

**Bayfield Ratepayers Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Saturday, March 3, 2012
Lions Building From 9 am to 10:45 am
Items in Blue are Action Items**

Prepared by: Ainslie Willock

NOTE: Members are welcome to observe our monthly open meetings held at the Lions Building and will be asked if they have an issue they would like us to consider addressing, please see our web page for meeting dates: www.bra.camp8.org and Post Office Bulletin Board.

Directors Present:

Ainslie Willock - Acting President	yes
Paul Hill - Vice President	regrets
Sondra Buchner - Treasurer & Co-Director Membership	regrets
Michael Gubesch - Co-Director Membership	yes
Susan Drew - Secretary	regrets
Ken Larone - Communications	yes
Alan Vihant - Planning	no

Total # Directors: 7 # at Meeting 3 # for Quorum: 5 Quorum: NO

Absent: Alan Vihant

Volunteer Member, Membership: Donna Cartwright - regrets

Call to order, welcomed Guests: Mayor Dowson, Bill Webb and Bill Steemstra

Any business arising from previous minutes: NO

Draft Agenda Approved

**Draft Feb. 4th, 2012 Minutes Moved by _____ Seconded by _____ Passed: No Quorum
(distributed by e-mail)**

Treasurer's Report: Chequing \$1,405.40 Savings \$2,274.39 Def Fund \$956.61

(Same as Feb.'s report)

**Accept Treasurer's Report -
[Ian Matthew, Reviewer]**

**Moved by:
Seconded by:
Vote Carried: ON HOLD - No Quorum**

Ainslie and Wild Apricot web costs: [Paul Hill will meet with Ainslie to discuss options](#) - one is to write a new program which would entail an upfront payment but no ongoing software costs. Ken and Bill Webb suggested that we ask the Bayfield and Area Chamber of Commerce if we could share their web page.

We're to seek Villagers to fill openings on Board.

Note:

Spring General Members' Meeting will be on Sat. May 19th at 10 am in the Lions Building

Policy Priorities Update 2011 - 2012
Listed with Contact's Name and in Members' order from AGM, September 3, 2011

1. Hold the Line on Taxes - OPEN (Dave Nearingburg to advise when requested by us)
2. Village Main Street Renewal: Ainslie
 - Paul Hill, Ainslie Willock, Geordie Palmer, Janet Snider, Roma Harris, Dave MacLaren, Douglas Barill, Roger Lewington to **meet for the second time on Monday, March 26th at 10 am in the Lions Building** - open meeting public is welcome to come.
 - **BRA to draft a community sign-on letter asking MPP Lisa Thompson to direct economic development funds to the implementation of the upcoming storm water plan and streetscape. Note: Bayfield's Heritage Main Street is the economic driver for the area. Letter to be presented to her at the Mayor's breakfast on Friday, May 19th (Mayor's suggestion).**
 - **Time to ask for french drains on either side of Main Street is when the storm water report comes to Council for public comment.**
3. Village Tree Renewal: Sondra Buchner: No change
4. Municipal Facilities Review & Council Update - Paul Hill. No change.
5. By-law Enforcement - Ainslie for Susan Drew - Currently no requests for help.
6. New Library, Washrooms, Post Office and Archives - **letter of support for Archives Plan will be sent this month to BHS**
 - **New complex is out to tender and a committee of Council will determine which three have the best proposals and look at their proposed budgets. Goal is to encourage local proposals.**
7. Water Quality/Blue Flag & Harbour/North Pier:
 - WATER QUALITY - We're hosting a **meeting with Bob Worsell of the Huron County Health Unit at Lions Building on Thursday March 22nd at 7 pm in the Lions Building** - everyone welcome - Notice in Bayfield Breeze - Posters to go up today - NOTE: This is the same date as the UN's first International Water Day. This meeting will help **Ken and Ainslie write recommendations to Bluewater, ABCA & Board of Health on the Bayfield Watershed and Lake Water Quality to be presented to Council during budget review. NOTE:** There are serious algae issues at three beaches north of Bayfield. One is at Cut Line Rd. The source of the problem is coming from the Gullies. The three beaches are not swimmable. Our concern is not just those 3 beaches but also to prevent it from spreading south.
 - PIERS - Both piers are owned by the **Federal government - Fisheries and Oceans Canada**. The Municipality leases the base end of the South Pier for Bluewater Marina Gas Pumps. Stratcon has been hired by the federal government to put the gas pumps back into working order. The Mayor told us that he'd been assured that they would be ready for this spring.
 - **The BRA will create a sign on letter for Bayfield groups to sign onto asking MP Ben Lobb and the Minister of F&Os (the federal government) to repair the north pier. If the North pier washes away in a big storm it would close access to the lake from the harbour and effectively shut down the harbour. We're to copy Bluewater and ask them to write the Federal government as well. Sign-on letter to be presented to MP Ben Lobb at Mayor's breakfast on Friday, May 19th (Mayor's suggestion).**
 - FYI: The Federal government wanted to download the piers to the Municipality about 9 years ago but the Municipality wouldn't accept unless the piers were in good working order - the Federal government never put the piers in good working order so the Municipality never took control of them.
8. **Integrating Bluewater Communities** - Ainslie re Bluewater Heritage Committee's Celebration of Heritage Week on Feb. 26th that honoured outstanding heritage volunteers and supporters across Bluewater - it was a success and a great opportunity for everyone to meet
9. **Public Access to the Beach and Public Beach Safety & Cleaning:** Ken - No change.
10. **Membership Renewal - Mike Gubesch - Soups On - Feb.19th - Was a great success. Mike's soup was the best even if we didn't win!! Thank you Mike, Paul and Ken.**
11. **Planning - Alan Vihant - no report**
12. **Communications - Ken Larone - no report**

