

PLWF Council Meeting Minutes

Portage Lake Covenant Bible Camp - 7:00 – 9:00 - Tuesday, April 30, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Reed, Herb Lenon, Dan Behring, Howard Hughes, Kathy Ervin, Al Taylor, Dave VanEerden, Frank English

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:59 PM by Chair Mary Reed.
2. **Agenda** – The Agenda was approved with no additions.
3. **Minutes** – The Minutes of the March meeting were approved as corrected. (Behring moved; Taylor seconded).
4. **Financial Reports**

Treasurer - Frank English reported that balances for the following funds (as of 4/18/2013) were:

- PLWF Annual Fund - \$27,221.25
- Endowment Fund - \$108,817.47
- Wetlands Fund - \$5,195.16

Expenditures were:

- MS Creative (website) - \$150
- Jackpine (printing) - \$11.76
- ciBoBase - \$1,669.95

Deposits:

- Annual Fund - \$5,000 was moved to AES for expenses since January 2013

Behring requested information about the flow of funds. Ervin offered to send him chart provided by the Manistee County Community Foundation. Brief explanation to Lenon related to the Wetlands Fund.

Treasurer's report approved. (Lenon approved; Ervin seconded).

5. **Calendar of Events** - Reed introduced timeline of events planned for this summer

- Starting in June, Council meetings will be held at the Farr Center on the last Tuesday of each month.

- Lions Club Breakfasts – PLWF will display information about the watershed during breakfasts at the Lions Den on May 19th, June 9th and July 14th.
- Concerts in the Park – PLWF will provide information to concert-goers. Still no confirmation from “Council Curtis” re: organization he will donate contributions to.
- July 27th – Annual PLWF Fundraiser
- August 2nd – 3rd - Pig Roast/fireworks/car show – Scheduled to take place at the Village Park

6. Committee Reports

Annual Fundraiser – Ervin reported that a location had not yet been determined. However, arrangements have been made with Grand Rental Station for tents, tables, dishes, etc.; flowers/décor; beverages; bartenders; and other details. Further details will follow.

Wetlands Committee Update – (A) There was some discussion about dedicating the recently-purchased wetlands in conjunction with the fundraiser either Saturday or Sunday but the decision was made to refer the question to DeeDee Miller and Kathy Ervin. Suggestion: “Onkama Days”? The parade ends at Feldhak Park so the location/time would be possible. (B) the Parks Committee has requested suggestions for a name for the Wetlands. Several were offered: “Eagle Roost”, etc. We agreed (unanimously) to offer “*Eagles View Wetlands – A Community Preserve*” for consideration.

State of the Lake - Herb Lenon reported that the committee met with the lake manager to talk about a newsletter and the schedule for monitoring and mapping Portage. He said there would be a detailed sampling at the east end of the lake and of major creeks. Expressed satisfaction with the new organization and characterized it as “professional”.

Arbor Day - Howard Hughes said that about 40 people participated in the tree planting at North Point Park. Ervin and Chuck Reed passed out information and seedlings to those who attended. Mary Reed said that the balance of the seedlings were given to Onkama School 5th graders at a presentation she made to them. (Because many of the seedlings turned brown, Mary will send a note to the Arbor Day people if the trees do not recover).

Taylor asked if PLWF would like to be involved in the PLA’s Christmas in Onkama event. The Tree Committee will consider the suggestion.

Explore the Shores - Nothing new to report at this time.

7. DEQ/DNR Reports/Update – Greg Goudy was unable to attend so this item will be revisited at another time.

“Michigan Lakes and Streams” Report – Mary Reed attended this organization’s 52nd Annual Meeting and provided highlights. She also reported that she attended the *Northern Michigan IS Network* meeting on April 17th.

- 8. Harbor Commission Report** - Jim Mrozinski was unable to attend but provided a report. (See attached). It was mentioned that the Tribe is considering funding to fix the Village Park ramp; the DNR is working on dredging a channel out to deep water at the DNR boat launch. Onekama Marine is also doing dredging.
- 9. Committee Structure** – Dan Behring distributed his concept of how we might want to establish committees based on the five goals and objectives of the watershed plan:
- *Aquatic Ecosystem*: Monitor lake, control invasive species, protect shallow zones, identify stream contaminants
 - *Natural Resource and Cultural Assets*: Support planning commission on riparian zone designation
 - *Fundraising and development events*: Develop an endowment growth strategy, implement a watershed fund-raising event
 - *Community education and public relations*: Education outreach, provide monthly reports, inform community of water based activities.
 - *Website maintenance*: Keep website updated

Suggested committees:

- Education and Communication Committee
- Finance Committee
- Water Quality and Environmental Monitoring Committee
- Membership Committee
- Publicity and Fund Raising Committee

Dan suggested that council members review the proposal and asked for feedback, particularly related to possible redundancy of responsibilities. We will discuss this again at our May meeting.

By-Laws - Dave VanEerden and Kathy Ervin volunteered to review our by-laws for changes that might be required.

- 11. Old Business** - Mary said that the issue of liability insurance was settled and that PLWF has a policy with Farmer's Insurance. Annual premium is \$784.

- 12. Adjourn** - The meeting was adjourned at 8:51.

The next PLWF Council meeting will be on May 28 at 7:00 at the Portage Lake Covenant Bible Camp.

Respectfully submitted, K. Ervin, Secretary

These minutes reflect corrections and additions to the draft.