



Board of Directors Meeting

Event: ANT Board Meeting
 Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2006
 Time/Loc: 7PM – 8:45PM, ANT office

In attendance

x	Jim	Coplen
X	Leslie	Ferguson
X	Gail	Herendeen
X	Bob	Kennedy
X	Lori	Keys
	Barbara	Krisher
X	Art	Mandelbaum
	Scott	Miller
	Mark	O'Shaughnessy
	Debbie	Probst
X	Lynn	Reecer
X	Sharon	Repka
X	Jane	Schmitt
X	Stephanie	Schultz
X	Gregg	Walbridge
X	Bill	Zielke

Contacts for e-newsletter: please add at least a few people each month so we can build our database.

Last Name	First Name	Email	Your initials
Burrus	Tony	Tony.burrus@co.allen.in.us	LK
Castle	Jon & Jill	jillrae@comcast.net	GH
Chastain	Kelly	hchastain@comcast.net	GH
Eichman	Mitch	Fi.fwari.gm@marriott.com	lcr
Eikenberry	Mike	Mike.eikenberry@nationalcity.com	lcr
Etzler	William	wletzler@aquaamerica.com	SR
Evans	Kari	kaevans@gov.in.gov	SR
Hamilton	Amy	ahamilton@sacs.k12.in.us	Lcr
Hilkey	Doug	Doug.hilkey@ci.ft-wayne.in.us	LK
Howell	Steven	steven.howell@mail.house.gov	SR
Irvin	Ray	rirvin@indot.state.in.us	SR
Karp	Harold	hkarp@essexep.com	Lcr
Leonard	Deb	deborah.leonard@usdoj.gov	GH
Mauk	Brett	bmauk@corporateconstruction.net	SR
Olson	Eric	eric@t-einc.com	SR
Schoeff	Christy	Christy@sycamorehills.net	SR
Schreffler	KeLee	residenceftw@dunnhospitality.com	lcr
Sharp	Tom	tsharp@indot.state.in.us	SR
Young	Bob	youngb@repsrv.com	LK

*also add Sharon's list at AboiteNewTrails/contactemailaddresses.xls e-mailed to Kim Terrell 4/27

I. Guests to attend board meeting

No guests in attendance

II. Consent Agenda: all three items approved.

Minutes of Board Meeting. Date: 3-22-06

Financial report

Proposed Resolution – Towpath Task Force: ANT has participated in the formation of the Towpath Trail Task Force, a joint endeavor between the Greenway Consortium, City, ANT, LRWP, County, and the Canal Society of Indiana. The TTTF has asked that each entity pass a resolution ([resolution can be written if needed](#)) formalizing its existence and appointing a representative to serve on the task force. Lynn and Sharon appointed Lori as the ANT representative.

III. Announcements: (i.e., new members, new event or change of event, new donations). Be sure what you put here is really an “announcement” and not just FYI (which is section V.)

Miles of paved trails, total (Lori): 3+ and growing with the new trail going in at the Liberty Mills fire station!

Dollars raised to date, total (Jane): [\\$891,183](#)

Cash in the bank, total (Jane): \$498,887.50

Endowment: Funds allocated (Jane): [\\$1146](#)

Dollars raised via committed projects, see “committed project table” (Lori):

New donors from as of 4-14-06 (Jane & Gail):

Walker

T-E, Inc. (\$3,000. in-kind donation for survey work on Homestead Road)

Mirro Family Foundation, Inc.

Emergency Medicine of Indiana

Wilson, Bill and Laura

Davis, Wendy and Scott

Vandrake, Vance

Schenkel, David P

Daly, Dr. Diane & Mr. Paul Sauerteig

[Bike About Aboite](#) flyers are available. Please pick some up and distribute!

