



NEWS, EVENTS, & MORE FROM ONEKAMA, MICHIGAN

April 2021
Volumn 17, No. 2

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

APRIL 2021

It is so exciting to let you know that the Portage Lake Association is planning to have our summer events this year! It has been a difficult year for all of us, and we hope that the PLA will **soon** be able to bring back that "Summertime Feeling" to all our members and friends.

Here are the events we have planned for Spring, Summer and Fall 2021:

- Spring Petunia Planting May 26th – May 27th
- Spring PLA Fundraiser "Hollywood Who Dunit" Murder Mystery Dinner at PPI – Friday, May 28
- Monday Night Concerts in the Park – June 28 – August 23
- Onekama Days – August 6th – August 9th including Pig Roast, Beer Tasting, Vintage Car Show, Onekama Days Arts and Crafts Fair, Fireworks, Kid's Fun Fish, Parade and Michael Trixx Magic Show.
- Fall Festival – October 9th
- Christmas in Onekama – November 20th
- Celebration of Lights – November 21st
- More information on all PLA Events on our website www.onekama.info or our Face Book Page 1,-Onekama, Michigan

Of course, the Portage Lake Association will follow Coronavirus guidelines based on Michigan Department of Health and CDC guidelines. This may result in limiting, modifying or cancelling events. Again, please check our website or Face Book Page for updates as warranted.

We look forward to seeing all of you again at all our fantastic events!

Julie Lapinski

The Portage Lake Association has implemented the following safety guidelines to attend our upcoming 2021 events:

Coronavirus concerns may result in limiting, modifying or cancelling an event. Requirements will be reviewed weekly and adjusted based on Michigan Department of Health and CDC orders.

Masks are required in all buildings that our events are held in. Masks are not required outdoors where social distancing can be maintained. We strongly recommend all guests wear a facemask to attend.

Follow all directional signage that accommodates for a socially distanced capable environment.

Be considerate of others around you and follow social distancing protocols.

Adherence to the guidelines will assist in our efforts to present a safe and successful event.

COVID-19 Exposure is an inherent risk in any public location where people are present: Guests should only attend after evaluating their own health risks.

The Portage Lake Association cannot guarantee you will not be exposed during your visit.

Note from the editor:

Do you have ideas, suggestions, and or articles you would like to see in the newsletter? Please feel free to contact me at jeanmariecapper@gmail.com. Deadline for the next newsletter will be 6/15. I also welcome feedback. Thank you.

Jean Capper

Two People You Should Know

By Mary Jo McElroy

When my husband and I first moved from Columbus, OH to Onekama, I was intrigued by the Petunia Parade. One day in winter 2016 I called the phone number listed in the PLA newsletter. Nancy Behring answered the call. It turned out that **Nancy Behring** – and her friend **Jewelee Franklin** – are the two marvelous Onekama women who manage getting volunteers lined up to plant, weed, and roll up the petunias each year. I reached out to them for their “stories.” Here is Jewelee’s story; Nancy’s will appear in the next edition of the PLA newsletter. I think you will enjoy them too.

Jewelee Franklin and her husband Ken moved from Fenton, MI about 21 years ago. They planned to build their dream home and live in “God’s Country”. Ken had retired from General Motors (he helped start the Saturn car corporation) and Jewelee was an office manager in an insurance agency for many years. Both loved their jobs but knew when it was time to retire. Between them, they have 5 children, 7 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Of course (per Jewelee), all are adorable!!!!

Jewelee recalls that she was introduced to the Petunia Parade by Kay Simons and Tammy Messner about 11 years ago. She stated, “I was honored to be asked to serve on the board. Of course, when part of the board, there are jobs to do.” When the job of calling volunteers came up, both Nancy Behring and Jewelee volunteered. Nancy took the east end of the Village and Jewelee took the West end. They divided Main Street in the village in the middle. Little did she realize how different things would change from one minute to the next!

Jewelee says, “I started out calling people but after a few years of trying to get hold of individuals, I found emailing was a better alternative for me.” It seems each year the list of volunteers changes as people get older and some are not able to do the work. When that happens, Jewelee seeks other helpers.

She strongly acknowledges that without the volunteers, we could not do the job. Lots of the volunteers become great friends. Case in point, one of Jewelee’s favorite volunteers is her husband Ken. He is always ready to help with anything and he is great to work with. One year he brought his portable drill and a large planting “bit” to pre-dig holes for the petunia transplants. Now there are four or five others who pre-drill holes on the day before planting so the entire Village route is ready to go. This cuts the time of planting by quite a bit.

One of Jewelee’s most heart-warming memories was the day it rained on petunia roll-up day. One of her dear friends had a large area to roll up. After Jewelee finished her as-



signed area, she caught sight of her friend. She was down on her knees – covered in mud -- rolling petunias for us. She told Jewelee she really got into any job she does and Jewelee can verify that!!

Make sure to say “hey” to Jewelee when you see her this year. Petunia planting day is Wednesday, May 26. If you are interested in volunteering to help, email me at maryjomcelroy@sbcglobal.net.

Community Fitness Center

It has been an exciting month of March at Onekama Schools as they reopened the community fitness center and walking track. Just prior to closing in March of 2020, several upgrades were in the works. And, since then more pieces of equipment have been installed and updated hours have been adopted.

Effective March 1 membership for the fitness center for one year for an individual is \$50; for a couple it’s \$75; for a family it’s \$100. Our hours of operation include Saturday and Sunday from 5am-8pm. These hours are year round. Our Monday through Friday hours are from 5am until 8am. We are closed to the public during the school day. Then, additional hours are from 3pm until 8pm. Again, these hours are year round. If there is a sporting event in the gym, the walking track is closed to the public. We offer a walking track only membership, for a fee of \$15 which covers the cost of the access card.

If you are interested in a walking track membership or a fitness center membership, please contact Mary Bergren in the office of the Superintendent at 231-889-4251 between 8am-3pm. Her email address is mbergren@manistee.org.

SAVE THE DATE PORTAGE LAKE ASSOCIATION FUNDRAISER IS BACK!

Presenting “Hollywood Who Dunit
Murder Mystery” Dinner

May 28th, 2021

Spring is in the air and with it comes the Portage Lake Association Annual Spring Fundraiser! The Portage Lake Association will be hosting a brand new and exciting event for the PLA’s first big fundraising event this year.

This year’s event will be ... dah, dah, dahhh..... A MURDER MYSTERY DINNER! An evening filled with fun, suspense and entertainment. Dress your best and join the fun for a quintessential “whodunit” thriller at the historic Portage Point Inn and Resort. You’ll enter into a night of mystery, intrigue and murder you are surely never to forget.

The Murder Mystery Company from Grand Rapids, Michigan will provide the entertainment. Dinner will be catered by Zupin Catering and Lahey Pub at Portage Point Inn will be hosting a cash bar.

For more information on tickets, please check the PLA Facebook page 1, -Onekama, Michigan or – at Inn at the Alpine – 8127 Chippewa Hwy. (US 31), Bear Lake, Michigan.

The cost of tickets is \$55.00/person in advance and \$60.00/person at the door.

SO, SAVE THE DATE – MAY 28TH, 2021, bring your friends and join us for what will be the event of the year!

