

# Bois Blanc Island Association

## Annual Meeting Minutes

### August 3, 2024

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**Call to Order / Introduction of Association:** Carol Blundy, BBI Association President

**Officers** – Carol Blundy; Vice President, Suzette (Cooley) Sanborn; Secretary, Kathy Landschulz; Treasurer, Sally Cook

**West End:** Carol Blundy, JoAnna Duncan, Tom Wybranowski/Peggy Gilstad, Suzette (Cooley) Sanborn

**East End:** Brandie Dunn, Jim/Betty Hutchinson (NEW), Suzie Fisher Phillips, Carol VanRandwyk (NEW)

**Pines:** Jeff Urbany (NEW), Kathy Landschulz, Sally Cook

**Minutes Approval:** Carol Blundy for Kathy Landschulz, BBI Association Secretary – motion made to approve the meeting minutes from the August 5, 2023 BBIA Annual meeting by Joe Weber and seconded by Mary Struble Deery. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Association Update:** Carol Blundy – Tatler was produced (thanks to Brandie Dunn) and distributed in late May this year. BBIA Directory is underway for production and distribution later this year – cover photo feature was provided by Megan Hawver, ads are being sold by Laurie Bohn to sponsor the directory and its costs. BBIA also sponsors the weekly square dances late June – mid-August which all have been well attended again this year.

The Pavilion project is well underway with the location of it to be in Gibson Park (land owned by the Pines School). The land has been surveyed and the location of the Pavilion has been staked. Adjustments have been made from feedback received from the township zoning commission – including parking within the park and confirmation with LMAS (Luce, Mackinaw, Alger and Schoolcraft) Health Dept. the restroom requirements. An application has been submitted for two vault toilets and their placement. (Since the meeting LMAS has sent approval including placement of the vault toilets). Work will now be done with the School to bid the project which will include site clearing, concrete/work and the intended timber construction of the open air structure.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sally Cook, BBI Association Treasurer - Dues and Expenditures – reported a healthy balance, dues were billed and received via email, over 200 paid members with 100 in arrears for the dues covering the year July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025. Funds approved and/or expended so far this year are for the West End shelter renovation (approx. \$1,000 for materials, all labor donated), ladies shuffleboard sponsorship (\$250), clearing and cleaning of the Pines sidewalks (\$500), Ice Cream sponsorship following July 4 square dance (\$200) and sponsorship of last year's Historical Society speaker from Lavender Hill (\$250) – those expended. Approved expenditures underway are the Information station that will be put at Lake Mary (\$1,000 - \$1,500), support of the BBIFD for Epi-pens or needs as identified (\$500). The original donation of \$200,000 for the Pavilion underway has been invested into a CD that we continue to move to maximize interest on until the Pavilion is built.

**Updates:**

**Recycling/Parade/Kidz Kamp/Adult/Nature Trails:** Kathy Brown – update provided including an upcoming meeting next week with the Michigan Nature Association on the 480 acres here on the island. Recycling collection was conducted again this year twice. There was a July 4 parade organized this year that was well attended – approx. 140 people. Kathy is working on the second annual parade with adjustments included from

the feedback provided. Details on addresses and mail delivery was also provided – as detailed and provided in the 2024 BBI Tatler (available at [bbiassociation.org](http://bbiassociation.org)).

**BBI School: Cindy Riker, BBI School Board President and Treasurer** – Four students expected for the upcoming school year, three potentially leaving by the end of October. Funding continues to be a challenge due to the Headley Law Amendment. Legislation needs to be amended. A search is underway for a teacher.

**Fire Department: Dan Reynolds** – There are eleven active fire crew – eight are certified firefighters and six are certified medical responders. Three tools that are being investigated for purchase – a drone, Epi-pens for all responders to have on hand, and EKG strips. The association will be making a donation likely on the Epi-pens.

**Township: Brent Sharpe, Supervisor** – township operations are operating well and will be reported on in the upcoming updates.

**Harbor Commission: Don Balbaugh** – The land purchased for the mainland Marina is moving forward as are plans for Island Marina/Area. There are many grants, funds and tax considerations that are available to help make this happen. A pictorial was provided on the on island plans for improvement including additional parking. Chris Viers wrapped up his tenure as the Harbor Master with a focus on written policies and procedures. Jay Beugly has assumed the role moving forward with a focus on implementing and complying with the written policies and procedures.

**Parks & Recreation: Ginger Canup** – Many activities underway to help fund the needs of the Parks & Recreation needs. A fishing contest was held this year; Third Annual Photo Contest was conducted – selling the resulting calendars now for \$25 apiece. The First Annual 5k was a huge success with over 60 participants which included a provision for sponsors and virtual runners. The North Shore restrooms are now operational with help from the DNR and funds provided by the Foundation and the BBIA. Nichols Point has had a survey conducted accompanying the property tax invoices with a lot of good feedback received.

**Zoning Administration: Damien Nelson** – Damien attended and provided a brief introduction of himself and his role.

**Planning Commission: Adam Bronkema** – The Township's master plan is available on the Township website and is being used as the basis for growth and change. The commission is working on enforcement, monitoring and language related to ensure that we are adhering to the Master plan and have the necessary healthy framework for continued growth. A big area of focus in that regard is the Short Term Rental area where there is legislation in process at the State of Michigan level.

**Sheriff's Update: Joe Fitzgerald** – currently Officer Joe is in his fifth year on the Island. Reports that are limited significant problems. Speed continues to be monitored and a speed monitor has been donated that is doing well to keep speed in check. Side by sides continue to increase with a need to monitor and control. Parking especially at the Marina has become a large issue inhibiting business movement. Request is to keep that area clear as well as try to park anywhere but on a road – in Michigan parking on dirt roads is against the law.

**BBI Community Foundation Update: Carol Blundy (from the Foundation)** – Operating Funds are at \$45,081 with total expenses of \$2,155. Assets are \$345,705 with 10% for spending. Scholarship request was granted to an island resident for \$4,500. Grant requests approved – Wild Life Assoc mini hopper storage, a new dishwasher and 6 eight foot plastic tables for the Wagner Room and a new door for the Museum. Sarah Bloom has resigned as president and anyone interested in assuming the role should contact her.

**Historical Society - Library/Museum: Grace Miller** – Lots of activity this year with a speaker on August 7 on the Shipwrecks in the Straits. A moment was taken to honor of and thanks for Mike White and his lifelong contribution to the Island and its history. The Ice Cream Social was well attended again this year with revenue being slightly down. Story Hour continues to be well attended with 21 children in attendance for the children's book author event.

**Tatler: Brandie Dunn** – Appreciation was expressed for those contributing to the Tatler. Also an update provided on the island environmental stewardship that Brandie and Beth Beson (many thanks to both!) organize to tackle invasive species invading various areas of the Island. Brandie will also be attending the Great Lakes Island Alliance Meeting on Lex Cheneaux Islands, September 22-25.

**Meeting Adjourned**