

MINUTES OF RAMARA TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING –July 8, 2021 7:00 PM via ZOOM

ATTENDANCE

Larry Barton Chair
Bob Masching Vice Chair
Paul Grunsten
Annalynn Faulkner
Janet Masching Secretary
Stefanie Moy-Shuster
Steve Weinberg
Sandra Banks
Mary Miller
Kate White
Jack Heitzner
Laura Readman
Dave Readman

Jennifer Fisher Councillor
Ashley Watson Ramara Business & Communications Coordinator

REGRETS

David Snutch Councillor
Tigera Longstreet

1. Welcome: Larry welcomed everyone.
2. The minutes from the June 10th meeting have already been approved. There were no questions.
3. **Financial Report** Bob: of the budget of \$70,000 we have spent \$7950. The Side Road 15 project will be more than \$2200 over budget. We have an estimate of \$61,500 for the cost of building the trail and the permit from Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority will cost \$3060. Other Ramara labour charges to come. We need to know the amount, and if they will continue, to have a total projected cost if we need to go back to council. The financial report was approved, moved by Jennifer, seconded by Sandra.
4. **Grant updates**
Simcoe County Connecting Communities grant: The \$30,000 matching grant from the county has been approved.
Trans Canada trails Spring Maintenance grant: We had a total grant of \$1000 to be spent by June 30th, of which we spent \$956.
Washago grant- Brenden Blotnicky of TCT advised Ashley that our application will go to a committee in July. We should hear by August whether it is approved.

5. **Rebecca Taylor's Story board Schedule** The story boards were set up in Lovely Day Park July 1. Ashley has seen them, says they look good. The ongoing schedule, 2 weeks at each location, is:

Ramara Trail – July 20th

Ramara Centre – August 3rd

Lagoon City Trail – August 17th

6. **Status of Public Consultations – Ashley**

Ashley and Larry have now finalized the materials for the two public consultations. They will now go live. Ashley will post them on the Facebook page for Reach out Ramara, and will also communicate the contents to various people who may be interested.

7. **Landowner Agreement**

Ashley advised John Pinsent now has the contact information for the Talisker upper management. He plans to meet with them next week. He will update Larry as to the status of negotiations for the lease extension.

8. **Side Road 15 Permit Update**

Ashley reminded us Josh applied to LSCA for the permit in June. Ramara met last week with engineers hired to do drawings showing the 'cut and fill' calculations for the trail and the culvert. This work should be completed within the next 3-4 weeks. Then the permit will have to be paid for.

The engineers' work will be charged to the trails committee, increasing the overage on the budget. We will have additional charges from the township for labour.

Bob will speak to Zach to find out the process for increasing our budget. Ashley suggested waiting until the project goes to tender.

9. **Special Trail Features**

Sandra advised they have purchased materials for the butterflies(see par. 11 minutes of June 10). They have volunteers to cut them. The cut-outs will be ready next week and will go to local artists and volunteers to paint. Cindy will prime them, then seal them after the painting is done. Mary: the plan is to put them up the first week of August. We will discuss placement at our next meeting.

Larry : receipts to be sent to him, then to Bob. Suggests speaking to Alison Rae of Brechin & Beyond to ask if they will pay. Larry will forward her email address and Sandra will contact her. Families working on the painting can also be asked to contribute.

Re rock painting, Larry advised Port Bolster sells 5-9" size stones at \$70 for a half yard. He can pick them up with his trailer. This could be a fun initiative for families.

10. Social Media

Kate has posted three times on Instagram. There is an issue with access to the trails committee's Facebook. The password is tied to Stefanie's personal FB account. As soon as she can access it, she will pass the information on to Kate. The alternative is to start a new FB account. Stefanie and Kate will resolve this issue.

11. Work Bees

We have cleaned up the downed tree at Atherley trail head, levelled screenings at the TCT sign, raised the drainpipe, placed the landscape rocks at the heritage sign and delivered and spread the topsoil. There will be at least one more work bee, but not until after mid-August because of the herons. Two projects are: the loop trail at Lagoon City and the washouts near the boatyard.

12. Other Business

Annalynn has a donor who would like to contribute to the cost of 2 sets of gates for the Atherley trail. She would like to know the process to obtain quotes for the cost, so she can advise the donor. Ashley will let her know how to go about it, needs to know the locations. For the donor to get a tax receipt, they donate to the township, the money is allocated to the trails committee, the committee does the plaque and the township issues a tax receipt to the donor.

Annalynn: Barb Freeman would like to pay for the heritage sign plaque.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Our next meeting is Wednesday August 11 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.