



Bayfield Ratepayers Association

Annual General Meeting - August 4, 2012, 10 am Community Centre

Minutes Prepared by Ainslie Willock

Board Members Present: Sondra Buchner, Treasurer and Co-Director Membership; Carol Thornley-Hall, Director of Art and Culture; Ainslie Willock, President; Al Vihant, Director of Planning

Regrets: Paul Hill, Vice President

Resignation: Michael Gubesch, Co-Director Membership

Ainslie thanked Michael for serving two years on the Board.

1. Everyone welcomed & **Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.**
2. . **Membership Quorum (25) Present:** Yes, with Ainslie holding Bill Webb's proxy and Dave MacLaren holding Jane MacLaren's proxy.

Also in attendance: Mayor Bill Dowson, Geordie Palmer and Tyler Hessel

3. Greetings from the Mayor Bill Dowson - The Mayor addressed the members and clarified some issues.

Carol Thornley-Hall, thanked Mayor and Council for our new Library, Post Office and Public Washrooms Complex that are expected to be move in ready early 2013.

4. Greetings from Councillor Geordie Palmer (spoke to issue of turbines & water rates)
5. Greetings from Councillor Tyler Hessel (spoke to the issue of turbines' expected affect on tourism & economy)
6. Board members Introduced themselves and Ainslie thanked Sondra Buchner and Allan Vihant who have now served for 2 consecutive - 2 year terms - a big thank you to each of them for all their work to help the BRA.

Note: Our by-laws states 7-12 Directors - we have three now: Ainslie Willock, Paul Hill, Carol Thornley-Hall.

7. **Moved by Gary Davidson and seconded by Don Schafheitlin that the Agenda be accepted. Vote: Carried**

8. **Moved by Sondra Buchner seconded by Ainslie Willock that the Minutes of the of the Annual General Meeting September 3, 2011** prepared by Dave MacLaren be accepted. See here: <http://bra.camp8.org/Resources/Documents/BRA2011%20Sept%203%20AGM%20Minutes-2.pdf>
Vote: Carried

9. Business arising from the 2011 AGM Minutes: **None**

10. **Moved by Sondra Buchner seconded by Allan Vihant that the Minutes of the July 7, 2012** Monthly Board meeting prepared by Ainslie Willock be accepted. See here: http://bra.camp8.org/Resources/Documents/BRA2012_July7_DraftBoardMinutes.pdf **Vote: Carried**

11. **Treasurers Report** - Sondra Buchner

Closing Balance as of June:

	2012	2011
Operating Account	\$ 371.12	\$ 1,450.33
Savings	2,274.49	2,274.12
Defense Account	956,66	956.54
	<u>3,602,27</u>	<u>4,681.12</u>

Our only 2012 expenses are monthly meeting room rental & web site expenses (licensed software fee). Due, to half the membership being lifetime members we'll run out of funds very soon. One of the top priorities this year will be renewing memberships, asking for donations from lifetime members and ending the web site's recurring fees.

a) **Moved by Beate Bowron Seconded by Don Schafheitlin** that the Treasures Report be accepted.

b) **Sondra Buchner** to advise on auditor for next year and we'll have an online vote to accept.

12. **Presidents Report:** read by Ainslie Willock, see here: http://bra.camp8.org/Resources/Documents/BRA_2012_Presidents_Report.pdf - if you're unable to open a .pdf file please contact me (ainsliewillock@hotmail.com) and I'll send it to you as .doc file.

13. **Directors Reports:**

Membership: Co-Director - Sondra Buchner

To be inclusive of all Bayfield ratepayers and in consideration of competing worthy demands for memberships in the Village we ask Members to approve a modest increase in membership dues and that we seek donations from lifetime members.

In regard's to the idea of offering advertising space on a renewed website that would have key links for new residents to help raise some funds, it was felt that the Bayfield and Area Chamber of Commerce's web site already offers that service. The Board will consider how to seek stable funding.

Proposed Policy: *"That the Bayfield Ratepayers Association introduce a one year modest membership fee of \$10 and a five year membership fee of \$40, as the current membership fees will not sustain the organization. Further that we seek donations from Lifetime Members (half our members) and others. That we directly approach all lapsed members for renewal. And, that we seek alternative sources of revenue."*

Proposed by: Bill Rowat Seconded by: Gary Davidson Vote: Carried

14. Allan Vihant: Planning: A look to the Future - Allan will send us a write up of his comments to be placed here.

15. Sondra Buchner: Community Safety Zone & Pedestrian Safety Crossing Highway

Proposed Policy: *"As we don't meet the Ministry of Transportation's current traffic control criteria for year round high traffic volume, that the Bayfield Ratepayers Association ask the OPP and the Municipality of Bluewater to designate Highway #21 through Bayfield a "Community Safety Zone." This involves posting signs indicating that speeding fines are increased. We have MTO's support for this.*

Proposed by: Kip Cantrick Seconded by: Don Schafheitlin Vote: Carried

Proposed Policy: *That the speed limit be a consistent 50km/hr along Highway #21 through Bayfield to help pedestrians cross the highway. And, that warning signs be posted on the highway to the North at the Golf Course in Central Huron and to the South at Chrystal Springs Rd.*

Proposed by: Dave MacLaren Seconded by Beate Bowron Vote: Carried

16. Sondra Buchner: Communities in Bloom & Bayfield Tree Project Reports - We'll find out the end of September whether we achieve a 5 bloom rating. This fall will be our 4th Village tree planting program. A total of 130 tall trees (6' - 10') have been planted.