If you would like more information, please contact Kevin Wolverton – 231-889-4281 – kevin@alpinemotorlodge.com or Julie Lapinski – 269-832-2392 – julielapinski@gmail.com

*subject to change due to Covid-19 restrictions



Local Business

We are looking forward to our seasonal businesses re-opening. We appreciate our year round businesses.

Retail: Handstand (seasonal), Onekama Supply (year around), Patina (seasonal), Anchor Designs Boutique (seasonal), Lakeside Treats (Seasonal open winter and summer), McBeth’s (seasonal), Black Cap Farm (seasonal), Appearance Salon (year around), and the EZ Market (year around). Food: Papa J’s (seasonal), Yellow Dog (seasonal), M22 Grill (year around), Lahey’s Pub (seasonal), and the Glenwood (seasonal).

Lodging: Green Buoy Resort, Portage Point Inn, Portage Lake Motel, The Inn at the Alpine, Travelers, Little Eden, and Camp Tosebo.

Real Estate: Century 21, Van Brocklin, Five Star Real Estate, and Portage Point Real Estate.

Laundry: Onekama Laundromat (They recently added charging stations for electric cars)

Marinas: Onekama Marine and Portage Point Inn

Some details:

Patina, Anchor Designs Boutique and Yellow Dog will be opening April 22.

-Looking for a job as a barista? Contact Bonnie at bonnie.mcpheeran@gmail.com

A summer time ritual in Onekama - Distinctive Dining Prepared to Your Liking in the restaurant or on the porch of the Glenwood restaurant on M-22 in Onekama- opening May 7th.

Papa J’s will be opening on May 15 after a major remodel and they will be offering jet ski rentals in addition to kayaks and paddle boards.

Friends of the Slipper: We are working towards a re-opening in June. No firm date yet, but we are excited to share another summer with our wonderful community! As you may already know, Onekama is celebrating its 150th anniversary of the Portage Lake Channel this year which marked the beginning of what we now call Onekama. The Blue Slipper came into being as Hans Hansen’s within a few years of that. We have searched but not uncovered many of the original facts of the first few decades of this famous local tavern. If anyone has access to stories, photos, memorabilia or such that would help us with early history, we would love to hear from you! We are also interested in developing an exact timeline of ownership from the 1870’s to today. We would appreciate any factual info that the community can provide so we can share this as part of our celebration of Onekama history. We look forward to serving this amazing community once again. Cheers! blueshoezoo@gmail.com

HAZARADOUS WASTE NOTICE



Mark your calendars. Saturday August 21st from 9am-1pm we will be hosting our annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection for 2021. The event will be held at the Manistee County Road Commission, 8946

Chippewa Highway, Bear Lake. To prevent traffic backups we are asking people to turn west on 8 Mile Rd. off of US 31 and follow the signage for the safest entry into the line up. We are suggesting a \$10 donation per household to help cover the rising costs of recycling hazardous waste safely.

For more details please click on <https://www.manisteedc2.org/hhw.html>. You can also call our office at 231-889-9666 ext. 3 with any questions you may have.



For safety reasons we ask that you remain in your vehicle at all times.

St. Joseph Food Pantry

St. Joseph Parish Fellowship Hall,
(Entrance located behind Church)
8380 Fifth Street
Onkama, MI 49675
Contact: Leslie Osborn, 231.864.2509
Email: foodpantry_2014@yahoo.com

There are always people in need of food, drink, clothes and kindness. There are routinely about 80 to 100 families who come to our St. Joseph Community Food Pantry each month seeking help. Families vary in size from 1 to 9. On average, we serve about 300–400 people every month. We spend about \$1,500 to \$1,700/month for food and drink. Donations from parishioners, other churches, civic organizations, individuals and others fund our activity.

The purpose of the food pantry is to respond to families and individuals who are residents of Manistee County, are low income and in need of food assistance.

Donations of money are really appreciated.



Main Office: (231) 757-3850 • North Office: (231) 398-9900
3091 N. US-31 Scottville, MI 49454 3021 Schoedel Rd, Manistee, MI 49660
Fertilization – Mowing – Seasonal Clean-up – Landscape Maintenance

Onekama Boosters

Tara Lyman President | Justin Sedelmaier Vice President | Amy Lyman Treasurer
Amber Sedelmaier Secretary | Norah Benson Trustee

Report from the Boosters:

We are hoping things start to get back to normal so we can open our concession stands up again. Covid sure has thrown a wrench in the past years funds for us so we are brainstorming on fun and safe fundraising ideas!

The Athletic Boosters are pleased to announce we have 2 events for Onekama Days this year. The 5K and the Prince & Princess of Onekama Contest. If you have any questions regarding the 5K please contact Justin Sedelmaier at j_sedelmaier@yahoo.com If you have questions regarding the Prince & Princess contest or Sponsorship for the 5K please contact Tara Lyman at tara_lyman27@hotmail.com

We are so excited for these events this summer

Tara Lyman, President



Prince & Princess of Onekama Contest



Open to anyone age 8 and under who considers Onekama their home & FREE to enter!

Please submit a photo of your child along with the registration form by Monday, July 5th to Onekama Athletic Booster President Tara Lyman tara_lyman27@hotmail.com

Stop in to Papa J's in Onekama from July 9th – August 7th to place your vote
S1 = 1 vote

The Prince and Princess with the most votes will be announced on the Onekama Athletic Boosters Facebook page on Saturday night and is invited to take part in the Onekama Days Parade on Sunday (must provide own truck/convertible for parade)!

Winners will receive a gift basket filled with goodies & all participants will receive a gift certificate to Papa J's!

Onekama Lions

ONEKAMA DAYS 5K RUN/WALK & 1 MILE FUN RUN Sponsorship Form

Cost \$100

(Check payable to Onekama School)

Due by July 2nd

Sponsorship includes business logo on the back of all 2021 5K t-shirts and business name announced prior to announcing race winners!

Business Name _____

Phone _____ Contact Name _____

Email _____ Logo Sent Yes or No

Please email business logo to tara_lyman27@hotmail.com.
You will receive a confirmation email once logo has been received.

For additional sponsorship questions please contact Tara Lyman 231-690-2438 or tara_lyman27@hotmail.com



Library

It was so great the other day to go into the library and actually look at and check out books! Check out the hours and go say hi to Laurel.



INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE (ISC) REPORT

Onekama Township/
Portage Lake Watershed Committee
March 10, 2021

State of the Lake Annual Report. As a follow up to the DRAFT Lake Management Report on February 9, 2021 the final will include some additions that were suggested. The review of the final report will be presented again soon and again to the community in late spring or early summer. We have discussed that the management plan should also review all options for the management of invasives. The lake manager will include some of these in her report. We have discussed the pros and cons of looking for a new lake manager. Interviews could begin this year for next year's management program.

Fishing concerns: Because of the growing concerns about the status of the fish in Portage Lake, we contacted Mark Tonello, Fisheries Biologist for the DNR who is in charge of scheduling inland lake fishing surveys. The last complete survey that was done on Portage was 2009 (available on line at Portagelakewatershed.com and Onekama.info) Because of varying reasons the DNR will not be doing a complete fishing survey on Portage soon.