Issues of Note:

- 1. MTO - Foodland Crossing - Sondra Buchner** - Ainslie let the Board know that MTO has looked at their traffic data for pedestrian traffic outside Foodland across from Clan Gregor Square and agrees that we qualify for a pedestrian crossing. However, as they don't have one that doesn't cause rear ending of cars, they're in the process of developing a new version. Ainslie has discussed with a number of people the option of having a Community Safety Zone - signs at the north end of the bridge and at Mill Rd. indicating a Community Safety Zone which allows the OPP to double fines which they ticket. This system has worked well in other communities and is something that we believe could be installed this spring. **A letter is being drafted for the community groups to sign onto in support of a "Community Safety Zone"**. NOTE: There isn't one spot for pedestrians to cross the highway and yet the highway cuts our community in half. Also noted that garbage trucks coming down from Owen Sound speed through the town on their way to Detroit. **Bill Webb to contact company and find out the name of the appropriate person for us to write a letter to.**
- 2. MTO - Bluewater Highway North Access - Paul Hill - As it is MTO's road & in Central Huron's jurisdiction - closure is proceeding and there is nothing we can do.**
- 3. Industrial Wind Turbines - Ainslie Willock** - Northland Power Inc. has asked BRA if the transmission lines for Grand Bend should be placed south of Zurich or north of Exeter. **BRA has forwarded request for in-put to the Bluewater Heritage Committee as it is in their jurisdiction and they're looking for heritage information.** On March 29th NextEra (IWC's outside Bayfield) will make their heritage reports available to the public.

New Business

Letters of Support for Comment and Approval:

- **Comments and Recommendations on ABCA's Water Quality Report - Ken & Ainslie to prepare a report with the goal of combining Health and Conservation water information in next ABCA report to help us best direct existing tax dollars to get the most useful data.**
- Port to Point - Port of Goderich to Point Farms Provincial Park - pedestrian/bike lane on lake side beside farmers' fences to facilitate non vehicular traffic for 1800 people - **We're preparing a group sign on letter supporting the concept and asking for Bayfield to also be connected to communities north and south of us for pedestrians use and support walkable communities.** Note: Grand Bend has already implemented a pedestrian pathway by their highway.
- **Ken will speak with the BRVTA to see if they would like to put walking paths along "closed roads" in Bayfield.**

Meeting Adjourned at 10:45 am

Next Meeting: April 7, 2012 - 9 am in Lions Building

Signed by Ainslie Willock, President