). Total expenditures will be \$42,241, leaving a balance of funds of about \$6,000. This will cover: chipping cost of \$800 for Boundary Road; bills for materials Larry purchased of \$500 approx., and some signage. There is little left for gates. If all of the reserve is not spent, we will ask to carry it over to 2021. The TCT grant of \$1000 is for installation of the heritage sign, and \$300 repair of 3 benches.

Artena thanked Bob for all his work with the finances, grants and deadlines.

5. Grants update

Ashley: we are approved by Simcoe County for the matching grant of \$15,000. No new grants have been announced by TCT.

6. Trail Reports

Atherley-- Annalynn: boards on benches to be replaced, foliage on one part of trail to be removed, cut up wood by Hammock Harbour, a ditch by Hammock Harbour filled with water where there has be none in the past. There is no garbage from Monck to Boundary Rd. Benches are \$100 each, \$300 total. Both Paul and Jack have offered to repair the benches.

Boundary Rd-Casino--Artena: a work bee yesterday did the remaining brushing of the trail near the casino end. Annalynn will speak to Rob Love re sharing the costs of this work. Larry has a quote for \$800 for the chipping work to be done. The committee members present at the brushing agreed that the quote was reasonable and we should proceed to award the work.

TCT Heritage sign—Paul: On June 8 Paul, Artena, Randy & Annalynn will meet and position the sign and take photos at each of 4 potential locations and show them to the Committee.

Ellen Bennett MTO—Artena: The MTO has done nothing re the re-routing of Atherley trail to connect with the north end of Creighton Street. The north side of highway 12 will have to be two-way bicycle traffic until we do the Creighton connection.

The connection of the trail at North Creighton St is now pitted and muddy from ATV and snowmobile use. To make this connection we need MTO permission. Paul: screenings would be easy, effective and inexpensive. Bob: there is no money for this in budget now.

ATV use on trails We discussed ATV's are ripping up the trail at Lagoon City and Atherley. They damage the trail and are a safety issue. Gates are needed but not in the budget now.

We discussed the need for a by-law. Sarah: there is an ATV by-law which might be amended to include trails. We would need to email a request to the Clerk's department requesting a change, to be sent to Sarah so as to involve Works dept.

- 7. **Contractor quotes**—Larry obtained quotes for the Boundary Rd-Casino trail and Laguna Parkway trails, see Par. 4 above. He asked John re the sole quotes he received from the contractor we have used before, after he tried to get quotes from 4 contractors. The quotes for both projects are to be sent to Josh, John will review them with him, to ensure they comply with township policy and that due diligence is met.
- 8. **Signage for Bayshore to Orillia**—Artena proposes 3 signs at the Bayshore parking lot for cyclist parking and 6 'Share the Road' type signs on Side Road 20 and Muley Point Rd. Ashley advised Works Dept must approve the sign, and Ramara logo is to be included. Artena and Bob will meet on June 9 and pinpoint the locations on the Simcoe County map. They will advise Sarah who will liaise with Works.
- 9. Ramara web page—Ashley: The new Ramara website with a Trails page will be live on August 5. John advised Stefanie that she does not need to use the social media accounts she set up for Trails, as the Township has social media accounts and in future will use its platforms to communicate trails work. Stefanie will send photos she has collected to be used on the Trails page. Ashley needs the locations and lengths of the trail. Artena/Larry will send her the info which was sent to Simcoe County.
- **10. Next Meetings** Reminder: we are meeting Saturday June 13 at Singing Pines Rd to walk the Washago-169-Fairgrounds Rd trail. Our next committee meeting is Wed July 8 at 1:00 p.m., via Zoom unless otherwise advised.