However the DNR fisheries division (Scott Heintzelman) and the IRBOI (Zach Preuse) will be doing an early spring walleye and other fish survey on Portage Lake as soon as the ice is out. They will be setting nets and maybe doing some electro fishing. They will survey to assess the population of walleye in the lake. DNR stocks the lake and there is some natural reproduction. There will be collections and additional info on by-catch species yellow perch, northern pike and other game species. Opportunity came between the Fisheries at the DNR and LRB out of a shared interest in walleye lakes and walleye management. It is a huge help to CLMMU (Scott's unit) to have this survey conducted this spring to have a fish community survey on PL. Hopeful that the walleye survey helps answer at least some of the fisheries questions and concerns, Scott has been hearing as well as we have. Scott also has been communicating with staff at EGLE and Scott plans to meet with them soon to go over treatment apps and reports to address angler concerns.

Scott would be happy to update the PLWF and Onekama Community at some point this summer on these issues and the results of the survey work. So far the state employees cannot attend any public meetings even if they are outside, so we will have to wait and see what the format will be.

eColi sampling: At the present time, District 10 Health Department still plans to do the same number of sites that

we have done for the last 3 years. Starting in June doing 3 samples at 10 sites. Results of the last 3 years are posted on the Onekama township website.

plwf Watershed Report:

New officers and current council members: Armin Schlieffarth Chair, Ted Lawrence Vice Chair, Lara Treemore Spears Treasurer, Fran Wallace Secretary, Board members: Zach Prause, Al Taylor, Jim, Simons, Mary Reed, Bee Capper, Sharon Marie.

Clean Boats, Clean Water Grant: A Grant for just under \$3,000 has been received. Lara Treemore Spears completed the application for this grant and will be coordinating it. More information on the workplan for this grant will soon be available. It will include distribution of Info, displays at events, stencil the boat launch wash area etc.

SAW Grant final report

The management report that was received by the Township is available on the PLWF and Township websites. We will be using this information for grants and to identify follow up work from the development of the Storm Water Management Plan. (SWMP)

Stream Monitoring: The grant the Watershed received from 100 Women Who Care will be used this summer to support a Summer Intern from West Shore College. The first meeting with the student, faculty and watershed was held March 9. This project is directed by Lara Treemore Spears. Zach Pruaese from the IRBOI will also be a part of this committee. Budget is being developed and an outline of ideas for a stream study by this internship. Project will include such activities as to: organize current stream info, Field work to verify stream conditions, Analyze and summarize info, outreach programs, storyboards, analysis etc

Banner: You will see a new watershed banner this year at the M22 turn near the Blue Slipper. In 2019 the old one was destroyed in a storm. It will be hung with the PLA Concerts in the Park banner.

The Nature Conesrvatory Trail: More information to follow about this trail off Herkelwrath in Onekama. . Boot brushes to be installed by the PLWF. Watch for more information about the activities planned for May 27, 2021.

Mary Reed, Chair Invasive Species Committee
(Jim Simons, Ted Lawrence, Zach Prause, Chuck Reed)



Fish Survey in Portage Lake

Did you notice strange lights on Portage Lake at night and boats setting and tending nets?

It is not an alien invasion! It was the Michigan DNR and The Little River Band of Ottawa doing a fish survey.

DETAILS:

A three week fisheries survey of Portage Lake began on March 15, 2021 and continued for 2 more weeks. This 3 week fisheries survey was done cooperatively by the Michigan DNR Fisheries Division and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. They focused on walleyes but also collected information on other fish species.

The last fish study was done in 2009 - here is a link to that report. Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources and Environment 2009-82

Status of the Fishery Resource Report on Portage Lake: <https://8a699dd0-4d22-4f80-ac28-71784a0b8c4d.filesusr.com...>

UPDATE:

“We have completed the survey on Portage Lake. We pulled our nets on Thursday afternoon and did our recapture run on Friday night with two crews (TCU and Little River Band). We marked over 400 walleye during the marking phase and saw 15 recaps during that time. Unfortunately, we only saw 1 recap in our recapture phase out of the 75 fish we caught between the two crews. Most of the walleye we saw were pretty large and appeared to be Great Lakes fish, so it’s possible they weren’t hanging around long and that’s why we saw such low recap numbers.”

Emily Martin with the Tribal Coordination Unit was the lead on this survey effort and she will let me know when all the data has been tabulated and entered into our Fish Collection System. At that time I should be able to add more information about other species that were captured along with general observations. Age and growth information and the survey analysis will not happen until at least next winter when biologists and technicians are back in the office.

Also, Portage Lake will be stocked with 53,000 spring fingerling walleye again this year. Last year we were unable to propagate walleye for stocking due to CoVid restrictions.



Manistee County Sport Fishing Association

Thanks to all who participated in our 3rd annual Ice Fun Fish. Tim Fogarty won the pike division with 5.80#, Quinn Matthews was second with 5.45. Tyler Luke Fogarty won the perch division with .85# and Jim Johnson took second with .65#. Thank you, to all our sponsors that help make this event possible!! (sadly the kids portion had to be cancelled) Thanks to all the sponsors who made this event possible: Lakeside Treats & Bait; Papa J’s Ice Cream & Eatery; Berkeley Fishing; Boxer Baits; Onekama Marine; Portage Lake Association.

Committed to promoting the fishery in Manistee County, the MCSFA hosts several events to bring members together throughout the year. Kicking off each season with our Spring Banquet for members followed by the Free Kids Fish day and Tournament Weekend: Ladies Classic Pro/Am and Budweiser Pro/Am. To keep members engaged, we host two summer long events Salmon Derby and the new FUN FISH event.

2021 Events:

- Small Boat Big Fish Tournament** – May 1
 - Annual Membership Spring Banquet** – Postponed
 - Salmon Derby** – Memorial Day – Labor Day
 - FUN FISH** – June 2 – August 25
 - Kids Fish** – June 23
 - Ladies Classic** – June 25
 - Budweiser PRO/AM** – June 26-7
- Come and Join Us!



Summary of the ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

February 17, 2021

Special meeting – PUBLIC HEARING – PUD Application
/Tamminga

Acting Chair Wallace convened the Public Hearing on the application for a PUD in District SUR as submitted by applicant Tamminga. Public present “virtually” Jennifer Bradford, Zachary Sompels, Mike Szokala and Ed Kriskywicz.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF PUBLIC HEARING –

Application for a PUD in District SUR has been submitted by applicant Tamminga. Ms. Tamminga desires to construct a family compound of three dwellings, a common building, and an accessory structure on a 26 +/- acre parcel to the SW of the terminus of 11 mile road in Onekama Township. A significant portion of the parcel will be a dedicated conservation area protected in perpetuity by recorded easement, providing the public benefit of open space. The conservation area is not intended for public use.

Public comment –Letter from Jennifer and Ed Bradley inserted into record.

Ed Krskywicz of SDI representing the Tammingas stated that the plans call for a low impact development, 5 structures only with a large conservation area. The Conservation Resource Area will be privately held and language is needed to make the Conservation Resource Area last in perpetuity. A survey needs to be completed and recorded. All legal costs to be paid by applicant.

Sompels stated that PUD language in the ordinance states that no structures may be built in the greenbelt area.

Krskywicz stated that his clients want to work with the county and township.

Proposal is not complete.

Motion to table the Tamminga application pending receipt of completed site plan, legal description of conservation area specifics, and engineering data required by the PC before proceeding was passed.

