

**Portage Lake Watershed Forever
Council Meeting - May, 2014 Farr Center, Onekama**

Present: Dan Behring, Frank English, Kathy Ervin, Alice Hendricks, Lynette Maxey, Jamie Meister, Mary Reed, Jim

Absent: Tim Morley, Jim Mrozinski

Guests: Rudi _____, Bruce _____, Je _____ (his wife)

Agenda Item	Discussion
CALL TO ORDER	Mary called the meeting to order at 7:00
AGENDA	Mary added "Village Ordinance" and "Langland Park Sand Dunes" to New Business
MINUTES	Unavailable.
FINANCIAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Financial - Treasurer Frank English provided current information about fund balances. (See attached)
REPORTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Crowd Hydrology - Mary reported that she and Herb identified five streams to monitor and that two are 'staked' - Shimke Creek on the east side of M-22, and an unnamed stream across from Little Eden. Frank suggested that the Road Commission be informed of the project so that identifying signs would remain in place. Some discussion about publicizing the project. Council members were invited to help place remaining gauges.
COMMITTEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Fundraiser - Jamie said that arrangements had been made with the caterer, Kathy has scheduled set-ups with Grand Rental Station, Phil Joseph is working on a painting to be auctioned off, and that the artist whose painting of the Portage Point Inn will be featured on the invitation has volunteered to design the invite.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Education - Dan Behring presented a schedule of "Tuesday With Water" forums and reported that contacts for speakers was underway. A copy of the schedule is attached.

	<p>■ Invasive Species -Public Hearings were held for the Special Assessment District resulting in the SAD being approved for another five (5) years. To further inform the community, the Portage Lake Management newsletter will be included in upcoming tax bills. Lynette, who lives in Brown Township, requested copies of the newsletter to pass out in her area.</p>
	<p>■ ciBioBase - Mary confirmed Chuck Reed's willingness to take anyone interested in this project along as soon as his boat is in the water.</p>
NEW BUSINESS	<p>■ Village Zoning Ordinance - Rudi _____ reported that there will be a Planning Commission public hearing tomorrow (May 28, 2014) at the Farr Center at 7:00 to unveil the much-labored-over Zoning Ordinance. Said that the entire document had been revised to make it more understandable and to include definitions. He pointed out several items of interest to the council:</p>
	<p><i>Riparian Overlay Zone - Deals with plated properties that border on Portage Lake. In the past the riparian setback was 40' from the shoreline. The new ordinance calls for the setback to be 30' from the ordinary high water mark.</i></p>
	<p><i>Impervious surfaces will be limited to 35% of new construction (examples: patios, paved walkways) to mitigate runoff.</i></p>
	<p><i>Commercial Buildings (including multi-family dwellings duplexes) will be required to contain runoff on the property. Those properties within the Riparian Overlay Zone will be required to create a 10' wide riparian buffer strip planted with native vegetation. Along a stream within the zone the setback is 5' on either side.</i></p>
	<p><i>Residential District ordinance (single family dwellings) limit accessory buildings to two.</i></p>
	<p>Rudi concluded by recommending that a Wetland Ordinance be created separate from the Zoning ordinance to address issues more specific to these areas.</p>
	<p>Langland Park Sand Dunes - The DEQ is holding a public meeting on June 2nd at 10:00 at the Portage Point Inn to explore issues related to the sand dune abutting the Langland Park parking area. Council members encouraged cooperation and collaboration.</p>

	Summer Activities - Discussion was held about what participation PLWF would have in Onekama Days, Lions Club Breakfasts, Manistee County Fair and the Onekama Days Parade. A committee was formed to make recommendations at the next Council meeting. Lynette volunteered that there were eight Girl Scouts available to help at the events.
OLD BUSINESS	Wetland Signs - After some discussion, it was agreed that volunteers from the Council would meet with Parks and Recreation members to make recommendations about uniform signage for community public areas.
	Membership - Subject was brought up that we had done nothing about membership. Acknowledged that a chairperson was needed. Also discussion about Planned Giving and the need to build the endowment. It was observed that raising substantial sums benefitted from identifying specific projects, such as purchase of the wetlands, etc. To this end, Mary will reconvene the Wetlands Committee. Some talk about consulting with a professional fundraiser.
ADJOURN	The meeting was adjourned at 8:50.
	Nest Meeting: June 24, 2014 Farr Center 7:00

m Simons, Al Taylor
Decision/Recommendation/Action
Approved
Will be provided at next meeting.
Ervin moved approval, Simons 2nd: approved
Mary will contact the Road Commission.
Kathy will design poster and brochure.

Lynette will get copies of the PLM newsletter

Mary - Please correct if my understanding of any of this is incorrect?!

Alice, Dan, Al, and Jim volunteered. Mary will convene a meeting.

Kathy and Alice volunteered.

The Wetlands Committee will be reconvened.