Freeland Event Invitations: the beautiful invitations were donated by The Write Note (Lisa Geisler). The Write Note carries invitations, announcements, stationery, etc. Support those who support ANT! www.thewritenoteonline.com

Freeland Event for ANT Board: there are spots available for ANT Board members & spouses to attend this May 19th event. Cost will be approx. \$150 per person. If you are interested, e-mail Lynn ASAP

(Lori) **Weigand Construction** approved Aboite New Trails as one of its 2006 100th anniversary projects. Weigand will donate all materials and labor for the central trailhead at Indian Trails Park in 2006

(Lori) **The Marriott Residence Inn** on W. Jefferson (across from Lutheran, just north of Verizon entrance) is extending its weekday breakfast and happy hour as an in-kind donation to ANT volunteers. If you schedule a weekday meeting with ANT volunteers,

partners, or donors (existing or potential), you can visit the Residence Inn M-F from 6-9am for a free breakfast buffet, or from 5-7 pm for snacks and beer/wine. Mitch Eichman is the generous general mgr who extended us the invitation, so please introduce yourself and thank him if you see him there.

(Lori) **Thank you, ANT Board of Directors**, for sending me to the Nonprofit Business Institute at Notre Dame March 24-26. I got a lot out of the sessions on nonprofit management and budgeting, and developed a network of other nonprofit managers around the country.

(Bob) **fire station trail at Liberty Mills and Homestead Rd.** is under construction **and a cross walk will also be put in at Homestead and Aboite Center Road.** It looks awesome! The other fire station should be under construction also within a month (**June 30th is the deadline for the fire station trail at Scott/Covington**).

(Gail) **August's board meeting** is back on a Wednesday (see "calendar" section)

IV. Discussion/Vote: Summarize discussion, state plan & action on a certain item (i.e., approval for bills in excess of \$1000, major board decisions, approval to take the next step in planning, etc.)

(Jane) No bills outstanding

(Jane) Request board's approval to hire BKD to audit financials (need for grants) **approved.**

(Lori) **Node at Van Hoozen Park** – through discussions with the signage committee and site visits, a new location for the node at the southern terminus of Eggeman Rd. trail was proposed. I am proposing to relocate the node from the NE corner of Eggeman/Aboite Center to the Van Hoozen Park area along Aboite Center. This way trail users who park at Van Hoozen can have a bike/ped access and the node will serve as a mini trailhead and a rest stop in the Eggeman area. Barbara Krisher's board approved the node location at its 4/18 meeting. The design and engineering of this node for 2006 would be an add-on to the LandPlan Group's contract for Eggeman Rd. **Approved.**

(Lori) **Homestead/Aboite Center corner** – I have asked the Landplan Group for a quote on adding this to their engineering for 2006 since they are already under contract for 3 ANT projects. **Lori will be sure to have Land Plan confirm if the county will be adding a right turn lane in the future (which would impact the potential re-do of this current trail).**

(Lynn):

- **Possible addition of a new minority board member.** (Lynn) This is a requirement of many foundations **and in view of our desire to become a more diverse board and to have our board represent and reflect the diversity of this community, the board moved to add one position for a minority board member. In addition, ANT will also work to fill the vacancy left by Mike Fitch's resignation.**
- **Nominations:** Please e-mail names (for these 2 board positions) to Lynn.
- **Nominating Committee:** (Lynn) Our By-laws state that we would need to appoint a nominating committee for choosing a new board member if we decide to do this. **Lori, Sharon, Lynn and Gregg will serve as the Nominating Committee.**

V. Roundtable/FYI: Summarize the status of each area/department. This includes general information that is not really an announcement.

Project Updates (Lori)

Eggeman: with the generous help of Scott Miller, all of the property owners are on board with the trail project. Lori has met with every property owner except for Gary Probst.

- Right-of-way – Plans are not yet finalized, but it looks like we will acquire ROW from Chambers, Dwyer, and Probst
- Alignment – after careful examination and many meetings with engineers and property owners, the trail will be 8' adjacent to the road along the other 3 properties.
- (Gregg) Eggeman Rd.- The design/row review we discussed at the last board meeting has occurred and a final design has been decided upon that will provide for the safest layout possible.