Township Planning Commission

The April 2021 scheduled monthly meeting of the Onekama Twp. Planning Commission will not be held due to lack of a quorum.

The regular monthly meeting of the OTPC scheduled for May 20, 2021 will be held. The PC will likely also be holding a Special Meeting / Public Hearing in early May to consider the pending request for a PUD in zoning district S.U.R. (Tamminga), *dependent on whether all documents and data previously requested by the OTPC have been received.*

If held, that Special Meeting shall also have the agenda item of election of officers for 2021.

Summary of the ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP PARKS & REC COMMITTEE MEETING JANUARY 21, 2021 MINUTES

VILLAGE UPDATE - Andrea Arthur: New trustee, Susan Halloran to be sworn in March 2021. One additional trustee seat still open with the Village looking for interested residents who want to serve as a trustee. Budget planning now underway. Parks recognizes the Village Park jetty needs repair work.

Working with Portage Lake Watershed Forever on Clean Boats Clean Water Program. Investigating EGLE Grant opportunity for possible rain garden and aggregation of collected water data then making it useful to public. OneKama OneFifty Celebration was discussed.

ONEKAMA SCHOOLS UPDATE – Gary Madden: Face-to-face learning number of students has increased and remote learning student numbers are decreasing. Restrictions are still in place to prohibit students from participating in civic projects. Sports programs are still on hold. Working on a program to evaluate student progress via in-class and virtual learning and how to make sure they are meeting all academic progress standards.

WATERSHED UPDATE - Mary Reed: Looking at filing 501(c)3 organization status and reviewing current insurance policy. Working on setting organization priorities for 2021 and consideration of grant opportunities. Supporting Point of Sale Inspection discussions with regards to inspections of septic systems when homes or businesses are sold. Discussing possible support of the 50 Paddle Parade. Will conduct a 3 year study as to which products will best safely treat the invasive species of hybrid milfoil. Investigating the possible demo of portable boat cleaning units that are positioned at lake boat launch sites.

PARKS FIVE YEAR PLAN – Leann Burger: Twp Parks and Rec Master Plan is up for renewal. The Township needs a new 5 year plan to be eligible for grant applications. Much discussion about how to proceed as an approved 5 year plan is required by DNR for grants. The DNR requires a very in-depth advanced management plan for each park, beyond what the committee has completed thus far. The used of advanced technology tools and extensive information requirements are beyond the scope of the Committee’s ability. The Committee recommends contracting Gosling-Czubak for assistance as they are very experienced in this type of plan development, community inputs and obtaining approvals. This is typically a one year process. Rich will get an estimate from Gosling-Czubak to lead our committee effort. Mary Reed offered to share information gathered by the Watershed as it may contain some of the information needed. The more information we can gather, the lower the cost of a professional plan. Gary asked to evaluate what the cost

benefit of the approved 5 year plan. Discussion about the opportunity to create a 10 year plan. This can be discussed after a Gosling-Czubak proposal is obtained. Without grants, the Township does not have sufficient monies to continue to improve parks, perhaps just maintain. Al suggested that it may be possible to get public support for a Parks Millage to insure that there is funding for continued parks maintenance and improvements. Al will check to see if there are any grants to help with the cost of developing a new 5 year plan.

NORTH POINT PARK UPDATE - Paul Mueller/Michelle Ervin: The North Point Management Plan was updated and submitted to Leann. Donated native trees and shrubs from the Conservation District sale will need to be planted in April. Michelle will order the park entrance Welcome Information Sign, which was approved by the Township Board. Steve Hall will be asked to install. Hope to have the sign up to recruit volunteers to plant trees and shrubs in April and native plants in May. ATV use in the park is not allowed, Dave Meister will follow up on ATV use and what steps need to be taken to advise the public that ATV use is prohibited in the park. Invasive Scots Pines that have fallen will be checked out by Dusty in February. Trees should be removed if they are impeding on native trees and piled strategically to create habitat. Volunteers will be needed to keep the savannah area free of invasive trees and plants. Michelle will promote Friends of North Point Park in March through Facebook and park's new Welcome Information Sign. Volunteers only until a Friends of Parks fiduciary is established. A \$100 donation for North Point Park was generously made by Dr. Siwek. Michelle will write a thank you letter.

LANGLAND PARK UPDATE – Rich Lapinski/Al Taylor: Becket & Raider, original engineers of the project, has submitted an engineering proposal to address parking lot water runoff which has washed out the UA access to the beach via the north boardwalk. UA access is mandated by the Explore the Shores Grant which funded the project. The Spicer Group was requested to submit a proposal. Will review both proposals and decide on next steps for a solution. There is a new Township Ordinance which addresses the property boundaries of the park, beach access via Lake Michigan water level definitions and penalties for park use violations.

GLEN PARK UPDATE – Rich Lapinski: The park is useable during the winter months with caution as downed trees are not limiting path use. The recently rejected DNR Passport Rec Grant to renovate and upgrade Glen Park to UA will be targeted for reapplication 2022. There were 59 grant applications requesting \$6.5m with 18 awards totaling \$1.9m. Our application was 5 points short of an award ending at number 19. Will work with Gosling-Czubak to look 3 different project scope and cost options prior to re-

application in 2022. The fallen tree demolished north gazebo will need to be removed in the spring. This removal is beyond the scope of Steve Hall's ability. Will need to seek out contractor who can do this considering access down into the creek valley is a challenge. The rebuilding of the north gazebo is on hold due to increased cost in materials. Will revisit the Swidorski Bros. proposal to rebuild this gazebo this spring.

KAYAK LAUNCH UPDATE – Al Taylor: The DNR approved Swidorski Bros. to proceed with the project starting with the procurement of the Kayak Launch Equipment. They were the successful bidder of 5 bidders. There will be an increase in project cost due to project timing delays, increased cost of materials and increased cost for shoreline protection. This cost will be covered by the Parks & Rec Budget. However, grants and donations will be pursued to possibly mitigate these increased costs. The Spicer Group will be the project managers.

PLA UPDATE - Al Taylor: The 2021 Budget will be reviewed and approved at their February meeting. A full slate of traditional activities are planned for 2021. Near and Farr Friends will be delayed to starting in the Fall 2021. Any changes due to Covid-19 restrictions will be addresses as required.

150th ONEKAMA CELEBRATION – Al Taylor/Michelle Ervin: The OneKama OneFifty logo project is almost ready for voting. Michelle will email the Committee with the planned events next week.

PARKS & REC BUDGET - Rich Lapinski: Rich will share with committee members a spreadsheet of current YTD budget year spending and a first cut proposal for the next budget year, April 2021- March 2022. YTD the parks maintenance and projects spending are under budget, with consideration to fund the increased costs for the Kayak Launch Project.

FRIENDS of the PARKS – Al Taylor: The Manistee County Community Foundation will administer a Friends of Onekama Parks account for \$250/year or 3-5% of income. This was supported by the Committee. Need to review with the Twp Board. The Onekama website and Facebook can publicize the opportunity to support the parks.

Committee Members:

Rich Lapinski-Chairman

Michelle Ervin-Secretary

Al Taylor-Township Trustee

Andrea Arthur-Village of Onekama Trustee

Gary Madden-Onekama Schools

Mary Reed-Portage Lake Watershed Forever

Leann Burger, Paul Mueller and Kevin Hughes.

