Fall - Winter 2007

Supporting Environmental and Economic Sustainability

Mission Statement

- 1. Represent the combined interests of our membership on issues of mutual concern that may affect the fundamental character of Beaver Island.
- 2. Support the preservation of the natural resources and beauty of Beaver Island and appropriate environmental conservation policies and/or methods.
- 3. Work with local government units in support of property owners' shared perspectives, concerns, and investments.
- 4. Foster and support economic growth that is consistent with the preservation of the natural beauty of Beaver Island and the quality of life, which is the reason for our original and continuing attraction to Beaver Island.

Why does BIPOA exist, and what's in a name?

The Beaver Island Property Owners Association has been part of the fabric of Beaver Island life for many years. Not having been present at the creation, I don't know why or by whom it was founded. Some Beaver Islanders have assumed it exists primarily to protect and advocate for Island property owners' narrow interests as property owners, but that has never been more than a small part of its official corporate purposes.

They were described in the original Articles of Incorporation as follows:

- 1. promote sound conservation,
- 2. save the natural resources of Beaver Island and promote sound environmental programs,
- 3. insure that local government is responsive to the wishes of property owners on the island,
- 4. work for intelligent land use,
- 5. foster and support sound eco-

nomic growth consistent with the natural beauty of the island.

Those purposes were amended several years ago with the filing of an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation and now read as follows: "The Beaver Island Property Owners Association is a nonprofit organization and acts as an information source. Areas include:

- 1. promoting sound conservation,
- 2. to save natural resources of Beaver Island and promote sound environmental programs,
- 3. work for intelligent land use,
- 4. enhance communication between local governments and property owners to ensure growth is consistent with the natural beauty of the island."

The organization's Mission Statement, prominently displayed on this and every issue of the BIPOA continued on page 2. newsletter

In This Issue and online at www.BeaverIslandAssociation.org



the COA



Housing

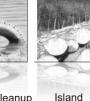
Phragmites

Update









Logging







Fiahtina

Where has Beach Cleanup Green Slime the Water Gone? Success

Community Center

Saving The Family Cottage

Library Resource

Why does BIPOA exist, and what's in a name? continued from page 1. and part of our bylaws since 2002, is consistent with those purposes.

In 2003, BIPOA was granted tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, recognizing that its purposes and operations are consistent with purposes—primarily educational—described therein. That could not have happened if BIPOA's existence and operation served only the selfish interests of property owners. This is mostly old news, of course, but I think it is worth mentioning in this my first message to members as the

Association's new president for the following reasons:

Four BIPOA board members retired from the Board of Directors this past summer: Jack Kelly, who served the last two years as president; Doris Larson, who served with great dedication and efficiency as secretary; and Dennis Cady and Krys Lyle. We thank them for their service and will miss them all. During discussions with prospective new board members, some of us met with resistance based on the misperception that BIPOA does exist primarily for such narrow, selfish purposes, so it is important to put that to rest.

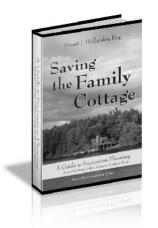
Also, during the past two-plus years BIPOA has worked hard to inform the Beaver Island community about the threat of invasive phragmites to our shores and native habitat and to advocate for and help organize a treatment program to meet this threat. Those efforts came to fruition over the past summer and early fall with the very successful phragmites eradication program carried out by St. James and Peaine Townships and the DNR and described in Pam Grassmick's report, following.

This was a great example of good communication and collaboration

Saving the Family Cottage

Family cottages are a joy, but passing the beloved home on to the next generation can give rise to many problems. Multiple owners means sharing time and expenses and with each subsequent generation the owners increase as do the prob-

lems. Some of the family may not be able to use or afford the cottage and may want to sell while others want to keep the treasure in the family. Traditional means of passing the cottage on the children usually means that the new owners are tenants in common and that one owner can force the sale of the cottage often resulting in the loss of the cottage to the whole



family.

The book *Saving the*Family Cottage by Stuart J. Hollander, a lawyer from Traverse City, is an invaluable tool in developing a plan for an orderly transition of the family cottage from one generation to the next.

