

**City of Portage – Historic District Commission**  
**Wednesday, June 2, 2010 – 8:15 a.m.**  
**Portage City Hall – Conference Room #2**

**MINUTES**

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**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 8:20 a.m. by Mark Reile.

**Members Present:** Mark Reile, Kathy Fosmoe, Jeanette Field, Ann Marie Kreuzer, Amy Noonan, Rose Mary Higginbottom, Katie vanLonkhuyzen, Dorie Erhig

**Members Absent:** Susan Woerner and Michelle Dunlap

**Guests Present:** Mary Beth Block, City Staff Liaison, and Seth Giem, Historic Home Owner

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of May 12, 2010 were approved.

**Announcements:** HDC Account Balance as of May 28, 2010 is \$613.95.

**Old Business:**

1. Project Leader Reports – none

2. Annual Historic Home Owners Gathering: Jeanette advised the florist bill was expected at month's end. There were 31 attendees, the two largest donations coming from Historic Home Owner Seth Giem and recent commission member Robert El Henicky.

Mark thanked everyone for their help. Jeanette was acknowledged for selection, transportation and set up of refreshments and flowers. Kudos went to Katie for creating the program. Featured speaker Linda Whitlock was well received. The Award Presentation made by Mayor Strazdas and Councilmember Margaret O'Brien, together with their interaction with all present, was an added bonus. Publicity in the Portage Gazette May 15<sup>th</sup>, page 4, and Kalamazoo Gazette Events To Plan On May 19<sup>th</sup>, front page was noted. A follow-up piece on the Love's provided by HDC to Tom Haroldson was suggested as a continuation of our efforts at community awareness. A note of thanks from the Loves was shared prior to the meeting.

With a look to the future, Dorie Erhig suggested use of the Library's outdoor patio and doing something similar to the Master Gardeners' tour with snacks in a garden party atmosphere at the end. Jeanette suggested Mark identify criteria for the Portage Senior Center driving tour as part of the nomination process. Katie referenced Councilmember O'Brien's idea of putting our newsletter on line and shared her own enthusiasm for the Oshtemo Historic Society web site and a June tour of the Cully Gage property. Mark learned from owner Mick Lynch recent water damage at the farm home rendered it not presentable.

The topic of a book up-date or the creation of a whole new book was broached.

**New Business:** None

**Citizen Comments:** Seth Giem shared the adventure his father, a 1922 Vicksburg graduate, had riding a bicycle for 21 days to Portland, Oregon and his own freight train experiences.

**Member Comments:** Mark thanked Amy Noonan for being the Commission's first Youth Participant (Portage Central High School) and wished her well at Grand Valley.

Mark also welcomed new commission member Dorie Erhig to her first meeting.

Mark confirmed there would be no July meeting.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ann Marie Kreuzer

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**Next Meeting: August 4, 2010 at 8:15 a.m., Portage City Hall Conference Room #2**