

PLA Monthly Regular

Board of Directors Meeting Sept. 4, 2019

9/4/19
6:00 PM
Farr
Center

OUR MISSION: *The Portage Lake Association is a group of volunteers who are dedicated to making the Portage Lake Area a great place in which to live, play and stay.*

Officers:

Julie Lapinski- President
Kevin Wolverton -Vice President
Evie McNeil - Treasurer
Mary Jo McElroy- Secretary
Al Taylor – Past President

Board of Directors

Nikki Torrey, Frank English
Jean Capper, Susan Halloran
Jon Phillips, John Wemlinger
Shelli Johnson. Debby Major
Justin Sedelmaier, David Maylen

Committee Heads

Jon Phillips, Mary Jo McElroy
Debby Major, Susan Halloran
Justin Sedelmaier, Mary Reed
Steve Szilvagyai, Al Taylor
Paul Mueller, Frank English
Faye Backie, Roz Jaffe
John Wemlinger, Pat Pomaranski
Susan Barnard, Jeff Sternberger
Mary Fairgrieve, Julie Lapinski
Jean Capper

Minutes

Order of Business	Person Responsible	Report / Discussion	Action Plan
Call to Order, Introductions	Lapinski	Lapinski called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. Present were Taylor, McElroy, Halloran, Phillips, Major, Wolverton, Maylen, and Wemlinger.	
Consent Calendar	Lapinski	Lapinski presented the consent calendar for tonight's meeting and asked for discussion or comments. Wemlinger moved to approve and Maylen seconded. It passed by a unanimous vote of those present.	McElroy to get August minutes posted online
Budget	Taylor	Year-to-date report was electronically distributed by McNeil. Taylor commented that the budget is in good shape nearing the end of third quarter. There has been a shift in donations from general funds to specific projects (e.g., Petunia Parade, fireworks). Some charges from Onekama days have not yet been expensed (e.g., tent, portapotty). Taylor commented on several positive and negative variances to budget.	
Membership	Backie	Backie provided a written report as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 43 members have not paid dues for 2019; some will be deleted due to moving away from the area and some for failure to pay dues for two years 32 potential renewing members remain; Backie sent an email reminder to 15 of them on August 5 with no response. Members present decided to ask Backie to send a paper reminder to those 32 members.	Backie to send paper dues notice to 32 members who have not paid for 2019
Fundraising	Taylor / Lapinski	The Fundraising Committee met last week. Donations for petunias and fireworks were exceptional this year. Letter for Christmas in Onekama / Celebration of Lights will go out in October. New ideas include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theme dinner at Portage Point Inn on May 29, 2020; Lapinski and Wolverton to chair; \$50 per person price point 	All Committees need to submit their 2020 dates to Taylor for Community Calendar by January 8, 2020 (need what, when, and where)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No picnic needed next year • Possibility of a pork raffle along with Pig Roast • Country band at Fairgrounds after Onekama Days • Some type of September or October Fest • Spaghetti dinner at OCS in winter associated with a high school basketball game <p>There are two more raffles to finalize this year: charter fishing trip and mid-level restaurants raffle. Both will be drawn at Christmas in Onekama.</p>	
Citizen of the Year	Wemlinger	Wemlinger presented a proposal for revamping the “citizen of the year” program by the PLA. After some discussion, it was decided to delay action on this until March / April 2020.	Lapinski to put on March / April agenda
Petunia Parade	McElroy	No report. Taylor confirmed that Miller’s will donate pumpkins for the planters again this year.	
Near and Farr Friends	Fairgrieve	Near and Farr Friends will be held from September 12 through December 5 except for Thanksgiving. Upcoming topics are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9/12 Memorial Fountain • 9/19 John Wemlinger’s latest book • 9/26 birding around the area 	
Concerts	Szilvagy	No report. Taylor mentioned that the committee is starting to think about the 2020 lineup of musicians.	
Publicity	Taylor / Lapinski / McElroy	Taylor (electronic) and McElroy (written) will share responsibility for publicity. They plan to meet with major committee chairmen by end of the year to assess what is being done now in order to have a solid plan in place for 2020. Jean Capper is working on creating a one-pager with guidelines for articles in the PLA newsletter.	McElroy to follow up with Capper
Facebook pages	Taylor	A Facebook boost (cost of \$25) goes into a 40-mile radius.	
Fall Festival	Halloran / Major	Halloran and Major announced that Jim and Holly Spilka will manage the games for kids. 15 vendors have committed. Fall Festival will be on Facebook tomorrow. The event averages 800 to 1000 attendees each year. A new event is purchasing a paint-filled egg which is then thrown at a canvas board to create artwork. The Fall Festival posters need to be printed and placed in good locations.	Taylor to get poster printed at Jackpine McElroy to send spreadsheet to Major for 2018 locations for posters
Christmas In Onekama	Pomaranski / Lapinski	Vendors and dinner are lined up for the event. Taylor still needs a poster.	Pomaranski to send poster to Taylor
Website	Taylor	Getting close to annual budgeted dollars; may need to increase allocation to Onekama Township to cover their direct costs.	
Onekama Days	Taylor	Arcadia is getting community input about Arcadia Days.	
Scholarships	Lapinski	Scholarships for 2018 and 2019 have been paid out.	
Lake Issues	Reed	Invasive species treatments are underway for phragmites (September 23) and Eurasian watermilfoil (completed on August 15).	
Banners / Christmas décor	Sedelmaier / English	No report. Taylor mentioned that 2 banners need to be replaced.	

Welcome Committee	McElroy	<p>There are 3 components to the welcome bag process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting materials and collating into welcome bags – going well – have many made up already • Finding out when properties sell that will have a residence with occupants (even if only part-time) – this is also going well. McElroy recently got a report for March 19 → August 21 which shows 23 new visits are needed • Getting bags delivered is an issue; have only gotten 6 bags done since May <p>Taylor and Lapinski are already helping to deliver bags for specific situations. Major, Maylen, Wemlinger, and Wolverton also volunteered to help and deliver some bags.</p>	McElroy to get bags and addresses to those who volunteered to help
Old Business-Follow up			
Christmas tree lights	Lapinski	An electrician has looked at the setup near Christmas tree and says it is ok. English did some repairs to the support post. Lapinski is working on issues with the lights and getting them up.	
Newsletter	Capper	The due date for articles for the October newsletter is September 15. Capper is working on guidelines for PLA newsletter articles.	Send articles and photos to Capper by September 15 for October newsletter; she is looking for photos of the block party and Onekama Days
New Business			
Officers and BOD elections	Taylor	It is time to re-elect officers and board members. All officers are up for re-election. Six board members are at the end of their terms. Major and Maylen agreed to serve another year.	Taylor to manage re-election process
Committee heads	Lapinski	Lapinski will speak with Committee heads to determine their interest in serving for another year.	
Onekama 150 th anniversary of channel	Taylor	Taylor stated that May 2021 will be the 150 th anniversary of digging the channel between Portage Lake and Lake Michigan. Several community organizations have indicated interest in working together for planned activities. The PLA indicated its interest in participating.	
Public Comment	This public comment is for any of the special agenda items that are covered		
Adjournment	Lapinski	The meeting was adjourned by Lapinski at 8 PM.	

Recorded by Mary Jo McElroy, Secretary