



*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  
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Mantua – Mark Hall  
Nelson – David Finney  
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## Portage County Bicentennial Committee March 12, 2008 *Minutes*

### Attendance

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

Present: Portage County – Mark Cheplowitz and Charlene Badger;  
**Cities** of: Aurora-Christine Shock, Kent-Christine Craycroft,  
Streetsboro-Richard Taiclet, **Townships** of: Brimfield-Sue Fields,  
Deerfield-Bill Westover, Edinburg-Richard Badger, Franklin-Marilyn  
Sessions, Freedom-Sallie Hubeny, Hiram-Richard Masters and Judy  
Wilson, Mantua-Mark Hall, Palmyra-Sam Vechter; Ravenna-Wayne  
Enders, Rootstown-Shirley Riemenschneider, **Villages** of: Brady Lake-  
Mayor Lehman, Mogadore-Jamie Cordier, Windham-Kelly Meszaros  
and Brian Miller.

**Guests:** Jean Henzel, Chuck Kocisko and Linda Rininger.

Excused absence: Tallmadge-Sharon Alexander, Randolph-Becky  
Carter, Rootstown-Paul Galido, Shalersville Deb Mazanec

Absent: City of Ravenna, Townships of Atwater, Charlestown, Nelson,  
Paris and Suffield; Villages of Garrettsville, Hiram, Mantua and Sugar  
Bush Knolls.

### Welcome and Roll Call

Mr. Cheplowitz welcomed the Committee.

### Approval of Minutes

Approval of the February 13, 2008 minutes was moved by Mr. Lehman;  
seconded by Mr. Enders. Upon verbal vote, motion passed  
unanimously.

### Finance

Ms. Sessions reported that the Finance Committee approved payments  
of:

\$325 to the Communications Factory, \$100 to Miller Rental, \$200 to  
Portage Literacy Coalition, \$100 to photographer Timothy St. Hilaire,  
and payments of \$3,300 and \$2,000 to Wizard of Ah's. Payment of  
\$7,661.55 was approved for NEOUCOM, but a letter would be sent  
again which detailed some problems in the operation of the Gala event  
there.



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**Marketing**

Ms. Cordier said the Record Courier is planning to do a special section on the Bicentennial. She and Ms. Badger will meet with the Record Courier advertising rep. and the reporter. The calendar ad can be updated with assistance from the Record Courier designers at no additional cost.

It was discussed that banners would be useful, one to be large enough to be carried in a parade, one for a table-top display. Ms. Badger will check with a printer for pricing.

Ms. Shock said she met with Aurora officials and one event they will have was the Aurora Truck Day July 4 where we could possibly have the Road Show. Kent Heritage Festival is also that weekend, probably the 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Committee Reports**

**Coloring Contest (4/19/2008)** Ms. Badger reported that the event will be from 10 am – 11:30 am at the Kent Stage, in conjunction with Standing Rock Cultural Arts Who’s Your Mama Earth Day Festival which runs April 16-20 with films, dance, art, food and alternative energy displays. The coloring contest will be included in all the publicity they are doing including mass email, radio, public service listings, Portage County Visitors Bureau, Scene Magazine, etc. They are also having an 8 page insert in the Record Courier. Coloring contest will also have one full page ad prior to the event.

We will have 200 Portage County coloring books. and crayons. The Who’s Your Mama group will also provide pictures to color. We will purchase 3 or 4 bikes and helmets and raffle them off to 1st, 2nd, and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders.

**Memorial Recognition (5/17/2008):**

Ms. Riemenschneider has ordered six plaques for Memorial Recognition events, so far. A press release was sent to the Record Courier. She is still contacting political subdivisions.

**Parade and Birthday Celebration (6/9/2008):** Ms. Wilson has a committee meeting scheduled for March 17. Letters have been sent to the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to march in the parade, as well as a list of community organizations. Letters were sent again, by



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email, to all the county high school band directors. The parade application is also on the website.

Mr. Cheplowitz reported that he had a meeting with the Ravenna city officials including police and fire departments, also attended by Ms. Shock and Ms. Badger. The cooperation and enthusiasm of the city has been wonderful. Streets will be closed as necessary for the parade route and fireworks. Electrical requirements will be met. Additional food may be sold by charitable groups.

**Cleveland Indians Night (7/25/2008)** Mayor Lehman reported that we should be able to make \$1200 in profits from our Indians tickets sales. We make \$6.00 on each ticket, which are in the upper box. He has been in contact with the Cleveland Indians office and they are sending a flyer that we can post on our website, and distribute in the community. Chambers of Commerce, Banks, Park and Rec departments, were suggested areas to advertise. Home Savings Bank offered to sell tickets at their branches. Mr. Lehman will make up a list of where to put the flyers and the committee will provide names such as little league teams.

**Black Stocking Baseball Game (8/16/2008).** Mr. Badger reported that he has contacted the Black Stocking group and the date has been set for Saturday, Aug. 16. It will be a vintage game with old rules and they require a grass field. They provide uniforms, mascot, scorekeeper and the umpire. We have to provide bales of hay for the seating. He is going to recruit local “celebrities” to play on the opposite team, to create more interest. He has also been in contact with Aurora Parks and Rec director. We can have the game at a park so there are concession stands, restrooms, parking, etc. that the committee wants, but the park has to have a large enough grassy area to meet the field requirements to play the game. The representatives from Streetsboro and Windham offered their parks, and Edinburg park was discussed. Convenient location to as many as possible will be a consideration. Those communities interested should let Mr. Badger know by March 26. Mr. Vector moved and Ms. Riemenschneider seconded to have him finalize a location after he tours those parks and have it set by the next meeting. Motion carried.



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**Time Capsule:** The Portage County Historical Society has agreed to have the Time Capsule at their location. We may be able to display the time capsule at the Portage County Fair.

**Road Show:** Mr. Westover reported that about 15 posters are done, some are in the process and he has to get them from the person that was doing them and others he has not heard back from the community, or has not received the poster.

Areas he has not heard from are: Charlestown, Nelson, Paris, Edinburg, Ravenna City, Ravenna Township. Ms. Badger will contact the artist from the Portage 100 on prices to design those that have not been submitted. Costs to encase them in plexiglass will also be obtained.

Chief Taiclet from Streetsboro invited the Road Show to be at the Streetsboro Family Days.

**Bicentennial Endorsed Events:** Heritage Tours: Ms. Craycroft presented information and locations for the tours.

**Religious Event:** Ms. Meszaros and Mr. Miller requested the religious event that had been discussed last year, be placed back on the calendar. Mr. Cheplowitz said the previous religious service that was the Hiram event, had a cost of \$10,000. Mr. Miller said they could do the event as part of the Windham Fun and Sun days, Aug. 3. They have done a worship service outside on the green for twenty five years on the Sunday closest to the founding of Windham. It is an inter-faith service and is advertised to other churches. Mr. Cheplowitz suggested they fill out the application contract for use of the Bicentennial logo, and have it as an affiliated event, which they were in agreement with.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 9, 2008 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 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Charlene Badger



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