

Portage County Bicentennial Committee
December 14, 2005
Minutes

Attendance

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. Present: Mark Cheplowitz, Chair; Portage County-Kerry Macomber; Cities of Aurora-George Horvat and Kent-Diane Werner; Townships of Deerfield-Bill Westover, Nelson-David Finney, Shalersville-Dorothy Caldwell and Don MacLearie, and Windham-Brian Miller; Villages of Garrettsville-Teri Eiermann and Windham-Marian Garrett

Approval of Minutes

The approval of the November 9, 2005 meeting minutes was moved by Mr. Finney; seconded by Mr. MacLearie. Upon verbal vote, the motion passed with one abstention from Mr. Horvat.

Chair's Report

Mr. Cheplowitz reported on his meeting with ~~Mr. Chip Conde, Director of the City of Canton's Bicentennial event.~~ The most successful fund raising activity was a commemorative calendar, which was created from the 12 winning entries of a juried art contest of local artists. Mr. Cheplowitz encouraged the committee to consider a similar activity.

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He also reported that an effective advertising tool was a Bicentennial parade float that was present at all local parades and festivals. This may be a consideration in lieu of our "road show" idea.

Canton recruited sponsorships from businesses and corporations. The Title Sponsor's CEO was named as honorary chair and was acknowledged at all activities including the legacy project, which was a clock for the City of Canton. Presenting Sponsors were recognized as significant contributors for particular events. A portfolio with event descriptions and budgets was used as a marketing tool for securing sponsors.

Flow Chart

A flow chart depicting the action committees and the events is attached.

Event Descriptions and Budgets

Mr. Miller presented a description of religious celebration to be held on October 19, 2008. Discussions included a presentation of community choirs and an old time circuit rider preacher delivering a preaching style from 200 years ago.

Ms. Eiermann reported that she has contacted Geauga Lake & Wildwater Kingdom regarding the Birthday Party on June 9, 2008. She will be meeting with officials from Geauga Lake to get more information relating to entrance fees, use of stage, fireworks, etc.

Mr. Horvat discussed the golf outing on July 14, 2008 and plans to pursue a centrally located golf course such as Windmill Lakes in Ravenna. He anticipates 140 golfers and with the golfers' fees and hole sponsors, this event will be a successful fund raiser. There was some discussion regarding the fun run and the possibility of using The PORTAGE Hike and Bike Trail for the event. Information about The PORTAGE can be viewed at www.portageparkdistrict.org by clicking on "Visit the Parks" and then on the map at bullet item #3.

Mr. MacLearie briefly discussed information regarding the time capsule and will continue to gather information on cost, materials as well as do's and don't for collecting items.

Mr. Miller presented information regarding the old fashioned baseball game, which will be held on August 9, 2008 in conjunction with Windham Fun in the Sun Festival.

Miscellaneous

1. Mr. Cheplowitz requested that communities be added to the Bicentennial Committee letterhead.
2. Ms. Eiermann requested name plates for members.
3. A press release was approved by the Committee, which Ms. Macomber will submit in January. A request for an interview with the Record Courier will also be made.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 11, 2005, at 6:00 p.m. at the Coleman Professional Services Sue Hettrick Building at 3922 Lovers Lane (aka Loomis Pkwy), Ravenna OH 44266, located behind the Robinson Memorial Hospital.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kerry Macomber