

PORTAGE LAKE ASSOCIATION

September 4, 2024

6:00PM

Regular Board Meeting

Onekama Township Hall

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	Board of Directors	Committee Heads
Roz Jaffe, President VACANT, Vice President Evie McNeil, Treasurer Mary Jo McElroy, Secretary Al Taylor, Past President	Jean Capper Susan Halloran Kathy Loynes David Maylen Mark Miller Carey Stark Joseph Suchocki Diane Wemlinger	Brian Devilling, Mary Jo McElroy, Mary Fairgrieve, Theresa Gimpel, Nancy Dabrowski, Paul Mueller, Nikki Schneider, Justin Sedelmaier, Carrie & Greg Cassagnola, Katy Castillo

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS / RESPONSIBILITY
Call to order and welcome	President Roz Jaffe called the meeting to order at 6 PM. Present: Diane Wemlinger, Evie McNeil, Kathy Loynes, Carey Stark, Nikki Schneider, Susie Halloran, Mark Miller, Mary Jo McElroy, Joe Suchocki, Al Taylor. Guests: Samara Hamilton and Cyndy Wangbichler	
Additions to agenda	Nominating Committee Main Street Banners	
Consent Agenda	The Consent Agenda consisted of June 5, 2024 minutes and August 2024 financials. Al Taylor moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mark Miller seconded, and the motion passed without dissent.	
Correspondence	Roz received several notes: a note with \$200 donation from the popcorn concessionaire; a thank you note from a graduating senior for our contribution to spending money for their Senior Trip; nice notes about the summer concerts.	
Electronic votes during summer months	Two motions were electronically voted upon by the Board during our summer hiatus from in-person meetings. Motion by Al Taylor to approve submission of an application for a special license to serve alcohol on August 3 during Craft Beer tasting at Onekama Village Park. Seconded by Jean Capper. 9 affirmative votes, 3 no response. Motion passed on June 25, 2024.	

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	Motion by Jean Capper to donate \$2000 towards the new pavilion to be built in Onekama Village Park. Seconded by Diane Wemlinger. 9 affirmative votes, 2 abstaining votes due to conflict of interest, and 1 no response. Motion passed on August 2, 2024.	
OLD BUSINESS		
Event Stage Celebration	The event was held on June 23 and was widely perceived as a success. Event planner Brian Devilling wants to repeat next year; Concerts Committee will generate ideas.	
Hello Summer Cocktail Party	The event was held on June 14. Roz thanked those who helped. 100 persons attended. \$3000 profit on silent auction items. Potentially an 80's dance party with a DJ next year.	
Monday Concerts	Concerts had a positive variance from budget around \$500. Brian wants to push for more Venmo donations next year. Would like a banner that includes Venmo address and QR code. Also suggesting that contracts with bands include a minimal make-up fee in case of rescheduling or cancelling. He would also like a FB page just for Monday night concerts.	
Onekama Days	<p>Car Show – 80 cars, anticipate net profit to be around \$2750; will have final report and proposal at October PLA board meeting.</p> <p>Pig Roast – sold out 300 meals; net profit around \$1500.</p> <p>Beer Tasting – purchased special glasses this year which was an unusual expense; net profit \$900; suggestion was made to include domestic beers next year.</p> <p>No news about the parade.</p> <p>Al Taylor asked about the top 3 events for generating gross revenue; they are concerts, fireworks, and petunias.</p>	Need to see if there was an allocation for overhead for Car Show e.g., toilets, tables, chairs, etc.
NEW BUSINESS		
October PLA newsletter	The due date for the articles is September 10.	
Fall Festival	Katy Castillo will chair the Fall Festival. We have some new helpers this year – Samara Hamilton, Cyndy Wangbichler, Katy Castillo,	

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	and Chelsea Willis. Planning is underway. It will be held in the Village Park.	
Petunia Parade	<p>The petunia roll up will take place on Wednesday, September 25. Mums are in the pots and pumpkins will be added this month.</p> <p>The Petunia Parade committee met yesterday. They identified strengths for next year as: 1) excellent financial support by donors; 2) loan of watering tank from Dave Meister; 3) reliable and competent watering guy. Major issues for 2025 are resurfacing of M-22, availability of a water source, and ability of petunias as a genus to survive the heat and fumes of the roadwork. Other problems are the need to refresh the soil, replace tires on the trailer, find a way to halt the algae growth, figure out a way to get water from some source into the tank, get the tank cleaned, and re-invigorate some of the planters and weeders.</p> <p>Recommendation: take a gap year, communicate widely to PLA members, volunteers, and the community about the WHY.</p> <p>Suggestions to look at Road Commission, Bear Lake Fire Department, and empty lot across from Shirley's are already on the list – there are issues with all of them.</p> <p>Mary Jo asked to have Steam and Squeegee be used to complete a terminal cleaning of the water tank this year; it was approved.</p>	Committee will continue to roll out a communication plan about petunias in 2025
Volunteer Appreciation	This event was held on August 30 with 31 participants. Danni Hoffman catered.	Consider doing on the Thursday before Labor Day instead of Friday
Main Street Banners	Joe Suchocki has volunteered to take on the banner project. He and Roz will be meeting with Johnson Company.	
Onekama Days 2025: Flying Toasters	This is an incredible cover band from Indianapolis with a fantastic sound, generator, stage, lighting, etc. They have a connection to Portage Point Inn and really want to do a concert in Onekama next summer. Ideas about how to make it happen were entertained.	
Onekama School Bond	Diane Wemlinger distributed a flyer about the upcoming OCS bond issue on the ballot for November. It is not a new tax, but rather a 7-	

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	year extension of the current tax. There are many benefits including security enhancements, infrastructure replacements, bathrooms and pickleball court by ball fields, community room, etc. The PLA does not get involved with political endorsements, but we can place an informational item in the October PLA newsletter. OCS could have an informational table at the Fall Festival but cannot make it a "VOTE YES" campaign.	
PLA Stage	The Blue Slipper would like to take and store the old band stage. Al Taylor made a motion to give it to them, Joe Suchocki seconded, and the motion carried. A short discussion about the behemoth 10x20 tent stored in the PLA storage unit and how to get rid of it.	
Christmas in Onekama: Artisan Market; Celebration of Lights	30 vendors are signed up.	
Nominating Committee	The Nominating Committee will consist of Al Taylor, Jean Capper, and Mary Jo McElroy. The proposed slate of officers is due beginning of October.	
OTHER BUSINESS		
Next meeting	The next meeting will be held on October 2 at 6 PM.	
Adjournment	Diane moved to adjourn; Kathy seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7 PM.	

Submitted by Mary Jo McElroy