

# PLA Monthly Regular

10/4/17

7:00 PM

## Board of Directors Meeting Oct. 4, 2017

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  
Diane Bess -Vice President  
Evie McNeil - Treasurer  
Mary Jo McElroy- Secretary  
Al Taylor – Past President

**Board of Directors**

Nikki Torrey, Al Garbrecht  
Frank English, Jean Capper  
Kevin Wolverton, Jon Phillips  
John Wemlinger, Wendell Brooks  
Vicki Strevey, Shelli Johnson

**Committee Heads**

Jon Phillips, Tammy Messner  
Marilyn Acker, Jeff Sternberger  
Susan Halloran, Mary Reed  
Steve Szilvagy, Bruce Peabody  
Paul Mueller, Faye Backie,  
Roz Jaffe, Pat Pomaranski  
Margaret Panches, Mary Fairgrieve  
Al Taylor, Diane Bess  
Frank English, Susan Barnard  
Jean Capper

### Minutes

Order of Business	Person Responsible	Report, or <i>To Do</i> list	Action Plan
Call to Order	Lapinski	Lapinski called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. Attendees: McElroy, Taylor, Wolverton, Backie, Halloran, Pomaranski. Guests: Judy Spohn, Dan Behring	
Secretary's Report	McElroy	McElroy summarized the action items from the September 6 meeting. There was not a quorum present, so approval of minutes will need to be done electronically.	
Treasurer's Report	Taylor for McNeil	<p>Taylor presented the Treasurer's report as emailed prior to the meeting. He noted that fundraising is slightly behind, although more income is expected. Third quarter financial report was sent out. Balance in the checking account is a little over \$46K. Cost controls have been in place this year. It is forecasted that we will be \$10,000 ahead of what we believed to be the bottom line for the year.</p> <p>Budget will need to start its development in November. It needs to be approved by February. December and January will be working months.</p> <p>Taylor is still working on a meeting with the representative from Manistee County Foundation to discuss 501 (c) (3) with the board.</p> <p>Electronic vote needs to be done to get the Treasurer's report approved due to lack of a quorum.</p>	Taylor to invite representative from Manistee County Foundation to discuss 501 (c)(3) with the board
Membership	Backie	Membership dues letter will be sent out in January. Members were reminded that annual dues will be \$35 in 2018.	

Fundraisers	Taylor	Website conversion has taken longer than expected. It has affected folks who had business listings as well as ads. We will do one more on-line auction this year. Silent auction items will be at Fall Festival and Christmas in Onekama. Taylor needs to know where folks are with selling raffle tickets assigned to them.	Let Taylor know how many tickets have been sold by board and committee heads by next week.
Petunia Parade	McElroy for Phillips	McElroy reported that petunias are rolled up for 2017. Larsen's applied weed killer today. Transition of leadership is underway. McElroy and Phillips will co-chair next year. Work is underway to generate ways to celebrate the 25 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Petunia Parade in 2018. The tasks associated with the Petunia Parade are well-defined in a spreadsheet; all tasks have been assigned for 2018.	
Farr Friends	Fairgrieve	Not present.	
Concerts	Taylor for Szilvagy	Income from grants is coming in.	
Publicity	Backie	Backie is working on publicizing PLA's fall events. She showed publicity from the <u>News Advocate</u> about the Fall Festival and Pet Parade. Taylor will take photos of scarecrows and winner, as well as winning pets.	
Facebook Pages	Taylor	Taylor reported that Facebook viewing has reached a milestone with almost 94,000 likes. Taylor has been posting fall scenes e.g., triple rainbow, lighthouse, etc. He has done a shout-out for EZ Mart. We are getting a lot of coverage with our Facebook page. Taylor is trying to stay neutral with political issues by posting both sides of any issue.	
Fall Festival	Halloran	Halloran reported that we are short on volunteers, particularly for PLA booth. Jeff found corn stalks. Susan will place the cut-out face stand-up tomorrow. Greg Miller will supply pumpkins and straw. Susan needs 2-liter bottles for bowling with pumpkins. Taylor is bringing the PLA sign, table, and silent auction sheets. She has 21 vendors now. Photos of scarecrows will be taken tomorrow instead of Friday (anticipating bad weather on Friday).	Taylor, Brooks and Halloran to meet on Saturday morning
Christmas in Onekama, Chili Cookoff, Celebration of Lights	Pomaranski	Pomaranski is looking for volunteers to help set-up. She will contact Nikki Torrey for help from students. We are still looking for a volunteer to co-chair this event. There is a possibility of someone who recently moved into the Village who can help all day this year, then potentially co-chair next year. She will have her poster ready in a few days. Pat has 30 vendors now, but has room for 45. Pat needs PLA members to man the booth for silent auction and poinsettias. Susan Barnard mentioned that she has secured a musician for Celebration of Lights. Farr Center is reserved for that. Susan Barnard is looking for someone to help make cookies.	Pomaranski to send poster to Taylor and Backie  Let Susan Barnard know if you can make cookies for Celebration of Lights
Website	Taylor	Taylor mentioned the new website is launched for preview. Several issues were identified and will be fixed.	

