Record Group 44  
Community Improvement Association of Plymouth Township  
1954-1963  
1 manuscript box

Plymouth Historical Museum, Plymouth, MI  
Finding Aid Written by Lena Packer, 7 March 2006  
Updated by Jennifer Meekhof, 14, December 2011

Creator: Community Improvement Association of Plymouth Township  
Acquisition: The Community Improvement Association of Plymouth Township records were deposited in the archives in 2005  
Language: Materials in English  
Access: Records are open for research  
Use: Refer to Archives Reading Room Guidelines  
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Abstract  
The Community Improvement Association of Plymouth Township began in the mid 1950s. The group aimed to be involved in the improvement of the township through events that brought people of the community together.

Scope and Content  
The Community Improvement Association of Plymouth Township record group consists of the records of the group, such of by-laws, treasury, committee data and other records related to the functioning of the Improvement group. These records give a researcher a good look into the people, plans, and events of the group while they were active.

Entries  
Entry 1: By-Laws  
Entry 2: Membership Letters  
Entry 3: Membership Lists  
Entry 4: Meeting and Informational Papers  
Entry 5: Stationary  
Entry 6: Agendas and ballots  
Entry 7: Correspondence  
Entry 8: Publicity  
Entry 9: Committee Data  
Entry 10: Treasury Reports and Legal Papers

Important Subjects  
Community Groups and Associations—Plymouth MI  
Local History—Plymouth, MI  
Township Zoning
Box 1 Shelf 75

**Entry 1: By-Laws (Acc. #2005.195.01)**
Booklets (3 copies)
By-laws-1956
By-laws-no date (4 copies)
By-laws changes

**Entry 2: Membership Letters (Acc. #2005.195.02)**
New member letter-Sept. 29, 1954
Member letters
   - Nov. 24, 1954
   - Feb., 1955
   - March 17, 1955
   - April 22, 1955
   - May 19, 1955 (2 copies)
   - Oct. 18, 1955 (2 copies)
   - Jan., 1956
   - Feb., 1956
   - March, 1956
   - No date, but after March 28
   - April, 1956
   - May, 1956
   - June 5, 1956
   - July, 1956
   - August, 1956
   - September, 1956
   - December, 1956
   - January, 1957
   - April, 1957
   - June, 1957
   - March 8, 1958
   - April 24, 1958
   - May 28, 1958
   - October 28, 1958
   - December 15, 1958
   - March 19, 1959
   - June 1, 1959
   - December 4, 1959
   - February 16, 1960
   - April 7, 1960
   - May 13, 1960
   - December 2, 1960
   - January 25, 1961
March 10, 1961
March 6, 1962
April 2, 1962
October 9, 1962
December 17, 1962
February 15, 1963
March 11, 1963
Letter about delinquent dues
Notice of Annual Meeting
    January 10, 1955 (2 copies)
    January 14, 1956
Letter to Mr. Fred Miller informing him that he can serve on the Board of Directors-November 18, 1957

Entry 3: Membership Lists (Acc. #2005.195.03)
August 30, 1957
September 21, 1954
December 1, 1956
August 31, 1957
Voided list no date (2 copies)
Unpaid Membership list-no date
Undated list
Undated list
Before April 9, 1959
April, 1961
October 1, 1962

Entry 4: Meeting and Informational Papers (Acc. #2005.195.04)
Folder 1
Official list of county, city, village, and township officers-1957-1958
Notice of July 4th celebration from Plymouth Junior Chamber of Commerce
Summary of estimated receipts and expenditures from Plymouth Community School District-June 4, 1962
Questions and answers regarding proposed millage increase for Plymouth Community School District-June 4, 1962
Gun Club of Plymouth-A report of land use in township for this club-February 1963
Budget at annual meeting of Plymouth Township-March 31, 1962
Summary and findings of the proposed incorporation of Plymouth Township-November, 1960 (2 copies)
Summary of Board of Education plans and projects for school district-April 12, 1960
“Do School Pupils Need Costly Palaces?” Reader’s Digest, 1957
Plymouth Community School District financial statement-April 9, 1956
Plymouth Community School District statement of school lunch program-March 31, 1956
Plymouth Community School District plan for an Extended School Year Curriculum (2 copies) 1956