Scott Rd: the trail is within the city's road right of way, with the exception of these 4 proposed alignments:

- Deer Ridge frontage – Jim Coplen approved the trail alignment along the school's property, allowing for a significant buffer in between the trail and the road. Jim also set aside \$30,000 in SACS 2006 budget to fund the Deer Ridge frontage
- Sonrise Church – ANT is proposing to locate the trail within the church right of way to match up with Deer Ridge at create the safest possible alignment at the corner of Scott/SR 14. Lori met with the church on 4/26 and is pleased to report the following:
 - An easement on the land, for the trail, will be requested.
 - The pastor of the church is also the President of Rock Creek.
 - The church is very supportive of the trail and is already entertaining ideas of how to link into the trail system
 - Pastor will do an appeal to church members to ask for funding.
 - Lori will check with church to see if we could do a presentation.
- Shores of Rock Creek – the subdivision common area abuts a large, rip rap drainage swale. The engineers feel the best way to cross the swale is to go onto the subdivision's property at this point. Lori is also meeting with the subdivision president on 4/26 so will have an update.
- Hippensteele property – this private property owner has lived on Scott Rd for 51 years. On all other segments of Scott Rd., the city owns 50' or 60' of right of way from the center line. Along Hippensteeles' property, the city owns only 25' from center. ANT has asked the Hippensteeles to consider allowing the city to acquire 40' from center, so that the trail can continue to have a buffer from the road for safety along their property. The Hippensteeles have stated they will not donate the land, but are considering selling it to the City. Henry Nadjedski graciously accompanied Lori and landscape architect Greg Byrd to meet with the property owners on 4/19.
- (Gregg) Scott Rd.- Initial design review has been completed and we are currently talking to property owners to assure concurrence with our proposed layout, before moving forward.
- Connection to the shops on Scott: Lynn will meet with Rogers to encourage the desire for a trail connection.

Liberty Mills: the LandPlan Group has completed survey work. The next step is for LandPlan to produce a drawing showing a simple layout of the proposed trail alignment on an aerial photo, so that I can take this to property owners and resolve any right of way issues prior to engineering. Landplan has not yet completed this drawing.

Homestead: the survey work is complete and was donated by Eric Olsen (T-E), approximate value \$2885 in-kind

(Gregg) Liberty Mills and Homestead – Initial design to begin soon

Towpath

- DLZ submitted new estimated construction costs for Phases I, II, & III
- DLZ is completed a feasibility study for Phase IV (in Aboite Township); estimated construction cost (including crossing at Engle Rd) is \$1.2 million
- Lori worked with Eagle Marsh on a joint display for Verizon employees. Verizon offers employees a match for charity dollars donated.

Grants

- Northeastern REMC – Completed by Gail, asking for \$10,000. **\$1,500 awarded.**
- Parkview – will be submitted by 4/28; Parkview asked us to apply for \$150,000 toward the Towpath
- Chase Bank – will be submitted by 4/26; Jim Cook asked ANT to apply for \$10,000; app will be for Scott Rd.
- Kodak - will be submitted in June; maximum is \$2500

Volunteers

- Woodland HS – the career development division is recruiting unpaid interns to work for ANT beginning in fall 2006. Lori is meeting with one HS senior this week who would like to work from August – October in areas dealing with business and marketing. Woodland also has available a GPS unit and software for interns to use w/ANT.
- Woodland HS is sending an English teacher to work for ANT for 4 full days in the summer as part of her externship (free for ANT)
- Volunteer/e-newsletter database – Kim Terrill has agreed to take on formatting and cleaning up this database while we are working on our technology needs assessment and researching donor/volunteer management software.
- Judy Acquaro has taken on the ANT Media Clippings binder. You can bring any clipped articles to the ANT office (“media clippings” box), and Judy is scrap booking everything in one binder.
- Photographer Liz Craker will attend Bike About Aboite on June 10 to capture photos for our website/publications.

Lynn

- Please pass around and see our new **resource notebooks**. Know that they in the office for your use and they are terrific. Liz White made a dozen of these for us. (Lynn)
- I am concentrating most of my ANT time now on **corporate fundraising**. Anne Karr and Nancy Stewart have volunteered to assist me with follow-up. (Lynn)

- Did you all see **Linda Bloom's most recent campaign flyer**? She is "championing" trails. I will bring it to the meeting for you all to see. I think this is great.

