

PORTAGE LAKE ASSOCIATION

November 1, 2025

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
Cyndy Wangbichler, President VACANT, Vice President Evie McNeil, Treasurer Mary Jo McElroy, Secretary Al Taylor, Past President	Jean Capper Susan Halloran Kathy Loynes Mark Miller Roz Jaffe Carey Stark Diane Wemlinger	Brian Devilling, Mary Jo McElroy, Mary Fairgrieve, Theresa Gimpel, Nancy Dabrowski, Paul Mueller, Nikki Schneider, Carrie & Greg Cassagnola, Katy Castillo

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS / RESPONSIBILITY
Call to order and welcome	Cyndy Wangbichler called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. Ten PLA people attended, either in person or via Zoom. Attendees were Cyndy Wangbichler, Roz Jaffe, Evie McNeil, Diane Wemlinger, Mark Miller, Mary Jo McElroy, Kathy Cyr, Susan Halloran, Al Taylor, and Jean Capper. Guests: Debby Storms	
Additions to the Agenda	Roz added storage shed to the agenda.	
Consent Agenda	The Consent Agenda consisted of October 1, 2025 minutes and October 2025 financials. Roz Jaffe made a motion to approve; Mark Miller seconded, and the motion passed without discussion or dissent.	Mary Jo to get October minutes posted at Onekama.info .
Correspondence	West Shore Bank is having an economic summit with Chamber of Commerce and other entities on November 12. QR code to register. Toys for Tots, Gifts for Teens – asking for a donation. No history of giving to that organization. Association Sphere membership-based software for email campaigns is 50% off. No interest.	
COMMITTEE / EVENT REPORTS		
Fall Festival	Jean Capper said she heard many positive comments, great weather. Parks and Rec report 250 kids for games. Katy Castillo will	Jean to post on Onekama Community Connection about

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	chair again next year; boxes in the storage unit are organized; lots of details have been documented which will make it much easier ongoing.	time to take the scarecrows down.
Christmas in Onekama Artisan Market	<p>47 vendors have registered plus there is a waiting list; marketing is gearing up. Nikki Schneider asked about where the PLA wants their table set up. There is concern about school participation because the football team could be in a state playoff game on 11/22. That would create loss of participation, loss of volunteers, no cookie contest, no loaders, a few booths, etc.</p> <p>Roz circulated a signup sheet for volunteers. She will be at the information booth and will sell puzzles (have 19 to sell from first batch).</p>	Roz to solicit volunteers to sign up to help
Celebration of Lights	<p>Kathy Loynes circulated the flyer for the event. Donation envelopes have been placed in a few areas. Cannot do on Saturday (Farr Center is already booked), so it will be on Sunday. 5 PM social hour at FC; entertainment by bell choir and choral group. Snacks and beverages. Tree lighting at 6 PM. Beth McCarthy will read the names. Tree to be dark until names are read, then turned on and left for remainder of the season. No invoice was received this year; we had a three-year contract. Evie reached out to Johnson Sign and got a new contract signed with a difference in payment schedule. Lights will be put up between 11/18 and 11/21. Tim Mostowy volunteered to take over handling handle the banners and lights. Tim to work with Village maintenance guy. Kathy asked about source for refreshments. Mailing to go out this week – donation envelopes will go out with slate of nominations.</p> <p>Roz mentioned a problem getting the garage door on the storage unit to go up.</p>	<p>Kathy to ask Nikki about cookies leftover from Artisan Market.</p> <p>Roz to work with Dave, owner of storage unit about the garage door</p>
Petunia update	<p>The order from H2O Water Saver has been placed and invoice has been paid. About \$375 remains in the budget for Petunia Parade.</p> <p>Removal of planters will be done by 11/15.</p> <p>Looking for petunia Chair to take over in 2027; Mary Jo will mentor in 2026. Some new ideas are afloat.</p>	

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OLD BUSINESS		
Strategic Plan	Mary Jo reported on operations – documentation for fall festival is ready to be placed on Google Drive. Has summer party info but needs to be organized.	<p>Mary Jo to reach out to Theresa Gimpel to get Artisan Market documented. Mary Jo to reach out to Tim Mostowy to get banners and lights documented.</p> <p>Roz to give Google UserID and PW to MJ.</p> <p>Need a lead person for branding / marketing / communications. Also need to replace Joe for community liaison.</p>
501c3	Tabled at last meeting. No discussion at this meeting.	
NEW BUSINESS		
Nominating Committee	<p>Roz, Evie, and Cyndy were the nominating committee. Referred to spreadsheet from last year. Brainstormed and got input. Fresh approach to terms.</p> <p>Debby Storms – interested in board position; Cyndy Wangbichler explained expectations, attend meetings, join PLA, participate with events.</p> <p>Diane moved to approve the nominating slate recommended by the Committee. Susan Halloran seconded. Vote was unanimously in favor of the slate presented.</p>	<p>To send with letter. Return by 11/21. Cyndy to invite new board members to December meeting. Sent them PLA strategic plan and bylaws.</p> <p>Evie to send ballots onto secretary for count and review.</p>
Vacancies	Need 2 officers, several committee chairs, lead person for strategic plan marketing and communications, lead person for collaboration within the community.	
OTHER BUSINESS		
Puzzles	Question about how to collect sales tax.	Al to handle.
Next meeting	The next meeting will be on December 3.	
Adjournment	Al Taylor made a motion to adjourn, Mark Miller seconded, and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.	

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Submitted by Mary Jo McElroy