What Is The Watershed Plan?

A community-driven effort, work began in 2006 to develop the **Portage Lake Watershed Forever Plan**. Over 50 individuals, organizations, agencies, and businesses signed the PLWF Partnership Agreement; in 2008 the plan was approved by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. It has five specific goals:

- 1 **PUBLIC HEALTH** - To ensure that water is free of pathogens and/or toxic chemicals;
- 2 **AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM** - To protect the integrity of essential habitats;
- 3 **Water-Based Recreation** - To protect and enhance recreational opportunities;
- 4 **Natural & Cultural Assets** - To invest in land-based resources that preserve, enhance and promote the watershed;
- 5 **Local Management & Implementation Institutions** - To establish mechanism that provide sustained local leadership and community engagement to implement the plan.

What You Can Do To Help . . .

- Plant native vegetation along streams, waterfront and in yards. Use safe shoreline landscaping practices.
- Use compost and other natural soil enhancers in gardens and lawns. Avoid using fertilizers and pesticides - especially along shorelines.
- Understand the role that wetlands play in keeping the watershed viable. Protect them and contribute to efforts to do so.
- Dispose of chemicals, paints, oils and other toxic substances safely and according to local ordinances.
- Join and contribute to the Watershed Council. Participate in strengthening the organization to assure the wise use and enjoyment of the watershed for now and for future generations.



P. O. Box 299
Onkama, MMI 49675



Facts About Our Watershed

The Portage Lake Watershed covers 24.6 square miles and includes parts of Manistee, Bear Lake, Brown and Onkama Townships as well as the village of Onkama.

Portage Lake has a surface area of 2,116 acres — 13.4% of the total area of the watershed. It is a natural lake formed by glaciers and fed by 22 streams. In two areas, its maximum is up to 60 feet with an average depth of 19 feet.



Why Do Watersheds Matter?

Everyone lives in a watershed. We depend on the water that flows through watersheds for everything from drinking water to farming to recreation. Consequently, it is important that we understand how what we do has a significant impact:

- Rainwater that flows across paved roads and parking lots before reaching a stream is likely to warm up and pick up heavy metals and oil from the pavement. Warm or polluted run-off will degrade habitat for fish and insects in Portage Lake and its feeder streams.
- Animal waste and bacteria from yards or livestock can wash downstream to the lake and other areas in the watershed and lead to beach closures and other health concerns.
- Fertilizers used on lawns and farms can also run off into nearby streams and storm drains. The nutrients in fertilizers can trigger algae blooms in the lake and reduce oxygen levels for fish and other marine life.
- Conserving wetlands and natural vegetation along the lake and streams helps filter some of the run-off and protects water quality throughout the watershed.

For more information about the Portage Lake Watershed Forever Plan, events and activities, how to help, options to donate and links to related information, go to <http://onekama.info/watershed/>



ONEKAMA OneFifty

1871 - 2021

Sesquicentennial Celebrations

This year marks the 150th anniversary of two special events: the opening of the Channel from Portage Lake to Lake Michigan, and the creation of Onekama's post office and Village.

We have an exciting slate of activities to celebrate these historical events. Below is the tentative schedule. **All events are subject to change.** Up-to-date information can be found at the ONEKAMA OneFifty page on the **Onekama.info** website.

- **Lions' Community Dinner & Settlers and Shorelines Celebration - Friday, May 14th, 5:30pm, Onekama Village Park.** Kick-off the 2021 Sesquicentennial celebrations as the Onekama Lions' Club hosts a fun filled dinner with historical presentations on "Settlers and Shorelines".
- **Resorts & Camps We Have Known and Loved: Then and Now - Wednesday, June 16th, 10:30am.** Historical Lecture
- **History and Evolution of the Ecosystem of North Point Park - Friday, June 18th, 1:00 – 2:30pm.** Stroll through North Point Park learning its unique history.
- **Onekama Block Party "Then & Now" - Thursday, July 8th, 4:00–9:00pm.** A family-friendly event along Main Street with activities, entertainment and great business promotions. "Then & Now" displays historical artifacts & information in various locations. A self-guided Onekama historical walking tour pamphlet will be launched and available.
- **Channel Dedication - Saturday, July 17th.** Join us in the official dedication of the newly completed renovations of the Portage Lake Channel.
- **ONEKAMA OneFifty Regatta - Saturday, July 17th, 2:00–3:30pm.** Celebrate the re-dedication of the channel by welcoming big sailboats back for a big race on Portage Lake. Keel boat racers are invited to join the fun.
- **Walking Tour of Historical Homes on the Point - Wednesday, July 21st, 10:30am.**
- **Portage Lake Yacht Club Open House & History Presentation - Friday, July 30th, 12:00-3:00pm.** The Portage Lake Yacht Club invites the public to visit the yacht club to learn about its history on Portage Lake.
- **ONEKAMA OneFifty Sunfish Invitational - Saturday, July 31st, 3:00–5:00pm.** The Portage Lake Yacht Club invites local sunfish sailors to a race on Portage Lake.

- **Walking Tour of the Portage Point Resort - Saturday, July 31st, 6:30–7:30pm**
- **Scavenger Hunt - August 6th & August 7th.** This year's Scavenger Hunt will reveal amazing quirks and strange snippets of Onekama's history hidden in our parks.



• **Manistee County Fair - August 17 – 21st.** Manistee County Fairgrounds. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the Manistee County Fair. Special historical exhibits will be displayed. A **Lumberjack Show** will commemorate the logging history of our area.

• **150 Paddle Parade - Sunday, September 12th, 9:00am.** In honor of the 150th Anniversary of the opening of the channel between Portage Lake and Lake Michigan, help us assemble 150 paddle crafts in a parade on Portage Lake. Kayaks, canoes, and SUP boards welcome.

- **Onekama Gala - Thursday, October 7th, 5:30–8:00pm, Portage Point Resort.** The closing event of the anniversary celebrations features cocktails, heavy appetizers, and a special presentation by Loreen Niewenhuis, author and adventurer, on Lake Michigan's natural and human history.
- Art Auctions will include pieces by Alaina Trout and David Westerfield that portray Onekama and its history.
- Esteemed local author, **John Wemlinger** will publish his latest novel **The Cut**, available by May 2021 to tie in with the 150th anniversary. In this gripping historical novel, Alvin and Lydia literally bump into one another in the summer of 1870 and fall in love. But Alvin is an Onekama farmer and Lydia is the privileged daughter of a Manistee engineer aligned with northern Michigan's powerful lumber industry. The two interests are at odds over a dam powering an Onekama sawmill. In the spring of 1871, the farmers dig a narrow, shallow ditch intending to relieve the flooding caused by the dam. None of them foresee the force of nature that will rage when the bulwark holding the pent up waters of Portage Lake is torn back. The Cut changes forever the way of life around the lake, and with it, Alvin and Lydia's relationship.

ONEKAMA OneFifty is accepting **donations**. Make checks payable to **Onekama Township** with "Onekama 150" on the memo line. Mail to Onekama Township, PO Box 458, Onekama MI 49675.

Keep up to date on the ONEKAMA OneFifty page at **Onekama.info**



Questions? Contact ONEKAMA One Fifty at our email onekama150@gmail.com.



