

Bayfield Ratepayers Association
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
September 3, 2011
prepared by Dave MacLaren

Board Members Present: Dave MacLaren, Sondra Buchner, Gary Davidson, Alan Vihant, Susan Drew, Mike Gubesh, David Nearingburg, Ainslie Willock

Absent: Paul Hill

The meeting was called to order at 10:03. A quorum of the membership was declared present.

Moved by Dave Nearingburg, seconded by Ken Larone, that the Agenda be approved. Carried.

Moved by Beate Bowron, seconded by Alan Vihant, that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2010 be approved. Carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

Presidents Report was read by Dave MacLaren.

Treasurers Report

Sondra Buchner presented her report stating that there is \$1,450.33 in the operating account, \$2,274.25 in the savings account and \$956.54 in the defense fund account. The books have been reviewed by Ian Matthew and been deemed to be correct.

Moved by Sondra Buchner, seconded by Dave Nearingburg that the treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Carried.

Moved by Sondra Buchner, seconded by Claire Soper that Ian Matthew be appointed Reviewer for 2011 - 2012. Carried.

Planning

Alan Vihant presented his report. The BRA continues to monitor planning and development matters. The Huron County Official Plan has been adopted by County Council.

Membership & Communication

Mike Gubesh reported on the state of our membership. Discussion ensued regarding ways to engage the community in BRA activities, including additional meetings, door to door calls etc.

Water Quality & Blue Flag

Dave MacLaren reported on the status of the Blue Flag program and commended council for its ongoing support of our water quality monitoring program.

Council Relations

Dave MacLaren reported on the status of council.

Library, Washrooms & Post Office

Mike Gubesh reported on the status of this project, final design work is being completed.

Main Street Revitalization

Ainslie Willock reported that there is an alternative plan being prepared by a group of interested residents.

Election of Directors

Nominations for Board of Directors, Susan Drew, Mike Gubesch, Alan Vihant, Sandy Piper, Dave Nearingburg, Sondra Buchner, Ainsley Willock, Ken Larone.

Moved by Beate Bowron, seconded by Jane MacLaren that the proposed slate of Directors be elected. Carried.

Issues & Policy Motions

Ainslie Willock presented policy positions on the Library project, Main Street and Wind Turbines. The Library position will be updated to include support for integrated Post Office services as a key component to the project and to emphasize the need for energy conservation design. The Main Street position

will be deferred until the alternative plan can be reviewed and public consultation sought.

Moved by Ainslie Willock, seconded by Claire Soper, that the proposed position on wind turbines for the Bayfield Settlement Area be adopted. Carried.

Moved by Ainslie Willock, seconded by Claire Soper, that the BRA support the Huron County Council resolution regarding wind turbines. Carried.

Policy Priorities for 2011 – 2012

Library, Washrooms & Post Office project

Main Street Revitalization

Water Quality & Blue Flag

Bayfield Harbour

Membership & Communications

Municipal facilities rationalization

Greetings from the Mayor

Mayor Dowson addressed the membership and clarified a number of issues for the ratepayers.

Moved by Claire Soper, seconded by Jane MacLaren that the meeting be adjourned. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00.

All in Favour, carried.–

The Floor was opened to Questions or Comments

Deputy Mayor Dave Johnston commented that Council has not decided to go to tender on the last phase of the water project as yet. This issue will be decided at this coming week's Council meeting.

Geordie Palmer asked if the BRA is going to be hosting an all candidates meeting. BRA President Dave MacLaren commented that the new board will be meeting to approve this issue.

Bob Skyvington had a question about the voters list, asking how someone could check if they were on the list. One needs to contact the municipal office in Zurich or you can contact any of the candidates who have a voters list. If you are not on the voters list, you must attend the Municipal Offices in Zurich and sign an affidavit in front of Municipal Staff. The question arose as to the hours of operation of the Municipal Offices.

Ron Dagg commented that the BRA should be very concerned about holding the line on tax increases.

Joseph Rapai expressed the belief that all of the Municipality should be working in harmony for the betterment of all of Bluewater.

Priorities for the Coming Year

The BRA membership was asked to put forward the priorities that the board should address in the upcoming year.

- Continue to fight to hold the line on taxes.
- Main Street Revitalization with the Tree Renewal Project
- Options for Municipal Services
- By Law Enforcement
- New Library, Post Office, Public Washrooms and Archives
- Election Readiness
- Continuation of the Blue Flag Initiative
- Integrating our communities
- Public Access to the Beach and Public Beach Safety
- Condition of the North Pier

It was moved by Claire Soper and seconded by Tom Dawe that this list be the priorities for the BRA to address. CARRIED

Mayor Bill Dowson brought greetings from Municipal council noting that this was the tenth anniversary of amalgamation. Mayor Dowson also commented that the Council is not divided.

There being no further business, it was moved by Andrew Barlow and seconded by Bill Rowat that the meeting be adjourned. CARRIED