

**PORTAGE LAKE ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
August 6th, 2008**

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

PRESENT: : Eric Beeman, Judy Blackmore, Doug Calloway, Dave Combs, Frank and Linda English, Jane and Paul Mueller, George and Margaret PUNCHES, Chuck and Mary Reed, Jim Simons, Barb Wolverton

MINUTES: Copies of the July minutes were distributed. They were corrected to state that 2 postcards have been printed not 4. Minutes were approved as corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The financial report as of 8/6/08 was distributed by Treasurer Barb Wolverton. Dave moved to approve, Jim seconded, report approved. Roger will add a reminder in his next newsletter that dues are due. Margaret noted that collections at the concerts now equal last years and we still have 2 more concerts. The Iowa Rose concert was very well attended. Barb noted that checking amount is high as we still have some large outstanding bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **SIGN:** Doug Calloway reported that the Onekama sign project is still tied up with permits and paperwork. The township should give us an answer on the permit on August 27th. He expects the building permit to quickly follow. Doug will put stakes with red flags at the location so people can see the location. It's on the north side of town about 50 yards west of the current Onekama sign. Discussion followed on the location for the south side of town. Suggestion was made that we modify the sign so it will work on the approved land owned by the Bingham's that is so wet. Other locations suggested were the old railroad turn-around across from Clements and the area before Shays owned by Doug Schultz. Doug will check on the possibility of these locations. The PLA is the facilitator of the sign and we will maintain it, but the rights to the sign go to the Township.
2. **ONEKAMA DAYS:** The fireworks this year were spectacular. The car show had 82 cars and was the largest ever. The dinners and breakfasts were very well attended. The Big Fish Contest only had 11 entries. Ideas for next year were discussed. Putting it back in the park is an option to explore.
3. **CONCERTS:** Attendance has been very good this year with a very positive community response.
4. **NEWSLETTER:** Margaret PUNCHES reported that we have 4 issues/year....March, July, October and December. She suggested that we might combine the July Newsletter with the Village Newsletter that is sent out with the tax notices. Although this would save in postage costs, the board felt it should continue separately. There may be the possibility of a grant to support publication and distribution costs. We could distribute the newsletter via the internet for those members who elect that option. An email address data base of members will need to be generated. We would still offer a hard copy.
5. **CALENDAR OF EVENTS:** in the Advance Newspaper: The PLA meeting dates should be added to this to encourage members to attend.
6. **WIND SCREENS FOR THE TENNIS COURTS:** 4-5 windscreens are needed for the courts located at the school. Doug Calloway asked if the PLA would like to donate one at a cost of about \$180.00. Frank moved and Dave seconded that the PLA donate one screen and have a sign on it stating it was donated by the PLA. Motion carried.

7. **FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS:** Last year this was combined with the Jr Clio's Santa Claus visit. This is the same date as the Manistee Victorian Parade. Because of timing issues, we will not try to combine with Jr. Clio this year. Instead, we would do the race in the AM, chili cook off at noon and the light festival at night.
8. **BOARD RETREAT:** George Panches suggested that the board of directors have a retreat once a year to brainstorm ideas and do some long range thinking and budget planning. Dan Behring would be a great facilitator and sometime in October might be an appropriate time frame. Roger will follow through. Barb also noted that we still need to have a follow up meeting to review the fundraiser.
9. **WEBSITE:** The business section has been redone. The Township ordinances and Village ordinances are now on the website. You can now do searches on the website.
10. **NEW BUSINESS OWNERS:** Roger has met and welcomed the new owner of Franz Market, Lars Bergstrom and Mr. And Mrs. Duffy at the Video Store.
11. **PORTAGE LAKE WATERSHED FOREVER:** Mary noted that the PLA will need to determine where the PLA would like to be involved in working with the Watershed to develop action plans for some of the tasks. Board members will review the goals and objectives and be prepared to discuss at the next board meeting"

REMINDERS:

Concerts in the Park on Monday nights

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Submitted by:

Mary Reed, Secretary