Portage Lake Association
Summer 2021
MONDAY NIGHT

Concerts in the Park

- June 28** **Miriam Pico and David Chown**
Pop, Light Rock, Show Tunes & Blues, Masterfully Done
- July 5** **Shrock Brothers Band, featuring Madcat**
Roots-Blues-Jazz-Rock Family Band, featuring
Grammy-winner Peter Madcat Ruth on Harmonica
- July 12** **Elvis Tribute by Jake Slater**
You'll know that it's true ELVIS LIVES!
- July 19** **Benzie Playboys**
The best in Authentic Cajun Music to clap and dance to
- July 26** **Ben Traverse**
Folk Roots from the Past, Forward Thinking and Fully Present
- August 2** **Peter, Paul & Mary Remembered**
Jim Hawley, Doc & Donna Probes re-create folk magic
- August 9** **Michael Trixx**
The rockin' magic show for kids of all ages.
- August 16** **Wally Pleasant**
An authentic Everyman Folk Singer sharing Wit and Wisdom
- August 23** **Awesome Distraction**
Acoustic Sound with Beautifully Blended Voices

Concerts start at 7 PM in the **Onekama Village Park*** and are **free**
Donations are welcome and encouraged.

Bring lawn chairs, blankets, picnic baskets, children, etc.

Visit our Website at www.onekama.info

and Facebook: 1, - Onekama, Michigan
and Portage Lake Association, Onekama, MI

*Rain Venue: Onekama Community Schools Cafetorium.

**Schedule subject to COVID changes and restrictions.*

The Portage Lake Garden Club does a great job in keeping the public gardens of Onekama looking beautiful. They also get involved in other ways to help our community. Check out this article from the most recent PLGC newsletter:

A few months ago, the Onekama Park and Recs Committee contacted the PLGC to see if we were interested in a community project to promote pollinators in the parks. We thought that was right up our alley, so we agreed to pitch in. Here are some details:

What? It is called Pollinator BioBlitz 2021. It includes one session of group-guided observation of plant material, followed by a week of open individual observations. Observations will be documented using photographs taken with a smart phone.

Who? The guided observation day includes leaders from the Manistee Conservation District (MDC), volunteers from the Portage Lake Garden Clubs, members of Onekama Parks and Recreation Committee, and Onekama Consolidated Schools' (OCS) from the science class.

When? Some date TBD in September 2021 based on OCS and MCD availability.

Where? Areas of observation will be determined af-

ter a review of the watershed map by Mary Reed. A variety of ecosystems should be included.

Why? This is part of a national initiative for people to find and document pollinator friendly plants. It is a campaign to make the most observations, engage the most people, and promote pollinator awareness and education.

How? Each participant will use his/her personal smart phone to download an app (called iNaturalist) then take photos to identify plants in our environment.



SAVE THE DATE !!!

ONEKAMA DAYS ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

HELD IN THE VILLAGE OF ONEKAMA ON MAIN STREET

In the past, we have had a craft show at the Fall Festival in October. This year we will be having the craft show during Onekama Days and not the Fall Festival. If you are interested in participating, we will email you a form to complete at a later date. At this time we just wanted you to be aware of the change of dates and to see if you might be interested in participating this year.

This event is sponsored by the Portage Lake Association. If you have any questions please feel free to contact either :

Julie Lapinski 269-832-2392 juliepalinski@gmail.com
 Debby Major 231-887-5905 dajmajor@gmail.com

Onekama Village Council

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Roger Burger

president@villageofonekama.org

CLERK

Ruth Hudson

clerk@villageofonekama.org

TREASURER

Nikki Jach

treasurer@villageofonekama.org

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

County Planning Director

(231) 723-6041

planning@manisteecountymi.gov

TRUSTEES

Ralph Drumm

Rod Hudson

Andrea Arthur

Suzanne Schwing

FIRE CHIEF

Lawrence Hrachovina

fire@onekamatwp.org

(231) 889-4240 (fire building)

SPECIAL NOTICE:

There are currently 2 vacancies on Village Board and 1 vacancy on Village Planning Commission. Village Residents interested should call the clerk 231-889-3171.

SPECIAL NOTICE:

The Onekama Village Council will be meeting remotely for 2021 regular council meetings.

The dial -in- number is : 1 (425) 436-6332

The access code is: 7645437

Meeting will start at the regular time, 7p.m.

For additional information as to the agenda, please call, 231-889-3171.

Ruth Hudson, Onekama Village Clerk

SPECIAL NOTICE:

The Village Office Planning Commission will meet February 8, 2021. Click here for the agenda.

SPECIAL NOTICE:

The Village Office is open by appointment only; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9-2. Masks are required to enter.

VILLAGE OF ONEKAMA REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, March 17, 2021

Summary of the Draft Regular Council Meeting Minutes for the Village of Onekama on 3/17.

ZONING: President Burger reported the Village ordinance re: FEMA is still being worked on. The amending of the current fence ordinance, with recommendations from the planning commission, will be discussed at the March meeting for possible action. President Burger asked the board to be prepared to take action. Copies of the current fence ordinance and proposed recommendations from the planning board will be given to the board to review.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Next meeting April 5th. Amendments to the sign ordinance were given to the board to review.

SEWER

--grant work continues

--prospective buyer of the former Linebecks (wine store) building inquired about putting in a dog grooming business. There was a question re: conflict with sewer ordinance S-5 which has to do with what can and can't be put into our system. There was a concern with pesticides from the business going into the system. The owner of the business explained that only natural and organic cleaners are used on the dogs. Some discussion followed, with the board members having their questions and concerns answered. It was decided that there was no violation of this ordinance and this business was welcomed into the village. The sewer committee will meet to determine the equivalents that will be charged. Paul and Jane Mueller (former owners/Linebecks) thanked the council for their support of this sale.

PARKS AND THE FARR CENTER

Parks

--Manistee County-Wide Parks & Rec Plan Resolution/for approval

This was discussed at the February meeting. Trustee Arthur, who is the Onekama Village rep on the Community Parks and Rec Committee talked about the resolution and recommends the passage of the resolution with a contribution of \$500. She informed the board that the TWP also supports this plan.

Farr Center:

--Trustee Schwing reported receiving a call, requesting the use of FC for an exercise class. Michigan Act 254 prohibits meeting until a cleaning plan is in place. A plan will be worked on to hopefully open soon. **CEMETERY:**
--quiet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

--Clean-Water-Clean Boat Program

President Burger and Trustee Drumm will be meeting with Lara Spears to finalize the details of this project. See the January minutes for exact details.

--Short Term Rental Ordinance

After some discussion it was decided that the board needs to address this. Copies of the Onekama Township Short Term Rental Ordinance will be given to the board to review. A public hearing will be needed but this can't happen until covid restrictions are lifted. But in the meantime the board can discuss and familiarize themselves with the situation in the village.

Summary of the draft Village of Onekama Planning Commission Meeting Minutes-3/1/21

Table Overlay District to next meeting.

Discussion about signage will present to council for discussion and approval.

Park & Caroline Gilmore: Stated that all utilities have been put underground and moved to the other side of the Blue Slipper for the Food Truck as instructed to do.