Mr. Hollander presents

various scenarios for passing the family cottage on and describes the potential problems that are likely to arise in a clear and concise format. His suggestion is to form a limited liability corporation (LLC) at minimal expense that would provide guidelines for time sharing, renting, in laws, buyouts of family member, sharing of expenses and other prob-

lems that may arise with multiple owners of a cottage. In the book, he describes several ways of dealing with all of the above problems and emphasizes the flexibility that an LLC gives the family in solving those problems. By proscribing how situations are to be dealt with, family arguments and wedges between family members are avoided. The LLC can be altered as new situation arise by consent of the new owners and even that process can be proscribed.

The book is \$19.85 and is available from Pleasant City Press, P.O. Box 490, Suttons Bay, Michigan, 49682 and can be obtained on the internet from www.cottagelaw.com.

For those looking to keep the cottage in the family and avoid potential problems the book is a must read.

between BIPOA and local governments—and of the unselfishness of Island property owners, who contributed thousands of dollars to the effort not just to eradicate phragmites from their own beaches, but to provide adequate resources to treat all affected areas on the many miles of publicly owned Beaver Island shoreline. To build on this collaboration, the BIPOA Board has designated some of its members to serve as continuing liaison with the Township Boards—not to be "watchdogs" or trouble-makers, but to keep the lines of communication open and facilitate further cooperation.

Some of you will recall conversation at the last two BIPOA annual meetings about a possible name-change for the organization. Nothing came of those discussions, but in its first meeting the newly constituted Board of Directors revisited the idea and a special committee was formed to review the matter and make a recommendation for action when the Board met again in September. That recommendation and the Board's action are reported by Peter Igoe in this newsletter (page 6.)

The short version is that we have filed a Certificate of Assumed Name with the State to use the name, "The Beaver Island Association." We will operate under that name from now until next summer's annual meeting, when those present will be asked to approve a permanent name change. We believe the new name and the succinct mission-derived tag line that will accompany it on our letterhead and all other written materials much better describe and encompass our true official purposes and our members' expectations, and will enable the organization to grow and become even more effective in achieving those purposes. We hope you agree.

- Paul Glendon

Invasive Phragmites Update

The entire Beaver Island community can high five each other for pulling together as we battle to save our shoreline from invasive phragmites. As you are all aware, BIPOA has worked years to educate Islanders about this threat. We recognized that Beaver Island had much at stake. Once phragmites is established, it decreases the biodiversity of native plants and animals and impacts the health of the Great Lakes. There was the potential to lose five endangered or threatened species. With the degradation of our beaches come decreased property values and ultimately the erosion of our tax base. Tourism and hunting dollars could have been affected also. John Works, Don Vyse and both township boards are to be commended for working tirelessly on the SOS Project. Today we are 27.2 acres lighter, which is the area that the Superior Environmental And Aquatic Services treated. Property owners will continue to notice their stands dying and turning brown through the fall as the herbicide moves through the root system. Professionals and researchers who work in the area of phragmites control have reviewed photos and the evaluation process will continue through next year. As we all knew going into this as a community, it will be an ongoing fight. Plans are already in the process for the 2008 fall treatment. The coastal shoreline will need to be reassessed and changes based on data and thoughtful review will be put into place. BIPOA will pursue

policy changes within the DEQ which will address bottom land issues regarding treatment in areas severely affected by low lake levels. There is much work yet to be accomplished, but for now we need to say thank you to our townships, thank you for your faith and funding of this project, thanks to all the various educational opportunities, and Brian Mastenbrook from the Michigan DNR who was an essential member of the team. The SEAS treatment group also deserves recognition for their sensitivity and attention to our fragile coastal wetlands. Please look for opportunities to serve with this project next year as we request help from volunteers this spring.

– Pam Grassmick

BIPOA Annual Meeting July 23, 2007 Minutes

The annual meeting of BIPOA was held Monday, July 23, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Peaine Township Hall. Prior to the meeting there was a showing of the video *Invasive Phragmites* funded by Peaine Township.

President Jack Kelly welcomed everyone to the meeting. He invited attendees to join the organization and to renew current memberships and emphasized the importance of the organization. Jack introduced board members present: Annette Dashiell, treasurer; Doris Larson, secretary; Dan Wardlow, and Pam Grassmick.

The minutes of the annual meeting July 24, 2006, were approved as printed in the Fall/Winter newsletter.

