

HERITAGE ROUTE - ALCONA COUNTY

December 13, 2007

Meeting Minutes

Present: Karen Sanderson (Chairperson); Dan Mullen (Harrisville State Park); Art Laatz (Lions Club and Chamber of Commerce); Ken Timm (Alcona County); Marlana MacNeill (Alcona County Road Commission), Sue Keller (Harrisville), Ken Gauthier (Sanborn Township), Marcia Simmons, and Denise Cline (NEMCOG).

Motion by Marlana MacNeill, supported by Ken Timm, to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2007, meeting. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report –There were no changes in the balance of \$145.43.

Motion by Marlana MacNeill, supported by Dan Mullen, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

Management Council:

Ken Timm reported on the December Management Council meeting. While there was no quorum and no chairperson present, the group still had discussion items.

- Arenac & Iosco County: Reported on trails.
- Dan Mullen provided a demonstration of the Heritage Route website being developed by Denise Cline.

The Alcona County team discussed the need to have Denise Cline at the next Management Council meeting in order to answer technical questions about the website. It was noted that the Sunrise Side Travel Association is also developing their website. Karen Sanderson noted that she hoped there would not be a duplication of effort. However the Sunrise Side Travel Association covers a much broader area than the Heritage Route website, so the sites are not likely to be the same. It was agreed that Dan Mullen would talk to the Chairman of the Management Council in order to have the website discussion put on the agenda. Dan will let the Chairman know that he is requesting that Denise be there in order to answer technical questions. Denise Cline noted that she had received correspondence from Iosco County indicating that they wish to get on board with the website idea as well.

Website:

Denise then provided a brief demonstration of the website to show what updates have been made. The team had a discussion about maintaining the website if NEMCOG assistance is not available in future years. It was suggested that ads might need to be sold to provide some funding. Art Laatz also noted that the group would need to discuss what is to be done with the current US 23 Coastal Highway site.

Non-Motorized Trail:

The team began reviewing a large map and aerial photos of the area between the City of Harrisville and the Sturgeon Point Lighthouse. The map showed roads, parcels, and property owner names. The best option for a trail location seems to be to connect to the city through

Harrisville Township Park (north of the city), then link from the Township Park to the railroad. The trail could then follow the railroad to Lake Shore Drive and Point Road to the lighthouse. A second option would be to go through the Township Park, follow Huron Terrace to US 23, then continue north on US 23 to Lake Shore Drive and Point Road. There are obstacles to consider if the trail were to follow US 23. However, most members of the group have seen the new trail in Alabaster Township and agree that a similar construction could be done in Alcona County. First, the group will again investigate the inclusion of a trail along the railroad. Karen Sanderson will write a letter to Lake State stating the group's ideas and that the railroad seems to be the best viable option for such a trail. Lake State will be invited to a meeting.

Management Plan:

Denise Cline has asked if she can get a copy of all updates to the Management Plan. The group will discuss additions that need to be made. The depot in Harrisville is a project which currently does not appear in the Management Plan but which should be added.

Next meeting: February 14, 2008 at 9:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 am.