



Bicentennial Committee 2008

Mark Cheplowitz, Chair
County – Charlene Badger

Cities:

Aurora – Christine Shock
Kent – Christine Craycroft
Ravenna – Mayor Poland
Streetsboro – Wayne Johnson
& Richard Taiclet
Tallmadge – Sharon Alexander

Townships:

Atwater – Steve Georges
Brimfield – Sue Fields
Charlestown – Jim Eskridge
Deerfield - Bill Westover
Edinburg – Richard Badger
& Linda Dillon
Franklin – Marilyn Sessions
Freedom - Sallie Hubeny
Hiram – Richard Masters
& Judy Wilson
Mantua– Mark Hall
Nelson - David Finney
Palmyra - Sam Vechter
Paris – Fiscal Officer
Randolph - Becky Carter
Ravenna - Wayne Enders
Rootstown – Paul Galido
& Shirley Riemenschneider
Shalersville - Deb Mazanec
Suffield - Ginger Sayre
Windham - Brian Miller
& Gayle Poots

Villages:

Brady Lake – Les Bennett,
Jim Hostler & Mayor Lehman
Garrettsville - Teri Eiermann
Hiram - Roger Cram
& Gery Henkels
Mantua – Mayor Hawkins
Mogadore – Jamie Cordier
Sugar Bush Knolls - Jim Beal
Windham – Sondra Edwards
& Kelly Meszaros

PORTAGE COUNTY BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE
Board of Commissioners • 449 South Meridian Street • Ravenna OH 44266
Phone: 330.297.3600 • Fax: 330.297.3610 • www.co.portage.oh.us

Portage County Bicentennial Committee July 9, 2008 *Minutes*

Attendance

Meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m.

Present: Portage County – Mark Cheplowitz and Charlene Badger;
Cities of: Tallmadge – Sharon Alexander; **Townships** of: Deerfield – Bill Westover, Edinburg- Richard Badger, Franklin – Marilyn Sessions, Freedom – Sally Hubeny, Hiram-Richard Masters and Judy Wilson, Randolph-Becky Carter, Ravenna-Wayne Enders, Rootstown-Paul Galido, Windham– Gayle Poots; **Villages** of: Brady Lake- Jim Hostler. Finance Committee member - Greg Musci.

Absent: Cities of Aurora, Kent, Ravenna, Streetsboro, Tallmadge; Townships of Atwater, Brimfield, Charlestown, Mantua, Nelson, Palmyra, Paris, Shalersville, Suffield; Villages of Garrettsville, Hiram, Mantua, Mogadore, Sugar Bush Knolls, Windham.

Welcome and Roll Call

Mr. Cheplowitz welcomed the Committee.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 11, 2008 meeting were approved as presented.

Finance:

Ms. Carter reported that the committee approved the invoices as listed on the Finance committee agenda.. The committee looked over the financial spreadsheet of Mr. Cheplowitz and Ms. Carter stated the budget is in very good working order.

Finance also approved purchase of the Birthday Party poster, which was creatively designed into one photo showing the Timeline, crowd and fireworks. We could give them as gifts to sponsors, the commissioners, committee members, and use some of our marketing money for inexpensive frames for some of them. Mr. Cheplowitz noted that with the hassles we had with selling the cookbooks, with sales taxes and not having a venue to sell them, he recommend we not sell the posters. Mr. Enders moved and Mr. Westover seconded a motion to purchase the rights to the posters, up to \$500 for the artwork and up to \$1,000 for posters. Motion carried.



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Review of Budget: Mr. Cheplowitz said we may have up to \$17,500 in surplus at the end of the Bicentennial year and the committee could decide what to do with it. The Aurora Bicentennial committee created a scholarship with its extra funds, which was managed by the school system.

Marketing: The Portage Bicentennial Night at Progressive Field was advertised in the Record Courier and the weekly papers, re-printing the entire flyer and ticket order form. The Bicentennial Heritage Tours insert was in the Record Courier. Updates regarding coming events have been placed on our website. Calendar ads have been running. A two page section in the Kent Stater featured the Bicentennial. The Black Stocking event will be advertised.

Sponsorships: Mr. Cheplowitz reported that the committee received \$262 in donations from Portage county employees who purchased additional tickets to the Bicentennial Night at Progressive Field.

Committee Reports:

Cleveland Indians Night (7/25/2008): The Indians are receiving orders and further advertising is going in the papers and on our website. We have two banners to carry in the parade and line-up is at 6:00 pm.

Black Stocking Baseball Game (8/16/2008).

Mr. Badger said he has people calling wanting to play and he is attempting to get people from the various political subdivisions. He visited the field this week with the park director. He will contact the sports editor at the Record Courier to see about an article. Our team will meet with the Black Stockings at Noon that day for the history and description of the rules. The Black Stockings also stay after the game to talk with the crowd. The county employee appreciation picnic will also be held during the game, which will draw additional audience members. The game is at 1:00 pm at Streetsboro Park, in the area of the high school. Concessions will be handled by Streetsboro Youth League.

Time Capsule: Ms. Badger will send the committee copies of the information Ms. Riemenschneider compiled on the Time Capsule contest and types of items suggested.

Historical Play: Ms. Badger contacted the elementary school principals in the area and eight schools have scheduled the play. Kent and



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Streetsboro are also going to schedule it. The playwright has confirmed that the dates and times are good for him. Commissioner Keiper suggested we have an evening performance for the community, possibly at the Administration Building.

Legacy/Literary Project: Ms. Alexander said fairs and festivals have been calling her to have the project at their event, especially since the project has had so much publicity lately. She said she is getting a lot of stories and will continue into next year. She would like more stories from committee members.

Road Show: Mr. Westover announced the Road Show is scheduled at events almost every weekend and he is working to line up more events. We have not had to pay for the gas. Mr. Masters moved and Ms. Alexander seconded a motion to purchase a new tarp to cover the Road Show when it is stored, as the present one is ripping at the corners, from traveling down the highway. Motion carried. Mr. Westover said he will try to get the Mountain Tarp company in Edinburg to donate it.

Other Business:

Mr. Enders has published his third book, the Portage County Trilogical narrative and he presented a copy to Mr. Cheplowitz.

Ms. Badger said she had an inquiry from Dawn Pechman of Mantua about whether without names of historic community members on it, when the officials of that community did not choose to participate. Mr. Enders noted there was a deadline for the project and Ms. Carter said there were procedures spelled out earlier. Mr. Hall, who is also a Mantua Township Trustee, had noted by phone that the activity was over and we should move forward.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 13, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. at the Coleman Professional Services Sue Hetrick Building, 3922 Lovers Lane (aka Loomis Pkwy), Ravenna OH.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Charlene Badger