Annette Dashiell presented the financial report for fiscal year 7/1/2006 to 6/30/07. The report was approved.

Jack complimented officers for the service to the organization.

Prior discussion of a name change for the organization resulted in the recommendation that the name Beaver Island Property Owner's Association be maintained. The organization has established credibility and recognition and it seems unwise to make a change at this time. There was a suggestion from an attendee that the name "BI Community and Property Owner's Assoc" be considered.

Jack reminded the membership that the primary thrust of BIPOA is to

call attention to island concerns in relationship to island ecology and the economy. BIPOA is concerned primarily with education.

Jack introduced Brian Mastenbrook, the "Wildlife Biologist of the Year" in Michigan. Brian summarized the "Phragmites Treatment" program that has been proposed for this fall. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources in cooperation with both island townships and with input from BIPOA board members and CMU director Jim Gillingham has developed a process for treatment of phragmites on shoreline property. The program will take place between Aug.25 and Sept. 25. All shoreline property owners have been sent information about the program and have been asked to grant permission for treatment on their property and given the opportunity to donate to the cost of treatment. Bids were received from commercial herbicide contractors and Superior Environmental Aquatic Services was granted the contract for treatment. Brian emphasized the need to pool the resources of state, local and private funds in order to make treatment of the entire island shoreline possible. He estimates that approximately \$13,000 will be needed for treatment.

Brian responded to questions from the membership. There was particular concern that all property owners who grant permission and contribute to the cost of treatment be assured that their property will receive treatment.

Many members expressed the need for ALL property owners to contribute, since this is an island-wide problem.

Doris Larson presented the slate of nominees for BIPOA board positions. The following persons were elected:

Peter Igoe
Jane Dwyer
Bruce Jacobson
Craig Schrotenboer

A recommendation was made that BIPOA address the issue of water quality in the Great Lakes. Several members endorsed the importance of this issue. (The Tip of the Mitt website was suggested as a source of information.)

Pam Grassmick and Barb Lucas were recognized and applauded for their work on the video *A Great Lakes Jewel*, a project of BIPOA with funds secured through grants. The meeting adjourned with the showing of this video. A DVD including *A Great Lakes Jewel*, *Invasive Phragmites*, and *It's All Connected* was made available to all folks in attendance. The video will also be distributed at the library and the Chamber of Commerce and will be shown on the ferry and at the airports.

Meeting adjourned 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully,
Doris Larson, secretary

Letters to the Editor: Council on Aging

On October 23, 2007, I attended a Charlevoix Council on Aging planning session in Boyne City that was intended to set priorities and expectations for Charlevoix County. As many of you know, I am an R.N. with two elderly parents ages 89 and 93. I know first hand about aging and services on Beaver Island. I asked two questions at the end of a 2-hour session. I feel strongly that all property owners ask similar questions of our Charlevoix County Commissioners that have a duty and are responsible for the public health of Beaver Island

All of Charlevoix County has more COA services than Beaver Island; in addition, Charlevoix County's Visiting Nurses Association with all of those health services are not available to anyone young or old on Beaver Island. Our isolation and unique elderly situations require a different approach than if we were attached to the mainland. My question is: Since COA has set the precedent allowing the Charlevoix Senior Center to determine how best to use its funding given from the COA, why should Beaver Island residents not be given the same choices and abilities that would provide just the services that our at-risk elderly need such as in-home Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, better meals, more frequent assessments...and the list goes on, through our Medical Center that is a 501(c)(3)?

Question #2 regards the administrative/management decisions made by the County's employee. The Patient Care Services that assist with activities of daily living (and I'm talking about bathing of homebound seniors and other basic services) are totally unavailable when our present single care giver is off the island and to have a "waiting list" for various services for sometimes as long as 2-years is unacceptable. This neglects the very basic needs of our elderly for a week or more at a time. At the same time, COA is building a \$1.5 million dollar investment account, which plainly shows that the COA has been and is broken and needs major changes from the top. How can the taxpayers of Beaver Island be assured that our taxes and grant monies that were earmarked for our elderly actually get directed to areas that the community has identified as being needed vs. the COA administration determining our needs?

I await their answer as every taxpayer of Beaver Island should.

Respectfully submitted, Pam Grassmick

Comments and Letters to the Editor are welcome.

