

PLA Monthly Regular

Board of Directors Meeting Oct. 2, 2019

10/2/19
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 Szilvagy, 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 PM. Present were Julie Lapinski, Al Taylor, Debby Major, Kevin Wolverton, Susan Halloran, Frank English, Jean Capper.	
Consent Calendar	Lapinski	Lapinski presented the consent calendar for tonight’s meeting and asked for discussion or comments. There was not a quorum present, so Lapinski will seek an electronic vote for approval. UPDATE: Lapinski sought an electronic vote on approval of the consent agenda. 11 were in favor, 0 opposed, 4 no response. The motion carried and the consent calendar was approved.	McElroy to get September minutes posted online when approved per electronic vote
Budget	Taylor	Year-to-date report was electronically distributed by McNeil. Taylor mentioned that a few expenses are in the wrong categories which he will discuss with McNeil for correction. Wolverton mentioned issues opening the file. Overall, the budget is inline with expectations. Petunias and fireworks had record years for cash donations. Next year’s big-ticket items will be new Christmas lights and possibly up to \$1000 in more tree costs. Each time the truck comes out it is \$350. We need new lights and need some new electric board work. We raise about \$2300 for the celebration of lights. Susan Halloran suggested checking with Roman Lights. English also has a source for lights. We have LED lights, but they are not bright enough. Wolverton will investigate replacements for bulbs and strands of lights. The lights have been placed in a zig zag instead of up	

		<p>and down. The tree was trimmed and shaped, but not pruned.</p> <p>Banners will be another expense next year since we will need some new ones. Will know how many when banners come down. Chuck Reed used to check them but need someone else to take this on. Old ones go to Tina Hall for repair.</p> <p>Another expense will be soil remediation for the petunias next spring.</p> <p>Scholarships were over budget.</p> <p>Prom-“theme dinner” will be an event to be budgeted as a spring PLA event.</p>	
Membership	Backie	No report.	
Fundraising	Taylor / Lapinski	Did well with fireworks and petunias. Falling a little short for raffles. Proposing two more this year: 50-50 cash at Christmas in Onekama and dinner/business package worth \$400 to be auctioned at Christmas in Onekama.	
Citizen of the Year	Wemlinger	A member inquired about where the cost of the plaque for The Glenwood is noted in the expenses; Taylor will ask McNeil.	Taylor to seek information about plaque for The Glenwood
Petunia Parade	McElroy	Petunias were rolled up last week. Next week Shirley Brooks and Mary Jo McElroy will meet with Karen Larsen to discuss next steps for soil remediation.	
Near and Farr Friends	Fairgrieve	No report. There was discussion about programming about sewer proposal.	
Concerts	Szilvagy	Concerts ran a negative variance of \$1000, with about \$600 of the deficit due to a rain out. Overall excellent attendance. Money raised was good. Concert committee plans to do a Survey Monkey to solicit input on likes and dislikes related to the concerts.	
Publicity	Taylor / Lapinski / McElroy	McElroy met with Fairgrieve to briefly discuss her methods of publicity about Near and Farr Friends. Tactics include Facebook postings, posters at Onekama.info and in physical locations, and articles in the Manistee News Advocate. It was suggested that each committee has a point person for publicity.	
Facebook pages	Taylor	Social media has helped Farr Friends. Instagram may be a possibility. Facebook is geared to 38 years and up. Instagram is geared to 18-38 years old. Traverse City is our second biggest market, Grand Rapids is the biggest. Arcadia Marsh trail has been a real draw.	
Fall Festival	Halloran / Major	Fall Festival is ready to go. We have 30 vendors, 2 food trucks (Steelhead Café and Bones BBQ from Kingsley) and donut wagon. There are 3 more vendor spaces left. Scarecrows should be up by 10/1, but maybe delayed until 10/4 due to rain. Raffle tickets will be sold. Lions will not be there. Live auction at 2:30. Set up starts on Friday at 3 PM.	
Christmas In Onekama	Pomaranski / Lapinski	28 vendors, poster is set.	

