

Portage Lake Watershed Forever

Council Meeting - January 28, 2014 Farr Center, Onekama

Present: Mary Reed, Tim Morley, Al Taylor, Jim Mrozinski, Dan Gehring, Herb Lennon, Frank English, Jamie Meis

Absent: Kathy Ervin, Alice Hendricks

Agenda Item	Discussion
Welcome/Call to Order	Mary Reed
AGENDA	Reviewed, no additions.
MINUTES	Reviewed
REPORTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Financial - Frank English provided current information about funds
	Frank said that the endowment fund made 12.35% interest and 6.21% overall. She also announced that the Manistee County Community Foundation's Funders' Forum would be held at the Manistee ISD on February 18th at 9:00.
	<p>Questions: (Al Taylor) What happens to the money if the watershed ends? What organization should it go to? (Mary Reed) If we get funds from a source that doesn't designate specific funds do they go to the annual fund? (Frank English) Answer: Money should go to the annual fund.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Explore the Shores - A public notice was handed out regarding a hearing for comment regarding changes happening at the village park in the Spring; 20 days to respond. Due to DEQ by 1/30/2014.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Calendar - Mary distributed a proposed calendar for 2014.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crowd Hydrology - Mary announced that the Crowd Hydrology grant was not awarded but, because the signs are free, the only expense we would incur is purchase of posts and installation. She added that Chris Reilly (of USFS) would like a follow-up meeting to discuss stream temperature monitoring and the equipment he has available for us to use..
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arbor Day - Discussion about replanting the trees that didn't survive. There will be programs at different areas of the park. Last year we budgeted \$500. We could consider this an education project. Al suggested that we talk with teachers to get students involved. .
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraiser - Group would like to find another location. Suggestion was the Village Park.
COMMITTEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Invasive Species - A resolution of Intent will be presented to the Township Board on Feb 4th. This is the beginning step for passing a new Special Assessment District (SAD) to fund another 5 years of treatment of invasive species and lake monitoring. A timeline has been developed for notices to be sent and the required 2 public Hearings. The phragmites is under control, but Eurasian water milfoil is still a threat .
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Education - Chaired by Kathy Ervin and Dan Behring.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Website - Committee: Al, Mary, Kathy. Will be similar to the Onekama website.

<p>OLD BUSINESS</p>	<p>■ Membership - Information about how to become a member of the watershed will be on the website once it gets up.</p>
	<p>■ Riparian Overlay - Hasn't been discussed since February 2012. Mary said that the ordinance revisions were made at the village which modified their overlay; the township has very little overlay; zoning, the village sent their revision to their attorney for approval. Al stated that the Master Plan is being reworked.</p>
	<p>■ Update on Grants - <i>(See "Explore the Shores" above)</i> Langland Park application was not successful. Question: What is the next Explore the Shores project?</p>
	<p>■ Discussion re: preservation of lake properties: Secure land on either side of the Farr Center. David Meister might be persuaded to get involved in this. Al - Possible get help from the Conservancy.</p>
	<p>■ Fishing Report - Manistee County Sports Fishing Association will be asked to provide information to update the Onekama website. Al said that he posted photos of the fish release. Need to get information out to fishermen. Al: Contact Charter Boat captains and let them know. Provide a link to all local captains and those who do river fishing, too.</p>
<p>NEW BUSINESS</p>	<p>Restoring Native Ecosystems report. Mary shared highlights of the meeting held on January 17, i.e., new guidelines for phragmites; info on controlled fires; and wild rice. Presentation by Phillip Enquist (Canadian) who spoke about developing a Master Plan for the Great Lakes Basin. She announced that there will be another meeting May 1 - 3 at Boyne Mountain.</p>

ter, Jim Simons,

Decision/Recommendation/Action

7:08

Approved

Motion to approve: Jim; 2nd - Herb. Approved

Motion to approve: Herb; 2nd - Dan Approved

Date on calendar corrected. (PLWF meeting May 27th, not May 2)

Council approved moving forward with the Crowd Hydrology project. Herb and Mary will meet with Chris Riley as soon as possible.

Motion to contributed to Arbor Day: Frank; 2nd - Jim The tree committee is planning to replace the trees that were lost last year. A \$300 contribution was approved.

No report.

The watershed email list has been sent to MS Creations. A website committee will meet with them soon.

Copies of the Village proposed Riparian Ordinance that is now at the Village planning committee will be available to the council. Also, a copy of the model riparian overlay that was discussed in Feb 2012 will also be available.