

## Portage Lake Watershed Forever

Council Meeting - May 30, 2017- Farr Center, Onekama

**Present:** Al Taylor, Kayla Kroll, Bee Capper, Pat Lawrence, Jim Simons, Mary Reed, Ted Lawrence, Lee Nordloh, Susan Halloran, Kathy

**Absent:** Jamie Meister, Jim Mrozinski,

**Guest:** Judy Spohn

Agenda Item	Discussion
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Al Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:02.
<b>AGENDA</b>	No additions to the agenda. Ervin moved; Capper seconded.
<b>MINUTES</b>	English moved; Simons seconded.
<b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Simons that, as the end of March, fund balances were: Wetlands - \$5,938.34; Annual - \$43,690.12 which included donations amounting to \$290; Endowment - \$152,720.66. See attached for budget detail. English moved to accept the treasurer's report; T. Lawrence seconded.  Reed said that the rain garden was in need of mulch. /after some discussion it was moved that she would be authorized to spend up to \$150 for labor to be paid from the contingency fund. Further discussion resulted in Capper suggesting that the Portage Lake Garden Club contribute \$50 to this project. English moved; Lawrence seconded. Motion carried.</li></ul>
<b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>Education &amp; Communications</b> - Reed reported on the Swimmers' Itch program's continuation. Said that the effort continues; that there is great interest in seeing the results of the study. Lawrence confirmed that we definitely want the information but that the data is still being analyzed. Dr. Thomas Raffel of Oakland University will make a presentation on June 16 at 1:00 at the Farr Center.</li><li>■ <b>Water Quality and Environmental Monitoring</b> - Reports from this committee are posted on our website. (Invasive Species Committee (ISC) report to the Township; ISC meeting minutes; ISC Manistee Conservation District Stream Monitoring report). Discussion followed re: Little Eden, Portage Point Inn and Covenant Bible Camp being included in the e-coli testing in addition to the sites that are currently monitored. Comment was made that previous tests have produced nothing. Further comment: Camps and PPI would be expected to cover related costs.</li></ul>

- **Membership** - As of this date, Pat Lawrence said that there were 37 new members bringing the total membership to 98. She clarified that the new members included families. Memberships generated approximately \$5,450.00 for the annual fund.
- **Fundraising** - Halloran said that envelopes were addressed; Reed ordered stamps for mailing. Brief discussion about David Westerfield doing a *plen aire* painting but no conclusion reached.
- **Publicity** - No report. Ervin said the fundraiser press release and article would be written a couple of weeks prior to the event.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- **Sewer System for Onekama Township** - The Council is in support of the sewer system. Taylor reported that the Township Planning Commission is holding a working session to evaluate what impacts may be expected if the system goes forward. (E.g. Ordinance changes, increased traffic, marina and boat traffic, zoning decisions). A report can be found on [www.onekama.2016](http://www.onekama.2016) site plans

#### OLD BUSINESS

- None.

#### UPDATES

- a. **Manistee Trails** - Rob Carson is reworking plans.
- b. **Portage Lake Garden Club (PLGC)** - Will feature a Rain Garden display.
- c. **Arbor Day Program** - Promotes planting trees in the watershed and provides information about the benefits of so doing.
- d. The **Northwest Invasive Species Network** received a grant which they shared with PLWF by providing 600 trees to be planted at North Point and Glen Parks.
- e. Rain Garden (See Financial Report)
- f. **Manistee Partnership Meeting** - Reed reported that their primary concern continues to be shoreline protection. Said that there was an excellent program on line "Cooperative Shoreline Management".
- g. The **Portage Lake Management** newsletter was included with Tax Notices.
- h. The **Benzie Coalition** meeting featured a presentation by Greg Goudy. Discussion about the impact that *microbeads* which are the result of degraded fleece material. Worldwide impact.
- i. **Benzie Conservation District Boat Wash** held the 26/27th
- j. See **Education & Communication**

**k. Great Lakes Clean Communities Network (GLCCN)** has scheduled a webinar "Adventures in Collective Water Management

**Watershed Plan Update**

Taylor, Ervin, Reed and Lawrence described the progress made. The Steering Committee has been named; Lee Nordloh is chair. A **Public Forum** will be held on August 1, 2017 from 3 - 5 at the Farr Center.

**Public Comment**

**Judy Spohn**, representing "Concerned Citizens of Portage Lake", said that the PLWF's resolution (April 27, 2013) is invalid as the " . . . *restoration* of the Portage Point Inn is not likely to happen." She also questioned the conclusions reached by experts speaking at a public Sewer Project meeting and said that the Township Association cautioned wariness in working with the Tribe. She further mentioned that the Onekama Marine was not a member of the Clean Marina organization. Her basic premise is that we do not need another marina which would create a greater chance of polluting the lake.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20.

**The next PLWF Council Meeting will be June 26, 2017 at 7:00 at the Farr Center.**

/ Ervin, Frank English

**Action**

Agenda approved.

Minutes approved.

Budget approved.

Ervin moved; Halloran  
seconded.