Website	Taylor	PayPal issues are occurring; Taylor is working to address them.	
Onkama Days	Taylor	No report.	
Scholarships	Lapinski	No report.	
Lake Issues	Reed	No report.	
Banners / Christmas décor	Sedelmaier / English	Lights going up during the first two weeks in November.	
Welcome Committee	McElroy	McElroy reported that she has given bags to Lapinski, (delivered), Al (delivered), Major, Sternberger, Wemlinger, and Wolverton (delivered) for delivery to newcomers. Work continues on distribution.	
Old Business-Follow up			
Christmas tree lights	Lapinski	<p>Lapinski mentioned that we will need approval for \$500 more for Christmas tree lights. Since there is not a quorum tonight, Julie will send out an email for approval.</p> <p>UPDATE: On October 10, Lapinski sent the following email:</p> <p>“At our PLA BOD meeting on October 2, 2019, the decoration of the tree outside the Farr Center was discussed. This year, we were unable to attain the services of Brett Matthews to take down the lights or put them up on the tree outside the Farr Center. We, therefore, had to hire a tree service to do this. We hired AJ Tree Service to take the lights down, shape the tree and put the lights back on the tree after a six of us [sic] tested each strand of lights. We were able to do all this in one morning. It cost the PLA \$250.00 to hire the AJ'S Tree Service this year which is \$100.00 less than the usual charge. Al Taylor developed an advertising package for AJ's which reduced the price. We also have hired an electrician to repair the outside electrical panel at the Farr Center. The Village Council refused to pay for this service. So, I need the PLA BOD to approve or disapprove a \$500.00 expense electronically (there was not a quorum at that meeting) that will be taken from our Contingency Fund for the tree outside the Farr Center where we hold our Celebration of Lights.”</p> <p>The results of the electronic vote were 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 no response. Since this was a quorum, the expenditure was approved.</p>	\$500 expenditure for Christmas tree lights to be added to approved budget
Newsletter	Capper	Newsletter is being printed today. Capper talked about guidelines for submissions. Taylor suggested a topic for next newsletter related to Old Faceful and Onkama artesian well -- monitoring for quality -- which one is better?	
New Business			
Officers and BOD elections	Taylor	Elections will need to be changed since we now have two-year terms. Lapinski is running for president,	

		<p>Wolverton for VP, McElroy for secretary, McNeil for treasurer / bookkeeper. Torrey's term is up, but she will stay on for one more year. English has agreed to another two years. Major will go to a 3-year term. Maylen taking John Wemlinger's 2-year spot. Sedelmaier will stay on for 1 more year. We have one opening. Larry Paz, owner of Portage Lake Motel, will do a 1-year term. Green Buoy is interested, but not ready yet. Does Board have anyone? No! Julie accepted slate of officers and board members.</p>	
Committee heads	Lapinski	<p>Lapinski will email all committee heads asking if they will continue; she is assuming that is the case. Wemlinger and Lapinski met with Gina Hagen and Mark Parsons at Onekama Consolidated Schools to present what the PLA had done for the school and asked what needs they have. They suggested continuing scholarships and perhaps a needs-based scholarship. They want to increase the number of applicants. The school will provide information to the PLA. Lots of students go to Westshore Community College for trade school; it would be good to target them. Continue with class trip support, Junior and Senior seminars in how to apply for college/scholarships. Discussed a mentoring program. Had 40 volunteers in the past, but no coordination. Suggested a Buddy program instead—k through 5 at lunch. It's a commitment! Will continue to explore this. Book club for 7 and 8th graders-John Wemlinger would be happy to lead this group. Book club for 4th and 5th graders. Jean Capper would be happy to lead this group. Seminars for kids about professions. Open the volunteer opportunities to community. People to keep in mind: Nancy Behring is well connected e.g., League of Women Voters, active in church, member of Jr. Clio.</p>	
Onekama 150 th anniversary of channel	Taylor	No update.	
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 7:40 PM.	

Recorded by Jean Capper