Onekama Days	Taylor	No report	
Newsletter		Articles are due December 10. Volunteers were sought to deliver newsletters.	
Scholarships	Taylor for Jaffee	Scholarships will be decreased by one next year due to less net revenue from Pig Roast this year.	
Lake Issues	Lapinski for Reed	<p>Reed sent an update about treatment of 64 acres of eurasian watermilfoil this year. Wetlands and Wildlife will be surveying the entire lakeshore this week depending on weather. They will treat Phragmites, yellow iris, Japanese knotweed, and other invasives. Purple loosestrife was treated in July.</p> <p>Taylor mentioned that the conservancy has purchased a herd of goats who eat invasive species.</p> <p>Portage Lake Watershed survey underway. They are interested in what people do or do not know about the watershed and its plans.</p>	
<b>Old Business-Follow up</b>			
Citizen of the Year	Wemlinger / Punches	No report.	
Election of Officers / Directors	Taylor	Lapinski distributed a DRAFT letter to PLA members about election of officers for 2018. Some members have indicated interest in an open position, but we do not have any at this time. Nominations were requested from the floor. Slate of officers and board members needs to be approved by board, then mailed out to members. Terms of service have been adjusted to retain knowledgeable persons while achieving turnover in a planned manner.	
Fall retreat	Lapinski	Lapinski announced that a Fall Retreat for the PLA board will be held on Monday, October 16 from 9 AM to 12 Noon at Covenant Bible Camp. A major topic will be the real vision, goals, and objectives of PLA and how we are focused on meeting them. Julie also wants to discuss volunteering. Those present were invited to identify items they would like to discuss.	Send Lapinski any items to address at the October retreat
Winter Fest	TBD	Taylor and Jaffee have briefly discussed. Lions Club is having a steak dinner the night of Fall Festival. A spaghetti dinner sponsored by the OCS cheerleaders served 600 people.	
Banners and Christmas Decorations (part of Christmas in Onekama)	Taylor	Taylor will get information from Chuck Reed about what is needed this year. We may need 3 to 4 new banners this year. Pomaranski will check with Frank English to see if he can put lights on tree this year. Questions were raised about design for lights, brightness of lights, etc.	
US 31 Onekama sign			

PNC branch closing here	Taylor	PNC corporate is not interested in a town meeting to discuss closing the branch here. PLA was asked to write a letter of support for getting another bank in town without non-compete restrictions. Honor Bank may also be interested. Blarney Castle is involved in working out a solution. Dan Behring was present and discussed his thoughts and feelings about the bank closing. He read a letter from the CEO of PNC touting their commitment to Main Street customers. Dan thinks there is an opportunity to get PNC to allow another bank into that building. Pomaranski suggested that a letter to the editor be published in the News Advocate. Behring suggested a face-to-face meeting with PNC Lansing executives.	Taylor to pursue discussion with McCarthy about options for approaching PNC
Welcome sign near Shay's	Lapinski	Bob Evans owns the land where the welcome sign is located. The proposed buyer wants information about liability on that property. The question is "does PLA want to own the sign" or should the Onekama Township own it? An easement was signed, PLA owns the sign, and the property owners are indemnified. Lapinski has checked about our insurance for that. Onekama Township is seeking a legal opinion. They could own the sign or they could insure the sign.	
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 8:50 PM.	