

**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  
**Notes:** Citation Style: "Community Improvement Association of Plymouth Township," Record Group 44, Archives, Plymouth Historical Museum

**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
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**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 4<sup>th</sup> 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"

"Official Proceedings of the Plymouth City Commission," February, 1955

"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"

"William Schmidt Takes New Post" Feb. 3, 1960

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> annual business meeting on January 31, 1957 (2 copies)  
List of agenda items under new business  
Sample ballot for January 31, 1957  
Agenda for 4<sup>th</sup> annual business meeting on March 27, 1958  
Ballot for officers and board for March 27, 1958  
Agenda for 5<sup>th</sup> annual business meeting on April 9, 1959 (2 copies)  
Voting ballots for April 9, 1959  
Voting results for April 9, 1959  
Program preparation for 6<sup>th</sup> annual business meeting on April 14, 1960 (2 copies)  
Agenda for 6<sup>th</sup> annual business meeting on April 21, 1960 (3 copies)  
Ballot for April 21, 1960  
Voting results for April 21, 1960  
Agenda for 7<sup>th</sup> annual business meeting on March 28, 1961  
Agenda for 8<sup>th</sup> 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 Mich. Corporation and Securities Comm. accompanying a filing fee of \$15, August 17, 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