

PORTAGE LAKE ASSOCIATION

MINUTES October 1st, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7PM by President Roger Cody. .

PRESENT: : Eric Beeman, Judy Blackmore, Frank and Linda English, Jane and Paul Mueller, Chuck and Mary Reed, Jim Simons, Barb Wolverton , Nancy Cody, Jeff , Cindy and Parker Sternberger.

MINUTES: Copies of the September minutes were distributed. Chuck moved to approve, Jim Simons seconded and minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The financial report was not distributed as Treasurer Barb Wolverton was unable to attend. October and November reports will be made at the November meeting..

PRESIDENTS REPORT: Roger will not send a President's letter this month as the quarterly PLA Newsletter was just sent to members and the community. We will still plan a retreat after the Watershed meeting on October 23rd.

OLD BUSINESS:

SIGN: Construction of the sign began 2 weeks ago and it is expected to be completed in about 3 weeks. The question was raised on lighting the sign with the suggestion that solar lighting might be a good option in the future.

Lighthouse: Judy made the suggestion that the old lighthouse be sold for scrap metal and the money received put towards the costs of a second Onekama sign. This would include the \$5,000 that is in a fund to restore the lighthouse being transferred to the sign fund. Board members agreed that this was a good idea as we've had this lighthouse for 10 years and have not been able to find a suitable home for it. Notification will have to given to the community for their support and comments.

Nominating Committee: Slate of officers and board members for 2009 is:

President: George PUNCHES

Vice President: Chuck Reed

Secretary: Mary Reed

Treasurer: Barb Wolverton

1 year term: (vote for 2)

Doug Calloway

Eric Beeman

Frank English

3 year term:

Jim Simons (2009)

Dave Combs (2010)

Paul Mueller (2011)

Past President is also a voting member per our charter

Our by-laws state that the ballots must go out in the last quarter of the year and members must be given 30 days before ballots are due. They will go out with the President's Letter the first of Nov. and will be due back on December 15th, 2008

October Fest: Jeff Sternberger reported on the October Fest. To date we have 22 vendors. "Hooping for Health" will be there with their hula hoops. Costs for the festival include: Mr. Balloon Man & Face Painting \$100 each, Grand Rental for the Jumping Castle \$230, Rocking R for the bull train, pony ride and hayrides is \$600. We will monitor the use of the Rocking R activities to determine if we want to do all 3 next year. Also, Jeff will check with Charity Domner about having 4 H bring horses and animals. Bear Lake and a Wine Festival is also going on that day (October 11th)

Jeff has done marketing with the public service announcements on radio, newspapers and TV. He's also hoping to have a fire truck and ambulance on display.

Jeff will get cornstalks and put them up around town for decorations
20 scarecrows have been given out to merchants and others to decorate by Marilyn Acker.

Parker Sternberger attended our meeting as part of a Boy Scout badge on citizenship in the community.

Jeff noted that the MG car club would be coming to the Portage Point Inn at about 3Pm on the Friday before the Festival. He also noted that the Inn was having a Halloween Costume part this year on October 25th, and November 8th is the date for the big band dinner/dance.

Chili Cook Of and Celebration of lights will be held on November 22. Jeff has done this for 10 years with Judy Blackmore. They will try to get more participants for the chili cook-off. May have prizes for hottest, best decorated table, etc.

The lighting of the Tree of Lights will also be held on this date.

Phragmites Report: Mary reported that the demonstration project had over 100 people in attendance and we made a good start on educating the community about phragmites. As a follow up to that meeting, we have contracted with Professional Lake Management to do a complete AVAS survey of the lake. From this, they will also be able to give us a cost estimate on treating the entire lake next fall. This will require a great deal of work and permits. PLM will help us with the process. Ideas for funding are being explored. Several residents have contacted PLM to get some work done yet this fall. This will be dependent on where the phragmites is located and the weather. In order to treat next fall we will need to get permits from the MDEQ prior to August 15th and if we do the entire lake we will need to have this survey done. The project was covered in the Advance and Laura Heintzelman wrote a nice article to the editor. (See attached report) The Portage Lake Garden Club paid \$500 for the demonstration and the PLA will use their designated funds to pay the bill for the survey (\$1500).

NEW BUSINESS:

Concerts: Margaret reported that she has contacted the M&M band in Manistee to do a Patriot Band Concert. This would be the first concert of the season on Monday, June 29th 2009.

Logo: George suggested that in the future, we change the PLA logo to match the sign. He also encouraged all board members to sign up to receive the Newsletter by email. Margaret did a great job on the Newsletter again.....

Meeting adjourned at 8:45

Submitted by

Mary Reed
Secretary