Report of organizational committee-June 10, 1954
Prices bid on printing jobs-January 11, 1955
“Industry Looks at Planning,” An address given by Henry J., Sullivan at Tenth Annual meeting of the Michigan Society of Planning Officials on April 3, 1954 in Ann Arbor, MI (3 copies)

Folder 2- Newspaper clippings
“Citizens group files petition for Township incorporation,” Plymouth Mail, June 2, 1955
“Form citizen association in Township”
Ad for ‘Civic-Minded Residents of Plymouth Township,’ on October 14
Notice of public hearing on establishing a trailer park and camp on Ridge Rd. October 14, 1954
Letter of Editor from George H. DeGroat about the rezoning of the western part of Plymouth Township, Plymouth Mail, July 8, 1954
“Plan ‘Charleston’ City for Plymouth Twp.”
“Talk City-Township Merger in Plymouth”
“Who Wants Annexation? Lindsay Asks”
“Consolation Activities Gain Momentum in City, Township,” Plymouth Mail, March 17, 1955
“Committee to Study City-Township Merger”
“City Aids Annexation Petition to Slow Incorporation Plan”
Letters to editor-May 5, 1955 and May 9, 1955
“Township Incorporation Wouldn’t Change or Plan says Western Electric,” Plymouth Mail, May 5, 1955
“Politicians Press Fight for Plymouth Plant Site”
“Select Name of Charleston for Township”
“Township Zoning Map Objectors to get Hearing”
“Zoners Hear Objections in Township”
“Township Annexation Issue Plowed Under; Western Electric Site to Become Part of City,” Plymouth Mail, November 3, 1955
“Zoning Map Proposed for Plymouth Township,” Plymouth Mail, May 24, 1956
“Plymouth Township Proceedings”
“Township Group Chooses Officers”
“Opposes Industrial West of Plymouth,” The Plymouth Mail, May 19, 1955
“Millington Re-elected Head of Improvement Association”
“Township Group Gives Compliment to New Zoning”
“Roadside Stand Issue Again Faces Township”

Entry 5: Stationary (Acc. #2005.195.05)
Letterhead stationary (19 sheets)
Plain paper
Pad of carbon paper
**Entry 6: Agendas and ballots (Acc. #2005.195.06)**

Voting results for officers and Board of Directors, 1955 (2 copies)
Handwritten agenda for annual meeting
Agenda for January 24, 1955 annual meeting
Agenda for 2nd annual business meeting, January 31, 1956 (2 copies)
Sample ballot for election of officers and Board of Directors, January 31, 1956
Agenda for directors’ meeting on March 7, 1957
Agenda for 3rd annual business meeting on January 31, 1957 (2 copies)
List of agenda items under new business
Sample ballot for January 31, 1957
Agenda for 4th annual business meeting on March 27, 1958
Ballot for officers and board for March 27, 1958
Agenda for 5th annual business meeting on April 9, 1959 (2 copies)
Voting ballots for April 9, 1959
Voting results for April 9, 1959
Program preparation for 6th annual business meeting on April 14, 1960 (2 copies)
Agenda for 6th annual business meeting on April 21, 1960 (3 copies)
Ballot for April 21, 1960
Voting results for April 21, 1960
Agenda for 7th annual business meeting on March 28, 1961
Agenda for 8th annual business meeting on March 31, 1962

