

Portage Lake Watershed Forever

Council Meeting - November 26, 2013 Farr Center, Onekama

Present: Jim Simons, Al Taylor, Herb Lenon, David Van Eerden, Mick Nolan, Jamie Meister, Dan Behring, Frank English, Mary Reed

Agenda Item	Discussion
Welcome/Call to Order	Mary Reed
Agenda	Reviewed
Minutes	Reviewed
Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Financial - Frank English provided current information about funds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Fund: \$36,438 Endowment Fund: \$111,389 Wetlands Fund: \$5,203 Review of 2013 Budget - Mary suggested that the \$1,500 contribution PLWF approved in May to help defray costs to repair/improve the Village Park Boat Launch be taken from our Annual Fund. SAW Grant update - Was reported that Pat Bentley is personally driving the grant application to Lansing. ■ Invasive Species - Mary said that the report is in draft form. Herb talked briefly about turbidity of the water and said he the time of the year may impact this situation but didn't see a need to test currently. He added: Treating the lake has impacted both eurasian milfoil and phragmites and it appears we are getting control; diversity of native plants is high than ever and that they are not being affected by herbicides being used on invasives. Special Assessment District - Mary said that we will bring education around the first of the year regarding renewal of the SADI and, in response to Al's question what the justification was in asking for the renewal, said that maintenance of the lake was essential.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Education - Brief discussion about how to engage the community. Some suggestions included: brochure, neighborhood chats, public forums. Dan and Kathy agreed to work further on this project.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Membership - Mary reported that, thus far, we have eight members. Several council members admitted that they had not yet joined. Further action will be taken following the holidays.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Harbor Commission - No report. Simons asked if anyone know about plans to dedicate the light but said that the Township wouldn't provide the electricity. Also said that the Department of Natural Resources hadn't responded to inquiries about the commission's quote for dredging the DNR launch to deeper water.
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Benzie Watershed Coalitiomn - Mary shared information about the coalition and said that Lake Ann, Crystal Lake, Upper Herring Lake, Plat Lake, Friends of Betsuie Bay, ISN, and DNR Fishers were all involved.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Christmas in Onekama - PLWF (i.e., Mary) will again decorate a tree for this event.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Manistee Community Foundation Mini-Grant - The Council approved the suggestion that we apply for a \$500 mini-grant through the MCCF to fund "Crowd Hydrology". This project involves the public in reporting on water conditions at various locations around the lake. Was viewed as an excellent educational tool.
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Website Committee - is being resurrected under the directiono f Al Taylor.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Explore the Shores - Langland Park notification
NOTICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ There will be no meeting in December.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Planning Commission re; Riparian Zone. Bruef remarks about the need for the watershed group to step up and support the establishment of a riparian zone around the lake.
Adjourn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Next meeting: January 28th at the Farr Center at 7:00.

eed, Kathy Ervin
Decision/Recommendation/Action
7:08
Approved
Approved
Ervin moved approval. Simons seconded. Approved
Simons moved. Lenon seconded. Approved

