

Portage Lake Association Minutes

Onekama, Michigan

Date: September 6, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President, Roger Cody, at 7:05 PM. Those in attendance were Jane & Paul Mueller, Ted Errins, Doug Calloway, Roger Cody, Judy Blackmore, Jim Simons, Margaret & George Panches, Frank and Linda English, Dave Combs, and Beverly Bauer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

The treasurer's report was presented and accepted. It was agreed that next month we would go through the expenses of the fund-raiser, on a line by line basis, and compare this year to last year. There was a concern about whether the use of credit cards and the fees charged for their use was prudent. We need to determine whether their use increased attendance or spending enough to compensate for the heavy fees we had to pay.

Doug Calloway has received a grant to help with the cost of village sign placement. The grant is much less than hoped for, so we discussed priorities in placement and signage. It was decided to place one on the west end of town, on M22, and one on the South side of town, also on M22.. Doug will check with some other people to see if there has been any art work done and what permits would be required if the signs were placed on private property. Discussion will resume next month.

Fall Festival - There was discussion regarding a car show and where it could be held. It was decided that the PLA should also have a tent there soliciting new members.

The Lighting Ceremony was discussed and it was decided that we would change the date to comply with the annual Santa Claus arrival. We want to make this a whole day family affair. Judy has spoken to someone about a 5K run before Santa's arrival, Santa would arrive from 11 – 1, a chili cook-off would be held during the afternoon, there would be hay or sleigh rides, (depending on the weather), and at 4:00 we would gather in for a Christmas carol sing and concert. We think some musical groups from the area schools would be willing to perform for this. Then, at 5:00 would be the lighting ceremony and our Christmas season would be underway! It was suggested that Jeff, (from the Portage Point Inn) might be willing to manage the cook-off. Judy, Beverly and Margaret will continue to work on this event.

The next water resources meeting will be Sept. 24 and it was stated that more of us need to be involved. The discussion by several PLA members was that the data we have needs to be updated. The levels of pollution could have changed alarmingly in 9+ years.

Frank moved that we order more of the aerial pictures immediately. This was seconded by Roger and passed.

Frank is to investigate the price of ordering more of the "Story of Portage" and the quantities

we would need to order them in. He will decide what is wisest and was given approval to order them.

Frank moved that we let the Village of Onekama have a non-partisan, non-political, informational page on our web-site. The motion was passed.

There is a concern about the banners. Some of them are falling. Dave has contacted Christine to see about taking them down early. Originally they were to come down when the Christmas decorations went up but it is feared that they will be damaged by then. George suggested we ask Christine to do something to "beef up" the clamps and make the hangers stronger.

Dave said there is a meeting to come up with a vision statement for Onekama. He suggested more people attend. The next meeting is October 3. @ 7 p.m.

Adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Beverly Bauer, Secretary.