Election of Directors

17. a) Directors' Nominations for Board of Directors: Reappoint: Paul Hill, Carol Thornley-Hall, Ainslie Willock Proposed by: Gary Davidson Seconded by: Don Schafheitlin Vote: Carried

b) Nominations from the floor: NONE

Ainslie asked the membership to consider becoming a Board member or asking their neighbours to consider the same and to approach a member of the Board.

Note: Our Constitution states that we need a total of 7-12 Directors.

Issues and Policy Motions:

18. Industrial Wind Turbines: Ainslie Willock

Proposed Policy: *"That the Bayfield Ratepayers Association along with already supporting the WHO and Central Huron's policies on Industrial Wind Turbines (IWTs) ask the Premier to keep to his recent promise of only approving IWTs in municipalities that ask for them. That there be a new permitting process that*

includes municipalities as true partners. And, that we advise the Federal government that we support their research project on the impact of IWTs on people's health."

Proposed by: Ainslie Seconded by: Ralph Laviolette Vote: Carried

Background: Our two existing IWC resolutions passed on September 3, 2011, at our AGM are:

A) Bayfield Ratepayers Association's Policy #1: Industrial Wind Turbines. A resolution from the Bayfield Ratepayers Association requesting that the Province of Ontario adopt the World Health Organization's policy that Industrial Wind Turbines (IWTs) not be built within 1500 metres of homes including, the Village of Bayfield's Settlement Area. As the Village of Bayfield's beaches and views of the lake/sunsets are a public asset, that no IWTs be built to obstruct the full view and enjoyment of the lake and or sunsets.

B) Bayfield Ratepayers Association's Policy #2: Industrial Wind Turbines. A resolution from the Bayfield Ratepayers Association requesting that the Province of Ontario implement the Municipality of Central Huron June 6, 2011, IWTs resolution as stated below:

A resolution requesting that the Province of Ontario declare a moratorium on the construction of Industrial Wind Turbines (IWT's) until science based and peer reviewed regulations that ensure public health and well being have been implemented and that the province restore local planning powers to the municipality regarding renewable energy projects.

FYI: Huron County's policy on Wind Turbines as stated in their June 1, 2011 Minutes are: MOTION: 130 – 11 Moved by: Councillor B. Barnim and Seconded by: Councillor B. Siemon: THAT: Huron County Council; agree to support a moratorium on the further development of industrial wind turbines in Huron County until more health studies are completed. CARRIED

(Background: IWTs are also know as "windmills" but, IWT's are over 50 KW)

19. Great Lakes Protection Act: Ainslie Willock

Proposed Policy: *"That the Bayfield Ratepayers Association supports the provincial government's proposed "Great Lakes Protection Act" "to protect and restore the ecological health" of the Basin, and "to create opportunities for individuals and communities to become involved" in that process through provincial funding, with the request that the Act include: concrete actions that will protect and improve water quality, wetlands, beaches and coastlines; set science-based targets that address each Great Lake's problems; protect wetlands now, starting with coastal wetlands; and create a committee to provide long term consistent oversight of the Act's implementation. And, that we ask the Municipality of Bluewater and Huron County to adopt a similar position."*

Proposed by: Ainslie Willock Seconded by: Don Schafheitlin Vote: Carried

20. MTO & Removing trees along highway: Ainslie Willock

Part of the upcoming work on the highway directly north of Bayfield and South of Goderich is to repave the road and remove any tree that is within their "no tree" zone (7 metres from edge of highway) to avoid cars hitting the trees. Majority of trees slated to be removed are Ash and Silver Maple (very similar to Sugar Maples, have large bunches of red keys that fall in the spring)

Proposed Policy: *"That the Bayfield Ratepayers Association advise MTO that they should be planting ten trees for every tree they cut down on the side of the highway between the North end of Bayfield and Goderich rather than three. And, that they only take down trees that are dying, including trees with signs of emerald ash bore."*

Proposed by: Ralph Laviolette Seconded by: Gary Davidson Vote: Carried

21. Request from Membership for List of Priorities for 2012-2013

- Continue to fight to hold the line on taxes.
- Main Street Revitalization and Tree Renewal

- Membership Renewals & Donations, Reduce web site costs and Stabilize Funding
- Support Municipality of Bluewater's position on Industrial Wind Turbines
- Support Bayfield Historical Society's proposal to expand Archives into old Library
- Options for Municipal Services
- By Law Enforcement
- Election Readiness
- Integrating our communities
- Continuation of Blue Flag Initiative and Clean Beaches
- Public Access to the Beach & Public Beach Safety
- Fix North Pier

22. Floor opened to Questions and Comments

- BRA member, Steve Shanahan, has asked me to advise you that he now has a tree excavator that can dig up and move up to 60 foot tall mature trees - 519-565-2294.

23. Moved by Ainslie Willock seconded by Sondra Buchner that the meeting be adjourned. Carried

24. Meeting Adjourned at: 11:40 a.m.