

## PLWF Council Meeting Minutes

Farr Center, Onekama - 7:00 – 9:00 - Tuesday, January 29, 2013

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Dan Behring, Kathy Ervin, Herb Lenon, Mary Reed, Al Taylor; Guest – Phil Joseph

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:20 PM by Chair Mary Reed.
2. **Agenda** - The agenda was approved with the addition of the DNR's Boat Washing Program grant proposal and allowing Phil Joseph to present his report sooner rather than later.
3. **Minutes** - After Dan Behring was reminded that he did, indeed, volunteer to write articles for the PLA newsletter, the minutes of the November meeting were approved. Mary also passed out a document reporting on the status of the PLWF Plan as of 2010. She said that it was time to do another update. No action was taken at that time.

### 4. Financial Reports

**Treasurer** - In Frank English's absence, Mary reported that there had been no change in PLWF account balances aside since the last meeting.

**2013 Proposed Budget** – Mary distributed a proposed budget for the coming year. (See attached) Discussion resulted in adding the "Available Endowment Funds" balance (\$3,240) to "Income" and increasing the amount allocated for Lake Monitoring Equipment from \$1,000 to \$3,000. Herb Lennon will oversee its use. Al requested that a future discussion be held related to the Endowment.

### 5. Other Reports

**Explore the Shores** – Phil Joseph, Onekama Community Parks Leadership Team chair, reported that the Village Park grant proposal was approved by the DNR Trust Fund. The leadership team has reconvened and will be hiring a project manager as soon as possible. The Langland Grant application has been resubmitted. In addition, he urged support for the Township to assume responsibility for park maintenance and that, with the huge increase in Langland Park use, the community should keep local needs in mind as well. "Who are we doing this for?" (Arcadia posed the same question related to Arcadia Beach. Weigh economic development benefits against community goals).

**Wetland Committee** – No formal update although Al said that the group continues to meet. Basically their priorities are to explore all options to protect and preserve all properties that touch the lake or any of its tributaries.

**Tree Committee** – In Jon Phillips absence, Mary reported. She proposed that, as part of Onekama’s Arbor Day observance, watershed funds be spent to purchase trees that can be given away to members of the community. Dan wondered how this activity fit into the Watershed Plan; discussion ensued. Pending passage of the 2013 Budget, this proposal was not acted upon.

**Annual Fundraiser** – Kathy Ervin reported that progress was slow as final figures had not been received from the manufacturer of the fish molds. She also asked for feedback from the group about feasibility of doing the event. General consensus was that the hoped-for outcome may not be worth the effort and expense involved. A final determination will be made at the next meeting.

**Harbor Commission** – No formal report. Gov. Snyder is expected to make an announcement the first week of Feb. regarding the situation with the Great Lakes. For more information, see Detroit News Article at:  
<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130126/METRO/301260352/Snyder-considers-emergency-measures-low-lake-levels?odyssey=tab%7Ctopnews%7Ctext%7CFRONTPAGE>

#### **State of the Lake –**

Because our current lake manager has resigned from Lakeshore Environmental Inc, the Invasive Species Committee is recommending to the Township board that our lake management contract be re-evaluated at this time. They are recommending that RFPs are sent to 4 companies for the 2013 Lake Management season. A key requirement for the new contract will be timeliness, follow-through and clear, concise, usable reports. Further discussion:

a) *ciBioBase* - The Invasive Species Committee has been investigating purchase of monitoring equipment that will provide immediate information about density, amount and kind of lake- bottom vegetation. Uploading the data to the manufacturer will produce maps and may take the place of some future AVAS mapping. There was general support.

b) *Special Assessment District (SDA)* – The winter taxes of 2013 will be the last year (yr 5) of the current SAD for funding for Invasive Species control and lake monitoring. Because of the need to have ongoing lake monitoring and control of invasives, a strategy will need to be developed to continue to fund the lake management plan. The PLWF committee will continue to work with the township board to recommend and develop plans for future funding. No action taken.

**Membership** – Discussion was tabled until the next meeting about specifics but Mary proposed that the watershed provide a free year-long subscription to the “Riparian Magazine” for all new members. There was general support.

As the meeting began late, Mary adjourned the meeting at 9:08. The next meeting will be held in February, date and location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted, K. Ervin, Secretary