Sharon

- ANT has received support from several areas of state and local government. **Representative Randy Borrer** spent time at our office and is "pushing" INDOT to look closely at our TE application. Fingers crossed.
- **Senator David Long** also spent time at our office and is working on keeping our project in the mind of the Mayor regarding dollars that will be spent towards parks in Aboite Township. He has been an incredible help in organizing meetings and staying in touch with me. His efforts will surely increase dollars towards trails.
- **Commissioner Tom Sharp with INDOT** is also on board. He has instructed Ray Irvin to work towards helping Fort Wayne and ANT achieve its goal of our trail networks. Ray spent the day in Fort Wayne last Friday touring the Towpath Trail and checking out our new digs. He was very impressed! (Although, he misses Lori 😊)
- **Congressman Souder's Director of Constituent Services, Steve Howell** also spent time at our office and went on tour of the Towpath Trail. It looks like we have missed our opportunity to be included in this year's appropriations, however, we will be added for
- next year. (I have asked for \$1,200,000. to fund Phase IV of the Towpath Trail.) Congressman Souder will be coming by the office on May 1 for a visit and tour.
- **Kari Evans, the Policy Director for Governor Mitch Daniels** is working on including our project in the DNR's long term plans. She works closely with INDOT and the DNR. She was very supportive and is a terrific contact.
- **Ordinances:** I plan on digging in to the issue of ordinances with regard to developers and trails/sidewalks. I spoke with Ron Carter with Carmel's City Council and he has accomplished incredible things. If you have the opportunity to spend some time in Carmel, check out their trail system. They consider the Monon and its extension in Carmel to be responsible for \$280,000,000. of new infrastructure. They view trails as a direct link to economic benefits for their community. A new performing Arts Center is being constructed on the Monon, their City Center, new parks, housing developments, shopping areas, etc. The whole place is on board now. It's amazing. I plan on organizing a trip to Indy with some of our elected City and County officials (and the Planning Commission) to check out Carmel's success.
 - **Bob Kennedy reports that the City-County plan (to be passed this summer) will have ordinances for sidewalks/trails.**

Bill

- LYNN AND BILL MET WITH **MIKE EIKENBERRY**, THE PRESIDENT OF **NATIONAL CITY BANK**. WE NEED TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION TO HIM AND WHILE WE MIGHT RECEIVE A MODEST BANK DONATION, HE ALSO SITS ON THE BOARDS OF SEVERAL FOUNDATIONS AND HE SEEMS VERY SUPPORTIVE OF OUR REQUESTS IN THAT AREA.
- (Bill) **LUTHERAN HOSPITAL** WILL BE CONSIDERING ALLOCATING SOME OTHER DISCRETIONARY CASH AWARDS AGAIN THIS YEAR AND WHILE I DON'T

THINK IT WILL BE AS LARGE AS LAST YEARS , I BELIEVE IT WILL BE SIGNIFICANT . IF ANYONE HAS ANY IDEAS ON A " PROJECT " WITH A CERTAIN DOLLAR VALUE IT MIGHT HELP TO MAKE A SPECIFIC REQUEST . [Lynn suggests Dickie Road](#). [Bill requests proposals for \\$50,000 and \\$100,000 projects that he can present to the board next week](#). [Lynn will do this](#).

Jane:

- Tax Returns due 5/15/06 being prepared by BKD
- Request board's approval to hire BKD to audit financials (need for grants) [See above](#).
- Budget being prepared by Lori and Jane for Board's review & approval

Leslie:

- **Media Relations:** press release in local media; article on Lori in News Sentinel; Aboite & About ad
- **Newsletter:** May 30 release date; will solicit updates in the next week – benefit of the month will be Environmental due to Arbor day, native plants in nodes, LRWP tours, etc.
- **Bike About Aboite:** press release out 4/24 to media calendars; providing PR support
- **Next releases:** Towpath Trail Task Force; Arbor Day; Little River Wetlands Tours given by Lori; Construction update; Environmental benefit

(Jim) SACS plan to connect abandoned entry drive at Covington Elementary school to the existing trail. This could easily be turned into a nice trailhead area. We will finish this off with the addition planned for Covington.

