

**Aboite New Trails  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, October 25, 2006  
Quorum 11**

Board Members in attendance:

Lynn Reecer, Sharon Repka, Jane Schmitt, Bob Kennedy, Bill Zielke, Stephanie Schultz, ,  
Gregg Walbridge, Judy Acquaro, Jim Coplen, Scott Miller, Art Mandelbaum

Board Members absent:

Barbara Krisher, Leslie Ferguson, Bill Hartman, Gail Herendeen

**Guests to attend board meeting**

Janey Graitgny-candidate for admin. asst. position

Mrs. Gayle Bloom-new volunteer grant-writer

Mrs. Anita Chickedantz-new volunteer grant-writer

**I. President's Report: Lynn**

Huge Announcement Bill and Sharon informed us of the One million dollars Sen. Long was able to secure for ANT in addition to the unrestricted 500,000 USD from the City of Fort Wayne. This action will help bring momentum to the bridge and towpath. There will be a press conference with the Mayor, Senator Long and other dignitaries on Friday November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00am at Van Hoozen Park.

Lori's latest Power Point presentation. Was shown to board members and guests. We were all very pleased.

**Minutes** to approve of Board Meeting Date: 9-27-06 – Motion to approve (Art); Second Gregg); all approved

Updates request-2 things: do them on time, RSVP, give news from your area, fill out data base info

**II. Treasurer's Report-Jane**

Cash in the bank, total (Jane): ): \$615,549 as of Sep 30

Financial Reports for approval: (handout) see report.

Expanding office- Jane recommended not going ahead with the project, and rather use the money for the trails. She will use existing offices. Lynn offered Mark's office for Board meetings.

New donors from Sept. 27 to Oct. 25 (Jane):

Trailblazer  
new one, announced tonight( we need a new category)!  
new one...  
Runner  
Galliher, Jim & Betsy  
Jogger  
Ron Venderly Charitable Foundation  
Walker  
Barnes & Thornburg, LLP  
Anonymous

### **III. Vice President's Report/Government-Sharon**

County: Linda Bloom gave us permission to pursue a flashing warning light for the crossing at Eggeman Rd and Aboite Center Road. ( The county will pay for this.)

Bill Brown: I invited Bill to attend our board meeting, however he had a conflict. I will invite him to another in the future. I will also be meeting with other candidates and find out what their interest/commitment is regarding trails.

### **IV. Fundraising Report-Bill Z. (hand Out)**

Cash donations total to date: \$1.3 million

Sponsored projects total to date: 5.6 million

Fundraising grand total to date: Approx. 6.9 million

The last strategic planning meeting for the year will be on Nov 15 with board meeting at 6:30pm

### **V. Public Relations Report-Leslie**

**October newsletter out 10/20; next one is scheduled for early December – I plan to incorporate updates as well as our new PR strategies from Strategic Planning. If you have input, please email me.**

**November press release will be on our construction progress and fundraising (date TBD) – unless other big news happens first!**

**ANT brochure still in progress; doing original photography with kids and Towpath**

**Developed new signage standards and process**

**Annual Report in progress**

**Monthly Media: Towpath groundbreaking coverage on Ch. 33/21; blurbs on same subject in both papers; Bike About Aboite coverage in all papers and on Ch. 2, as well as Aboite & About.**

### **VI. Other New Business-All**

For Discussion: Aboite Center Rd. Current sidewalk does not accommodate bike/ped traffic. Construction committee already identified sidewalk widening as top priority along w/"Central Loop" for engineering this year. Subdivisions on North side of Aboite Center have no crossings to get to sidewalk, future trail, and YMCA. County widening project includes trail on North side to Winterfield Run. Should we consider trails on both sides of Aboite Center to accommodate our highest area of use? If so, how high of a priority? Construction Committee recommends both sides completed; need board input to include this in the Phase plan.

Board members expressed concerns that Aboite Center has the highest population density of any of our roadside trails. Limited crossings are a large safety concern; a trail on the north side could be a needed and viable solution.

Construction Committee will meet and come back with recommendations on next board meeting.

## **VII. Executive Director's Report- Lori**

### **Administrative Updates:**

Still seeking Admin. Aid; have new prospects.

Recruited 2 new volunteers for grant writing.

### **Project Updates:**

#### **Eggeman Rd.**

Getting ready to pave; all progress is weather dependent

Projected completion Maybe December....

#### **Scott Rd.**

Sprinkler system fix and weather held up some progress last week.

Bridge construction is on track; will be complete in 1-2 weeks.

City drainage project is occurring now before stone goes down.

Paving takes 1-2 days.

Projected completion Nov. 7.

#### **Covington Rd.**

Working w/City on selection of 3 or 4 consultants who responded to RFQ for the next step in engineering, Request for Proposal (RFP)

#### **Amber Rd.**

County working on ROW. Construction 2007.

#### **Liberty Mills Rd**

Preliminary plans complete and routed through City and Utility companies.

Working on 3 property issues w/City and Henry Najdeski.

Goal is to bid in February 2007 and construct in Spring 2007.

#### **Towpath Trail**

Community Foundation grant request for \$50K is pending to fund design. Decision Nov. 10. If not funded, we will search for another funding source in November and send out RFP's for design.

#### **Other projects/signage/trailheads**

Signage committee mtg scheduled 10/26. Signage committee will finalize recommendations on trailhead, identity, and rest area signage, as well as mile markers and bollards. Recommendations will be brought before board for approval at 11/15 meeting.

Construction committee agreed to send out RFP for engineering of the Central Loop (Liberty Mills fr. Middle Grove to Falls Dr., Village at Coventry, and Aboite Ctr sidewalk widening), in the next 30 days.

Meeting on Oct. 24 was great!

National Symposium very inspiring and worthwhile. Thanks to all the board members for sending me there and allowing me to take advantage of this educational opportunity.

**VIII. Calendar:** ie, board meetings, sub-committee meetings, public meetings, fundraisers.  
[New information is in blue](#)

Event: ANT Board Meeting

Date: Wed., Nov. 15

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Office

Event:

Date:

Time:

Location:

Upcoming Board Meetings:

Wednesday, November 15

December to be determined.

**IX. Hand-outs**

Committed projects table (Lori)

Updated donor list (Jane)

Minutes submitted by Judy Acquaro