Summary of the Onekama Consolidated School Minutes of the February 8, 2021

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

a. Mid Year Staff Review (Hagen) -- Hagen updated the Trustees on the evaluation process, the rubrics we use (5Dplus), the 30 categories used to evaluate teaching staff (both in person and online), the 1 of 3 walkthroughs are complete, no assistance like in the past, etc.

b. Identify Board Scholarship Committee - Madden, Wisniski, and Hrachovina volunteered to serve as this year's Scholarship Committee. Bergren will email all Trustees a copy of the Scholarship Application.

c. COVID-19 Learning Plan/Two Way Communication/COVID cases -- Hagen updated the Trustees as required by the state. January had 97% attendance and this is a good percentage. Wednesday is count day. We did drop two students who we were unable to make contact with. Discussion regarding summer school and Hagen may be looking for a high school, middle school, upper elementary, and lower elementary teacher to assist students with credit recovery, math and reading. Discussion regarding the grading system being used compared to last March when we only issued credit or no credit. Hagen has lowered the passing grade of a E to 50% compared to 60%. It is her belief that it may give these students some hope of passing and continuing their education. Hagen did explain her rationale for closing school for 10 days citing no subs available, several teachers being exposed, and erring on the cautious side, she closed the school.

d. March Board Training Dates - Koon has been in contact with our trainer from MASB and no face to face training may take place until after March 31st. We will plan for training in April.

Note: When minutes say draft, it means that they haven't been approved by the relevant body and are subject to corrections. To get the full versions, visit Onekama.info for all but the School Board minutes, which can be found at ocs.manistee.org.

Ever wondered what's the difference between the PLA and the PLWF?

The Portage Lake Association's mission statement is: Making our community a more enjoyable place to live, work and play is our purpose. We are non-political and concentrate on smaller, achievable projects to build our momentum. From summer concerts in the park, bright street side flowers and stunning fireworks to a picture-perfect fall festival complete with scarecrows - The Portage Lake Association of Onekama makes this possible.

The Portage Lake Watershed Forever website states: The implementation of the Portage Lake Watershed Forever Plan continues. Fighting Portage Lake's invasive species was the hot-button issue in 2009. A web page devoted to fighting invasive species on Portage Lake is available on this website. Our community-based plan was created to ensure the wise use and enjoyment of the Portage Lake Watershed now and for future generations. We hope you will join us in our efforts.

Both groups work hard to make Onekama a better place to live and work. The PLA focuses on providing community based events, like Onekama Days, the Petunia parade and a variety of other events. The PLWF works on keeping the Portage Lake Watershed viable. Please consider joining both!



Information about the Township

Meetings may be posted on the Township Bulletin Board, website onekama.info, post office and in the local newspaper. MEETING TIMES HAVE CHANGED-visit the onekama.info website for more information

TOWNSHIP OFFICE

PHONE: (231) 889-3308

FAX: (231) 889-5587

FIRE DEPARTMENT: (231) 889-7014

In the event of an emergency, please dial 911.

E-mail:

Supervisor

clerk@onekamatwp.org

treasurer@onekamatwp.org

Assessor

Zoning: 231-723-6041,

planning@manisteecountymi.gov

TRASH DAY IS SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2020 8 AM to 12 NOON

Summary of the draft Onekama Township Board Meeting March 10, 2021

CLERK'S REPORT received by Johnson. Revenue & Expense report and the Trial Balance report was distributed. Johnson and Bradford had discussed the sequence of running payroll and have come up with a bi-weekly payroll schedule for all Township employees starting April 1st. Eric Sullivan, from the Veterans Counsel for Manistee County, has requested putting a food bin at Onekama Township. General consensus of the Township Board has agreed that it is agreed upon that the bin can be placed at the Township. Annual Trash Day will be set for June 12; Johnson will let Republic Services know.

TREASURER'S REPORT received for all fund balances from Bradford. Tax Collection amounts were reported. An update was given on how the Cash Receipting program was working. Currently, Bradford is working to implement a credit card acceptance (over the counter not via phone) and online payment program.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comment received regarding resignation of previous treasurer.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cynthia Wotila/Mike Figliomeni representing Michael Olejniczak Property on 8 Mile Rd Notice of Zoning Violation. Discussion with Mike Figliomeni regarding the property and a letter from Township Attorney Tom Grier's recommendation to the Board. Johnson to send the letter from Tom Grier to Cynthia Wotila (via email).

Village of Onekama's Short Term Rentals: Consensus of the Township Board is that there is no interest in getting involved in the Village's area rental units.

Sarah Armstrong, interest in purchasing Township Property near 8881 Lakeside Ave. The Township has a drawing from Sarah on the location of the property and will get a purchase price/value of the property and get back with Sarah to proceed ahead.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

STREET VACATING:

The Township will not oppose vacating Avenue C Between Property 11-410-089-00 and 11-415-008-00 at no expense to the Township, and any attorney fees incurred to the Township to be paid by Bueker.

The Township will not oppose vacating Sunnyside Ave adjacent to property number 51-11-290-340-01, 2618 Lakeview Rd, Onekama MI 49675, [Portage Park Addition Lots 9, 10 + W 15 ft of Lot 11 Block 90. Also that Part of Outlot 6 Lying SWL'y of & adj to lot 10 & W 15' of Lot 11 Block 90, Exc Rds & Rd ext Across Outlot 6] from Home Property lot line at Lakeview Rd to the lot line at the back of the property; at no expense to the Township, and all attorney fees incurred by the Township to be paid by the Kramigs.

FIRE/RESCUE: Report by Assistant Chief Rob Johnson. The Fire Department had 4 Fire Runs (1 MA AFD, 13 Rescue Runs (1 MA BLFD). Joel Faber has completed Fire Fighter II Class. Anthony March and Megan Faber are currently in EMR Class. EMS is covering Onekama Sporting events when possible. The grant application for the boat has been denied due to program competition. The Fire/Rescue Department extends its sincere thank you to the Township Board for its working partnership and appreciation, by purchasing and distributing duty jackets for each member. It truly is wonderful having a great working relationship.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: Report received from Katie Mehl at the Manistee County Planning Department.

ASSESSOR: Report received from Ginny Martz. The 2021 real property database was submitted electronically to Equalization on February 17th. The notices of assessment change were mailed on February 22nd. The 2021 personal property database was submitted to Equalization on February 24th and mailed on February 24th. The Board of Review was held on March 8th and 10th. Forms L-4037, State Tax Commission Assessment Roll Certification and forms L-4021, Assessment Roll Changes Worksheets, were signed on March 1st. The Organizational meeting for the March Board of Review was held on March 2nd at 9:00 am. The 2021 assessment roll was presented along with the land values and ECF's. The new tax roll descriptions for the new splits and combinations have been entered in the computer. All of the deeds, property transfer affidavits, PRE

and rescind affidavits have been processed.

PARKS & REC: Lapinski gave an update on all of the parks. A budget for 2021/2022 was presented to the Board and discussed in detail. Lapinski questioned the Public Access Posts that were purchased and put into storage. Parks & Rec shall survey and prioritize all of the township road ends. After this is complete survey accordingly and put up the public access posts at that time. Possibly doing 4-5 per year, based on the cost.

PLA: Report given by Al Taylor. Concerts will be scheduled for this summer. Onekama Days will happen this year. Petunias will be planted in May. Fall Festival will have some changes.