[\(Jim\) SACS may "trade" to get the property just west of Covington Elementary on Covington Road. A trail on that property could connect to a cul-de-sac in Bridgewater.](#)

(Stephanie) Issue of accounting challenges, database re-organization needs has been consolidated into one task; current administrative processes are limiting our effectiveness; Stephanie conducted research into various donor management software programs; the Tech/Database Committee has already begun articulating our processes; Stephanie plans to work in the coming weeks on an effort to fully analyze technology needs of ANT.

VI. Roundtable items, in need of a discussion (but not a vote). The arrows will help flag these items for the meeting.

(Stephanie) Do we need discussion about proceeding with the above process???? If so, Stephanie feels that solid infrastructure (including upgraded technology) is important to support the mission of ANT. We may need to be prepared to plan to discuss next month a budget and/or expenditure approval. Budget may be indicated by needs assessment, so it may be difficult to set budget at this time.

(Lori) **Signage development** – Per the board's approval at our February 2006 meeting, Lori has worked with the LandPlan Group and the Baldus Company on conceptual signage design. Lori formed a signage committee consisting of George Baldus, Greg Byrd (LandPlan), John Ferguson, Barbara Krisher, Dawn Ritchie, Rick Salyer (City signage division) and Stephanie Schultz. Through committee input Baldus/Landplan has developed the drawings in front of you of conceptual designs for

ANT informational and identity signage. Standard traffic and safety signage will be coordinated with the City of Fort Wayne, as Dawn hired Mike Fitch to develop standards for these. I would like input on the colors, shapes and materials that our committee has helped develop. Specifically, mile markers, trailhead signage and logo usage.

(Lori) **Donor Recognition/Node Development** – The nodes need a designated dollar amount for sponsors. Nodes will cost ~\$4000-\$5000 to construct. **Nodes will be available to donors at \$50,000.**

By-laws in need of revisions/updating: (Lynn) I have read through our by-laws this month and found that they are very much in need of updating. I will pass out copies at this board meeting of the current version, and proposes to meet with Art to make necessary updates. Then, Art may present the suggested changes at the May board meeting for review and/or revisions. **The by-laws were written when ANT was new and applying for not-for-profit statues. Now ANT is a much bigger organization; we're operating in a way that is not consistent with our bylaws. Thus, the need for updating.**

VII. Calendar: i.e., board meetings, sub-committee meetings, public meetings, fundraisers. **New information is in blue**

Event: Annual Future 40 Awards (Stephanie will be honored)

Date: Friday April 28

Time: evening

Cost: \$75.00/person

Location: Scottish Rite Center.

Event: Arbor Day Celebration w/the Mayor

Date: April 28, 2006

Time: 10:00 am

New Location: Fire Station at the corner of Covington and Scott Roads

Event: Mitzvah Day, Congregation Achduth Vesholom

Date: Sunday April 30

Time: 10am-12pm

Event: Lutheran/Freeland Event

Date: May 19, 2006

Time: TBD

Location: Their home, the event will be inside.

Event: National Trails Day and Eagle Marsh Open House

Date: Saturday, June 3, 2006

Time: 11am-3pm

Location: Summit middle school

Notes: This 676-acre wetland restoration in SW Allen County begins this spring! Come to the open house to hear about Eagle Marsh plans, tour the property, enjoy a cookout and receive a free nature gift.

FINALIZED DATE

Event: 2nd Annual Bike About Aboite

Date: Saturday, June 10

Time: 50-mile tour at 8am and 10-mile Fun Ride at 10am

Location: Rides start and end at Homestead's Ninth Grade Academy on Aboite Center Road.

Event: Fort Wayne Walks 1 Million Miles

Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2006

Time: 12-1

Location: Indian Trails Park

Events: ANT Board Meetings will be at 7:00 PM in the Aboite New Trails Office.

Wednesday, May 24

Tuesday, June 27

Tuesday, July 25

Wednesday, August 23: This is now back on a Wednesday.

Wednesday, September 27

Wednesday, October 25

Wednesday, November 15

December to be determined.

VIII. Hand-outs

Committed projects table (Lori)

Updated donor list (Gail)

By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation (Lynn)