



Bicentennial Committee 2008

Mark Cheplowitz, Chair
County – Kerry Macomber

Cities:

Aurora – John Olivier
Kent – Christine Craycroft
Ravenna – Mayor Poland
Streetsboro – Nancy Cobb
Tallmadge – Sharon Alexander

Townships:

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

Villages:

Brady Lake – Les Bennett
& Jim Hostler
Garrettsville - Teri Eiermann
Hiram - Roger Cram
& Gery Henkels
Mantua – Mayor Hopkins
Mogadore – June Long
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
November 14, 2007
Minutes

Attendance

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Portage County – Mark Cheplowitz and Kerry Macomber; **Cities** of Aurora-Christine Shock; **Townships** of Atwater-Steve Georges, Deerfield-Bill Westover, Freedom-Sallie Hubeny, Hiram-Judy Wilson, Mantua-Mark Hall, Palmyra-Sam Vechter, Randolph-Becky Carter, Rootstown–Paul Galido & Shirley Riemenschneider; Shalersville-Deb Mazanec; **Villages** of: Brady Lake-Mayor Lehman, Mogadore-Jamie Cordier, Windham-Kelly Meszaros; **Guests:** Kim Hoffman & Kim Lustritz, My LifePlan, Inc.

Excused Absence: City of Tallmadge; Townships of Brimfield, Charlestown Edinburg, Franklin, Suffield, Windham; Village of Garrettsville and Hiram

Unrepresented: City of Ravenna and Streetsboro; Townships of Nelson and Paris; Village of Mantua and Sugar Bush Knolls

Welcome and Roll Call

Mr. Cheplowitz welcomed the group and complimented Ms. Macomber on her excellent work with the meeting minutes.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the October 10, 2007 minutes was moved by Ms. Mazanec; seconded by Ms. Carter. Upon verbal vote, motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Opening Gala: Ms. Mazanec reported on a meeting held at NEOUCOM to go over the details. The contract for the “High Society Band” has been approved. The Chambers of Commerce will receive an electronic version of the invitation to disperse to their members. The Commissioners Office is in the process of sending out approximately 750. Ms. Mazanec requested coverage in the Record Courier. Mr. Cheplowitz agreed a story covering the event would be appropriate but that the presale tickets will most



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likely sell out the event and additional advertising may not be necessary. Ms. Mazanec reported that to date, only nine tables have been reserved and requested that committee members forward payment to: Ms. Mazanec, Commissioners’ Clerk, 449 S. Meridian St, Ravenna OH 44266. She may be reached at 330-297-3600.

Finance: Ms. Carter reported funds available at approximately \$16,500. The Finance Committee approved the Communications Factory final payment on the invitation and the down payment on the High Society Band for the Opening Gala.

Marketing: Mr. Cheplowitz described his idea to develop a listing of the 100 best things in Portage County. The Record Courier has agreed to do a press release on the 100 Portage and provide access to an e-mail for residents to respond. The project needs a lead person and Mr. Cheplowitz requested a volunteer. Hearing none, Ms. Macomber agreed to ask Charlene Badger if she was interested. Mr. Cheplowitz requested a motion from the Committee on pursuing this as an official Bicentennial project.

Ms. Carter moved that the Committee should pursue the development of the “100 Best Things of Portage County” project; Ms. Riemenschneider seconded. Upon verbal vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Cordier reported that she has contacted WNIR and it is not interested in a structured show but the will allow a “call in” program. It was agreed that Ms. Cordier would coordinate for the Committee members to call the radio station at (330) 673-2323 on Wednesday, November 28, 2007 at 11:00 to offer their suggestions on the 100 best things about Portage County. *(Please note that this idea for “call-in” program did not receive WNIR approval.)*

Merchandising: There has not been enough interest in ordering merchandise from the Committee members to make it cost effective. The sample materials will be returned to Communications Factory.

Sponsorships: Mr. Cheplowitz and Ms. Macomber attended the VIP Opening of the Wal-Mart Super Center in Streetsboro and met the Market Manager for the District. Ms. Macomber will forward the sponsorship packet. A meeting with President of the Cleveland Indians is scheduled for November 29, 2007.



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Birthday Celebration: Mr. Cheplowitz reported that the RFP for Fireworks was sent to four vendors. Pyrotechnico, New Catle, PA was the only responding vendor. The Finance Committee agreed to accept this proposal contingent upon funding available in the budget. The cost of a 14-minute show is \$10,000.

Ms. Mazanec reported that Judge Pittman has authorized closing the Courthouse at 12:00 noon on Monday, June 9, 2008 for preparation of the fireworks display.

Mr. Georges reported that the Randolph Fair will enter a “Blue Goose” Float in the parade. Mr. Georges requested a Contract for the Use of the Bicentennial Logo so he can coordinate the Randolph Fair’s activities with the Bicentennial. Ms. Wilson will draft a letter inviting the Presidents of KSU, NEOUCOM, and Hiram to serve as Parade judges.

Memorial Recognition: Ms. Riemenschneider reported that after contacting several plaque manufacturers, she has decided on using a sublimating process on either a white plate or mahogany wood grained plaque. Four Seasons Quote at \$20 each for 8”x10” is the best. She has requested Ms. Macomber forward the Bicentennial Logo for use in designing the plaque.

Time Capsule: Mr. MacLearie has resigned from the Committee and Mr. Cheplowitz requested a volunteer to take over the Time Capsule Project. Ms. Riemenschneider expressed interest on serving on the Committee, but did not want to Chair. Mr. Georges shared that the Randolph Fair is also doing a time capsule.

Legacy Project: Ms. Macomber reminded members that Thanksgiving is a good time to talk with families and to complete their questionnaires.

Road Show: There are eight more posters ready to print. The City of Ravenna has not submitted one but Ms. Macomber noted there were several nice pictures taken of the new Veterans Memorial in downtown Ravenna. The Committee agreed that it would make a nice poster. She will have a photo scanned and sent to Mr. Westover. Ms. Macomber has talked with the County Engineer about storing the Road Show Trailer at the Engineer’s



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facility. Ms. Stamm suggested contacting Tom Clapper at KSU about space in Transportation Services.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Vechter discussed the flag ceremony featuring the historic 16 American flags.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 12, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. at the Coleman Professional Services Sue Hetrick Building, 3922 Lovers Lane (aka Loomis Pkwy), Ravenna OH 44266.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kerry Macomber