INVASIVE SPECIES/WATERSHED: Update given by Mary Reed. Discussion of pros and cons of looking for a new lake manager took place. Because of the growing concerns about the status of the fish in Portage lake, a survey will be getting done. The DNR and LRBOI will be doing an early spring walleye survey in the lake as soon as the ice disappears. Discussion on what has been going on with the watershed. New officers and current council members: Armin Schlieffarth, Lara Treemore Spears, Fran Wallace, Ted Lawrence, Zach, Al, Mary, Bee, Sharon. Clean Boats, Clean Water Grant for 4 just under \$3,000 has been received.

Summary of Portage Lake Harbor Commission Minutes 4/1/21

Great Lakes Basin Report: Submitted by Frank English: He gave a brief note, Discussed progress/lack of progress on the Invasion of Asian Carp from Illinois. Both Michigan and Illinois DNR are addressing the situation and nothing has changed. Frank then stated he would get A copy of the Great Lakes Basin Report, publication to each member via e-mail.

HMTF-WRRADA; by Chuck May, Since Covid-19, The US Government is still funding monies for Inland Waterways, through current taxes and use of \$9 billion hidden funds which were found and will be used in the next few years. Some of the 9 Billion is earmarked for various harbors. US Corp Engineers Navigation O & M—107.62 Million, plus 103.24 million [red high- lighted harbors] Total \$210.86 million Chuck displayed a sheet depicting the primary dredging, and secondary in [red] harbors.

Marie Strum USARMY Corp, is hosting a Shallow Draft Stakeholder Meeting April 9th at 10:00am that we as a commission need to listen in on. We will meet at Township Hall. Chuck emphasized that we as the Harbor commission need to let Marie know we are still active.

New Member: discussion: Jim Simons asked Ted Bromely, He declined but was honored to be asked. Possibilities: Kevin Hughes, Arnie Johnson, Jim Pomeranski, Doug May. The Cut Celebration on July 17th 2021: 150 committee asked the Harbor Commission to plan the channel dedication. Simons will check with 150 committee.

Dave Herweyer of King Construction offered to order and purchase a memorial coin, 1 side= 150 years celebration, other side the original map of Portage lake connected to Lake Michigan.

Simons will check with ISO committee to see if 500 coins will be enough.

Chuck suggested: pontoon boats moving back-n-forth through channel with banners on each signifying representatives and people of significance to the celebration, with community members lining both North and South piers waving flags etc.

This is a go for 2021, or to postpone to 2022. Frank English said he would talk to Jeff Dontz, Manistee County Commissioner for Onekama, to see if we can physically hold a party with over 1500-2000 persons this summer during Covid-19 restrictions. We need local officials on board also.

Editor's note: on a very sad note, James "Jim" Allen Mrozinski died on February 07, 2021. He was an active member of the Onekama community and will be missed. In 2007 the Portage Lake Harbor Commission was founded with Jim as chairman. Two projects were especially dear to his heart. One was the effort to recover, rebuild, refurbish and find a home for the 1930 North Pierhead Light. It took around a year of undergoing restorations before it was re-erected July 15, 2011 at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Launch Site. The second project was receiving 6.2 Million in construction funding for the Portage Lake Channel. The members of the Harbor Commission and others worked tirelessly for years to make this happen and insure that the channel would be viable for many years.

Photo by Ryan Miljan





Manistee County Recycles
415 Third Street | Manistee

855-2Go-Zero | (855-246-9376)
manisteecountymi.gov/356/Recycling

February 2021
Issue 92

The Recycling Hierarchy

The recycling hierarchy also known as the 3 R's is a set of priorities for the efficient use of resources. Following this order will help you live your best "green" life.

Reduce

Start by creating as little waste as possible.

- Buy only what you need and use it all
- Purchase recycled or recyclable items
- Buy in bulk or refills when possible
- Avoid single-use to-go containers
- Look for items sold as concentrates
- Say no to wasteful disposable items
- Choose goods that will last longer
- Opt out of catalogs and mailers

Reuse

Here are ways to reuse materials instead of throwing them away:

- Use reusable shopping bags
- Carry a refillable water bottle or mug while on the go
- Use both sides of paper
- Wrap gifts in used wrapping paper, bags, cloth, or a colorful scarf
- Donate used goods to thrift stores like Goodwill or Salvation Army

Recycle

- If you cannot reduce or reuse, find out if the item can be recycled by looking at the [Recycling Guidelines](#) or calling 855-2Go-Zero (855.246.9376). Recycling is the next-best option which takes old materials and creates new products. Use the 7 recycling drop-off locations for plastic, paper, metal and cardboard and if you want to recycle other items the [2Go-Zero Guide](#) is a great resource to utilize.

This year's Scrap Tire events will be held on June 26th and September 25th. Both events will happen rain or shine and are open to all Manistee County residents.

Stay tuned for more details like location, time and drop-off requirements.

Did You Know...

Did you know that it is illegal to put beverage containers with a deposit in your trash to be sent to a landfill? Michigan Public Act 34 of 2004 prohibits beverage containers from being disposed of in a landfill. Instead they may be placed in recycling bins, taken to a recycling center, or redeemed for deposit. You might know this better as Michigan's bottle return program, the Bottle Bill, or the Deposit Law.

Michigan is one of 11 states with a beverage container deposit law which was passed to reduce roadside litter, clean up the environment, and conserve energy and natural resources. With a recycling rate over 90%, this program is incredibly successful! Actually, out off all the states with bottle bills Michigan has the highest return rate. Many have attributed this to the 10¢ deposit (the highest in county) and the fact that Michigan is not a drive through state.

For more information on Michigan's bottle bill check out BottleBill.org

We Are Here For You

Recycling Hotline

Not sure if an item is acceptable in the recycling bins? Need to know how to properly dispose of something? Get all your recycling questions answered.

Call us at 855-2Go-Zero (855-246-9376).

2Go-Zero Guide

Clothes that don't fit anymore? Electronics that don't work? Car fluids? Plastic bags? Dead batteries? Not sure if you CAN recycle something?

Check out the [2Go-Zero Recycling Guide](#)

Look for two new businesses in Onekama - the old Lineback's will have an antique store in the front and a dog grooming salon in the back. Welcome new neighbors.



PLA MEMBERSHIP

If you haven't renewed your Portage Lake Association membership or joined, please do! Membership for the year is \$35 and helps support our projects throughout the year.

Go online to www.onekama.info. Select the "Donation & Dues" link from the left corner of the top banner. Cursor down to "Pay Your PLA Dues" at the bottom of the page - you will be prompted for information and then asked whether you would like to pay with a Paypal account or with a credit card (go to the bottom of the page for this option). Follow the prompts - it's easy!

Or mail a check to Portage Lake Association, Memberships, PO Box 493, Onekama, MI 49675
Questions? Contact Faye Backie at plamembershipchair@gmail.com or by phone at 517- 281-2011.

DONATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Best Contact Phone _____

Email Address _____

How should we use your donation*: Check one:

- General Fund (best use / most needed project)
- Petunia Planting Concerts in the Park
- Celebration of Lights Onekama Days Fireworks

Other _____

*Excess funds roll over to best use as determined by the PLA Board.



*Make checks payable to
Portage Lake Assoc.
and send along with this form to:
PLA
PO Box 493
Onekama, MI 49675*

For More Events and information – check out www.onekama.com

Portage Lake Association
P.O. Box 493
Onekama, MI 49675