**Entry 7: Correspondence (Acc. #2005.195.07)**

Letter to Mr. Bowles about the Board of Directors of the Community Improvement Association of Plymouth Township from Hugh Stahl, July 29, 1954 (2 copies)
Letter to Hugh Stahl acknowledging receipt of his letter from George Bowles, July 30, 1954
Letter from George Bowles to Frank Millington, Austin Stecker, and H.J. Belch about the Articles of Incorporation of their organization, August 9, 1954
Letter from George Bowles to Frank Millington about the charter for their organization, August 26, 1954 (2 copies)
Letter from George Bowles to Hugh Stahl on September 29, 1954
Letter from George Bowles to Hugh Stahl about receipt of Association check of $105.04, October 8, 1954
Letter from the Association to Roy Lindsay dealing with the establishment of a trailer park in the Township., October 14, 1954
Letter from Hugh Stahl to Roy Lindsay confirming Plymouth Township reservation for their meeting, November 27, 1954
Letter from George Bowles to Frank Millington and Hugh Stahl about certain Articles in their By-laws, December 7, 1954
Letter from George Bowles to High Stahl discusses proxies at their meeting, December 31, 1954
Letter from Hugh Stahl to Roy Lindsay confirming their use on the Township Hall for their meeting, January 4, 1955
Letter from Frank Millington to George Bowles discussing voting procedures for next election, January 17, 1955
Letter from George Bowles to Frank Millington about legal services and the charge for such service, March 2, 1955
Letter from Russell Walker to Mrs. George DeGroat regarding an address change, March 25, 1955
Letter from Gerald Muir requesting to resign from the Board of Directors stating his reasons for this decision, April 30, 1955
Letter from Helen and Ralph Garber to the Board of Directors inquiring about power of the Board and organization procedures
Letter from Alice DeGroat to Roy Lindsay confirming their meeting in Township Hall, May 3, 1955
Letter from George Bowles to Frank Millington about his opinion about the Western Electric Purchase, May 24, 1955
Letter from Alice DeGroat to Gerald Muir accepting his resignation from the Board, June 21, 1955
Letter from Alice DeGroat to George Bowles telling him that the Board would not accept his resignation, June 22, 1955
Letter from Alice DeGroat with a copy of George Bowles’ letter of resignation and the results of a membership poll about annexation with the city, June, 1955
Letter from Alice DeGroat to Vincent Gilbert about his company, Western Electric, and the township’s concerns about it relocating to the township, July 27, 1955
Letter from Frank Millington to Dr. Howard Cadwell asking questions about proposals for sewers being installed in the township, January 17, 1956
Letter from Morton Hilbert to Frank Millington discussing the sewage disposal problem, January 23, 1956
Letter from Alice DeGroat to Mr. Johnson asking him to come speak to the group about planning and zoning, February 14, 1956
Letter from W.C. Johnson to Alice DeGroat trying to set up a date for him to come to their meeting to discuss planning and zoning, February 17, 1956
Letter from Alice DeGroat to W.C. Johnson confirming a date for him to speak, February 20, 1956
Letter from Alice DeGroat to the IRS asking for Form 990, April 18, 1956
Letter from Alice DeGroat to all board members rescheduling a meeting, December 8, 1956
Letter from Alice DeGroat to Roy Lindsay confirming their room reservation, January 10, 1957
Letter from the Board of Directors to Les Taylor thanking him for his time and effort, February 18, 1957
Letter from the Board of Directors to Eugene Stout thanking him for his time and effort, February 18, 1957
Letter from the Board of Directors to Fred Miller thanking him for his time and effort, February 18, 1957
Letter from Fred Miller to Frank Millington explaining why he does not feel he should be a candidate for an office they have nominated him for, February 26, 1957
Letter from Alice DeGroat to the Chamber of Commerce providing it with information about their organization, February 28, 1957
Letter from Alice DeGroat to Mrs. Keeler thanking her for her help in the past election, March 28, 1957
Letter from Alice DeGroat to Warren Worth thanking him for his help in the last election, March 28, 1957
Letter from Alice DeGroat to Roy Lindsay informing him that the Board voted against a pending law which would allow a judge to decide whether a township will be annexed without a referendum, April 10, 1957
Letter to Mrs. J.H. Barber thanking her for her work in the Association, May 26, 1959
Letter to Alice DeGroat thanking her for all her efforts in the Association, May 26, 1959
Letter to M.F. Fuelling thanking him for all his work in the Association, May 26, 1959
Letter to L.G. Sharland thanking him for his work in the Association, May 26, 1959
Letter from Ruth Alford to James Kratzer about his receipt of the By-laws, September 5, 1959
Letter from Ruth Alford to Maxwell Printing Co. discussing a printing order, September 5, 1959
Letter from Ruth Alford to Raymond Arnold asking him if he would accept an appointment to the Board, October 22, 1959
Letter from Ruth Alford to Alice DeGroat asking her if she would accept an appointment to the Board, October 22, 1959
Letter from Frank Millington to Roy Lindsay, Supervisor of the Township, expressing pleasure with the progress of the Sewer Program of the Township, October 22, 1959
Letter from Raymond Arnold to the Association accepting appointment to the Board, October 26, 1959
Letter from Fred Miller to the Association in which he provides a copy of the plan and budget for the sewage project, November 27, 1959
Letter from Fred Miller to the Township residents concerning a pending agreement with Consumers Power Co., December 2, 1959
Letter from George Bowles to Frank Millington and Ruth Alford resigning from the Board because he’s moving closer to his work and out of this community, January 13, 1960
Letter from Fred Miller to the Township residents explaining the proposed agreement with Consumers Power Co., February 14, 1960
Letter from Ruth Alford to John McEwen informing that he was elected to serve on the Board, February 16, 1960
Letter from Melvin Blunk, Administrative Assistant for the Plymouth School District, to Roy Rogers confirming the group’s reservation at the Junior High for their next meeting, March 31, 1960
Letter from Barry Alford to Gar Evans thanking his for being a candidate for the Board, April 30, 1960
Letter from Mary Bradley to Harold Fischer thanking him for accepting their invitation to attend their May meeting, April 14, 1961
Letter from Russell Isbister, Superintendent of Schools, to Melvin Fuelling extending an invitation to association members to attend the dedication of West Junior High, September 28, 1962
Letter from Ruth Alford to Russell Isbister thanking him for the invitation, October 26, 1962
Letter from Ruth Alford to the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce informing them of the Association’s new officers, October 26, 1962
Letter from Marie Miller to the Board of Directors and the Association thanking them for the beautiful tribute given to her husband, Fred, at his funeral, December 4, 1962
**Entry 8: Publicity (Acc. #2005.195.08)**

