

Bois Blanc Island Association

Annual Meeting Minutes

6 August 2022

BBI Association President – Carol Blundy:

Welcome/Opening comments:

- Tatler: Thank you to Brandy Dunn, and applause to Mary Deery for her years working on it previously
- Directory: New edition going to print soon, available next summer
- Square Dances: Wendy Spray still going in her 30th year, very successful. Lots of people participating.
- Expenditures:
 - Sound system for Wagner Room
 - Dust abatement for main road, Curt cant get the products so that's why it's not done yet
 - West End shed- needs to be replaced, it's in bad condition, was ok'd already

Introduction of Angie McArthur from the ISD:

Superintendent from the Eastern UP Area Schools.

- Currently have a teaching position posted and have offered a contract.
- Ballot in November for island cap at 4.1 mils (never be over it), due to inflation, the Headlee Amendment, 4.9374 on the ballot if needed. Questions? See Suzette Cooley-Sanborn.
- School-related concerns, go to teacher first, then go to Superintendent, let the board be citizens of the island first.
- When the schools close, you have 3 years to re-open: Cheboygan, Mackinac Island....taxes would go up significantly.

BBI Fire Department – Dan Reynolds:

- Mileage renewal and an increase, it passed. The increase allows them to implement their "on-call" service.
- Paid for 2 trained fire fighters to be on-call. 7 active members currently. All 7 active members are trained in Emergency Medical Procedures. FF #1 and #2 certification: Jessie LaPorte, Michelle Satchell, and Jim Gilligan.
- Also on-call system, one phone number, which is forwarded to whomever is on call.
- Fundraising – this year, new turn-out gear for all 7 active members
- New SCBA's – even more costly...about \$5,000 a piece. Only 4 more needed. Need more fundraising.
- T-Shirts are available at the Township Hall to purchase. Funds will benefit the BBIFD

Treasurer – Sally Cook:

- \$16,000 in the account, nearly.
- Working on getting credit card payments through, Paypal, Applepay, Venmo, etc. Will be working on it this winter.
- Tatler gets mailed to people who have paid their dues the previous year. Working on prepping to print the new Directory

Township Supervisor – Brent Sharpe:

- Planning to move forward in areas that need expansion due to increased people coming to BBI
- In the process getting permits for West End project.
- Painting process getting worked on down at the dock

- Main Roads- in excess of \$30,000 to have main roads brined. Doesn't benefit all tax payers. Fertilizer and Calcium Chloride is hard to obtain.
- Planning Commission – meeting and working on things
- Mailing addresses – house numbers have been determined, just waiting for the USPS, problem is at the county level. Township is the governing body. Don't use GIS Fetch. Street Address numbers is determined by the Township, they check with 911. Vacant addresses don't have a numerical address, until a structure is built.

Harbor Commission – Don Balbaugh:

- UP Engineering – working on Federal Funds. Don't like to lend money until need is determined.
- Signs are needed or equipment on the Cheboygan River property will help with tax break. Grass isn't being cut, City of Cheboygan thinks the property isn't in use.
- Brightwater Park – DEQ gave the ok to put the road in, but then changed it. Floating boat ramps will go in for residents, not commercial
- Main Dock- After 2 years, finally got the riprap in. Getting stuff from the mainland over here, has been problematic. The parking area behind going to Mill Road (private Drive), wetlands problem. Circle Drive is the goal to alleviate the parking congestion from the ferry.

Parks & Recreation - Jason Beugley: (also - Karen Beauchamp, Missy Phillips, Ginger Canup)

- Bright Water park – permits have been difficult, to get assessments to ????. The grant is extended to December 2022. Township has to go out and re-define the areas for the Army Corps. DEQ and Army Corps haven't been able to get here at the same time, so it's been difficult to get agreement.
- North Shore – no restroom facilities, Vault donated by Michigan DNR. The foundation is donating splitting the cost of the tank for the privy. Working on getting the tank donated. Cost estimated around \$3,000.
- Michigan DNR – auctioning off 26 acres (Nichols Pointe), Township has first rights to buy - \$67,000. If they don't buy it, then it goes public.
- Lake Mary – Leidel donated a chunk of property. (near Snow Beach) Working on permits to get parking (for cars and boat trailers)
- Logo Contest – in process. Hoping to use for signage.

Sherriff – Deputy Joe Fitzgerald:

It's been a good summer. Always general complaints about speeding 4-wheelers/ORV's, but hasn't been terrible. He's not on the island 24/7. Suggested more speed limit signs at strategic locations. Says the island is relatively safe, not much dangerous behavior or major issues. Township pays for a deputy 40 hrs. a week. Says he's not written many tickets: 3 or 4. Lots of people coming to the island. Stops lots of people for speeding, but takes the opportunity to warn and educate. He doesn't get a lot of complaints. If needed, call his work cell phone, for non-emergencies. He tries to be at the dock for most of the boat arrivals. His overall message: We have a safe island.

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BBI Community Foundation - Suzette Cooley-Sanborn:

If you have a need, apply to the Foundation by June 15th. Be sure to read info about the Foundation in the Directory

- Replaced all the doors on the school.
- Having trouble to get people or help
- Working on a tri-fold pamphlet of info

BBI Historical Society - Lynn Turner:

- Mike White annotated over 800 images at the museum

- Phil and Mike Radala and his sister Linda, re-did the museum floor (and other volunteers helped)
- Last day at the Museum– Tuesday, August 30th
- Michigan Historic Preservation Network annual conference – Lynn went and learned we could get some help for our museum. We have 27 volumes full of original picture, articles, images, etc. than have not been archived. They will send archivists in September, from the Grant we were awarded. Images, Pictures, Articles will be able to be accessed remotely.
- Mike White- going to give free classes, just call him 231.420.9932 (in the directory).
- Story Hour – JoAnna Munro-Duncan: a successful July program each Wednesday, will consider some August session next summer depending on volunteer availability
- Volunteer Luncheon/Banquet – will do a better job reaching out to notify volunteers
- Ice Cream Social/Used Book Sale – close to \$900 in donations
- New Revised Self-Guided Tour Map – have maps posted at Plaunt, Tavern, Diner, Township Office, shows routes for seeing the island for new visitors. New: included photographs, historical notes, etc. Also created a QR code, and is now functioning.
- Museum Schedule addendum: Open on Labor Day – Saturday 10a – 2p (w/Suzette)
- Great Lakes Islands Alliance – came for a visit recently, will be writing an article for the Tatler

BBI Association President – Carol Blundy:

Questions? Thanks for coming!

Meeting adjourned – 11:14a