

Portage Lake Association Annual Meeting & Board of Directors Meeting - January 8, 2014

Minutes

The Portage Lake Association is a group of volunteers who are dedicated to making the Portage Lake Area a great place in which to live, play and stay.

Officers	Board Members	Committee Heads
Al Taylor - President	Frank English/Paul Mueller	Jon Phillips, Marilyn Acker
TBD – Vice President	Leann Burger	Jeff Sternberger, Chuck Reed
Evie McNeil – Treasurer	Sheila Heiser	Mary Reed, Jewelee Franklin
Faye Backie – Secretary	Bruce Peabody	Mary Fairgrieve, Roger Cody
Margaret Panches – Past President		George Panches, Barb Wolverton, Pat Pomaranski

Order of Business	Person Responsible	Report, or <i>To Do Plan</i>	Action Plan
Call to Order	Al Taylor	Board members Taylor, Bess, Panches, McNeil, Backie, English, and Burger were present. Also attending: M. Reed, Wolverton, G. Panches, Linda English and Jan Hanzel.	Taylor called the Annual Meeting to order at 7:00pm.
Introductions	Al Taylor	Introductions were made.	
Public Comment	Al Taylor	There was no public comment.	
Review and vote on By Laws changes	Al Taylor	Proposed By Laws changes were sent to the membership on December 4, 2013. Taylor reviewed the proposed changes, which included increasing Board members from 10 to 15, changing term limits from one and three years to one, two and three (staggered) and increasing the term limits for President and Vice President to five consecutive one year terms. The goals are to increase diversity of the Board and to develop members to fill officer roles and to bring the By Laws into conformance with other organizations'.	The By Laws changes were passed unanimously.
2013 Financial Review	Al Taylor	Taylor reviewed the President's Letter which outlines the projects PLA undertakes, their costs and income. The letter will be published in the January <i>PLA Newsletter</i> . Concern was expressed that the Christmas lights were taken down too soon.	Taylor indicated that he will ask the Village and Township to help defray the costs of Christmas lights and banners.
New Business	Al Taylor	There was no new business.	
Annual Meeting adjournment/ January meeting.	Al Taylor	The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 7:36. Taylor opened the January meeting of the Board.	
Secretary's Report	Faye Backie	Backie noted that the Board needed to approve November and December minutes. F. English made a motion to approve the minutes of the November meeting, Burger seconded. Burger made a motion to approve the December meeting, Bess seconded.	The November and December minutes were approved.
Treasurer's Report	Evie McNeil	McNeil stated that we have \$34,890 in the bank, \$12,037 in Savings, \$15,000 in reserve. She has paid the deposit for the Fund Raiser dinner. Burger made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, M. Panches seconded.	The Treasurer's Report was accepted by the Board. Taylor will send out a historical overview of the budget.
Petunia Parade	Jon Phillips	Taylor mentioned that we should think about approaching local businesses for funding assistance.	
Newsletter	Mary Fairgrieve	Taylor reported for Fairgrieve that she plans to send the <i>Newsletter</i> to the printer on Thursday. Taylor noted that we will pay the Pioneer Press \$75 to distribute paper copies of the <i>Newsletter</i> in Arcadia, Bear Lake and Manistee.	

Fund Raiser	Al Taylor	Taylor mentioned that committee chairpersons are needed. Date of Fund Raiser is June 28 th . Wolverton asked if we had any volunteers to work on the Fund Raiser.	Taylor will work on getting chair persons.
Website	Roger Cody	Taylor reported for Cody that use of the website continues to grow. The number of visitors and page views are up and the length of time visitors stay on the site has increased. Programming for the shopping cart and credit card payment has been done.	
Lake Issues	M. Reed	M. Reed reported that the Committee will have to do another Special Assessment District. That entails a lot of work, including an elaborate schedule of public hearings. Will need to do more education because the new invasive species are under water and aren't visible. The <i>Annual Report</i> is available at the Library, the Village and Township Offices and on line. A new invasive plant, Japanese knotweed has appeared. It is difficult to eradicate.	
Banners and Christmas Decorations	Chuck Reed	M. Reed reported that C. Reed is waiting to hear how many banners need to be repaired.	
Winter Fest	Al Taylor	Taylor said he's decided that we won't do an event this year. We hoped to coordinate with Osborn's fishing tournament but he has changed the date away from the free fishing weekend, which we thought we bring more people to the area and to events. Taylor has been invited to attend a meeting to explore the possibility of a county-wide summer fishing event on Tuesday at 10 am at the Casino	Winter Fest is cancelled. Backie will modify advertising accordingly. Taylor and F. English will attend the meeting about a county-wide fishing tournament.
Concerts	George Punches	G. Punches reported that all the bands are firmed up. Most of the work is the day of the concert and PR. June 30 th is the first concert. Spilkas will coordinate set up; they will call on others to assist.	
New Business	Al Taylor	Taylor proposed that the Watershed might help with <i>Newsletter</i> costs. Taylor noted that the Board retreat will be held in March after the new Board members are approved. Taylor mentioned that Mary Lynn Burchard has resigned from the Board. Taylor suggested we consider moving the Annual Board meeting to the summer months when more people are here.	Taylor will discuss <i>Newsletter</i> costs with the Watershed. Wolverton will send out dues notices.
Public comment		None.	
Adjournment	Al Taylor		Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.