“A Message to the People of Plymouth” article to be put in newspaper against the addition of a trailer park in the Township (3 copies)

Newspaper ad, “A Message to the People of Plymouth”

4 pictures of trailer park

“Community Improvement Association Elects Officers” article given to Plymouth Mail

February 1, 1957

“Vote Yes March 28” ad

**Entry 9: Committee Data (Acc. #2005.195.09)**

Report on comparative printing costs, September 3, 1959

“The Plymouth Mail” letterhead-offset printing

“The Church of the Nazarene” letterhead-master-lith process

“Community Improvement Association of Plymouth Township” letterhead-lithoprinting

Letter to Board members from Frank Millington about decision to invite Plymouth officials to next meeting, October 23, 1958

Minutes of Board meeting

Minutes of Program Committee meeting of December 11, 1957 (2 copies)

Note to all directors from Frank Millington with reports from various committees, November 19, 1957

Note from Frank Millington to Board members about their work on the zoning issue, June 10, 1957

Notice and agenda of Directors’ meeting on April 4, 1957

Note to directors about committee appointments, December 27, 1956

Memoranda of meeting of Board of Directors on Sunday, December 11, 1955

Note on May 1, 1955 of the receipt of $10 from Mr. and Mrs. Hulce for membership in the association

**Entry 10: Treasury reports and legal papers (Acc. #2005.195.10)**

Money receipt book

Audit information for April 1, 1959 to April 10, 1960

Secretarial expense report and statement for February, 1957

Treasurer’s report for December 6, 1956

Treasurer’s report for August 2, 1956

Treasurer’s report for June 7, 1956

Treasurer’s report for May 3, 1956

Letter from the IRS about the status of the organization, March 13, 1956

Insurance policy from Auto-Owners issued January 20, 1955

Original and photocopy of Michigan Article of Incorporation for the Association issued August 24, 1954

Certification of Incorporation issued August 24, 1954

Letter from IRS about the association’s tax status, February 13, 1956
Letter from Frank Millington to IRS explaining the focus of this group for becoming tax exempt, February 28, 1956
Tax exemption application filed July 24, 1954
Treasurer’s report for October 13, 1955
Letter from IRS to the Association about their tax exempt status, September 13, 1955
Treasurer’s report for January 1, 1955
Letter from Ruth Alford stating that the financial accounts have been audited and found in order, January 10, 1955
Signed agreement with National Bank of Detroit to open an account for the association, September 21, 1954
Map of Plymouth Township with sections drawn on it