Contact information for the Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners is also listed to the right.

Charlevoix County

Board of Commissioners

www.charlevoixcounty.org/board.asp

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Shirlene Tripp, Vice Chair 07682 Old Us 31 N.,

Charlevoix, Michigan 49720 347-9679

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111 East Pine Street Boyne City, Michigan 49712 582-0684

Ronald Reinhardt

00880 BC/EJ Road Boyne City, Michigan 49712 582-7912

Joel Evans

10448 Lord Road East Jordan, Mi 49727 536-7073

Robert Drebenstedt

04857 Wickersham Road Charlevoix, Michigan 547-8463

A New Name for the Beaver Island Property Owners Association

Over the last several years there have been many discussions by the membership and the board of directors regarding the name of our organization. At the August board meeting, Paul Glendon, President, appointed a working committee of Bruce Jacobson, Dan Wardlow, and Peter Igoe to review naming issues and, if appropriate, make recommendations to the board regarding the name.

The working committee started with the mission of the organization, briefly stated: "to support the preservation of the natural resources and beauty of Beaver Island, and to support economic growth which is consistent with the preservation of the island's natural beauty...."

In evaluating alternative names, the committee set the following criteria:

- The name should reflect the mission of the organization.
- ■Second, it should convey a positive image to the entire island community, building on the reputation created by the leadership role played in organizing the Phragmites eradication project and the annual Beach Clean-up initiative.
- ■Third, it should be inclusionary, with the objective of substantially increasing the membership over the next several years, essential if we are to move forward in carrying out our mission.
- ■Fourth, in addition to growing the membership, the name should be helpful in achieving financial support and grants from other organizations, for programs relating to the mission.
- ■And finally, the name should be simple, memorable and elegant.

Taking all of this into account, the working committee made the following recommendation to the board, and after discussion, the board voted unanimously to adopt the new organization name, with the supporting mission summary:

The Beaver Island Association

Supporting Environmental and Economic Sustainability

The board will present the recommended name to the membership for ratification at its next annual meeting, in the summer of 2008. In the interim, we have filed a corporate assumed name certificate with the State and will begin using the name with the mission summary statement and new logo in the newsletter and all other communications.

-Peter Igoe

Committees

PhragmitesSOS Project Coordinator

Pam Grassmick 28629 Kendallwood Drive Farmington Hills, MI 48334 Phone (248) 489-0784 mcgrass@ameritech.net

Lake Geneserath issues/activities

Craig Schrotenboer 26652 Hemlock Point Road Beaver Island, MI 49782 Phone (231) 448-2973 cschrotenboer@ghfc.org

Beach Clean-upCoordinator

Ken McDonald 31570 East Side Drive Beaver Island, MI 49782 Phone (231) 448-2981 KJMcDonald@comcast.net

Senior Housing

Jane Dwyer, Secretary 31520 East Side Drive Beaver Island, MI 49782 (231) 448-2868 dwyerje@gtlakes.com

Project Coordinator for "A Great Lakes Jewel"

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BI Preservation Association Liaison

Ken McDonald 31570 Eastside Drive Beaver Island, MI 49782 Phone (231) 448-2981 KJMcDonald@comcast.net

----- Island Currents

Beaver Island Community Center Phase One Completed

The Preservation Association of Beaver Island (PABI) continues its work on the new Community Center. The property has been paid for and cleaned up, the old structure razed, the facade restored and the entire exterior of the building completed. The last step of Phase One was installing the restored facade from the old store to the front of the

Community Center.

The Beaver Island Community Center will be a valuable resource for full-time and seasonal Island residents as well as visitors. Containing a Visitor Center, Senior Center, Teen Center, state of the art Performing Arts Center—as well as lots of room for Island events. The Community Center will significantly enhance the quality of life on Beaver Island.

PABI has raised over \$1.7 million for the Community Center to date and is continuing to raise funds to finish and furnish the interior. Any and all donations are welcome. Please contact PABI at P.O. Box 494, Beaver Island, MI 49782.

- Ken McDonald

Logging

You may remember from our last newsletter that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources had let open-ended contracts to selectively log state forest lands on Beaver Island. No commercial logging of state lands has taken place since our last newsletter, though the contracts to do so remain open. We understand that commercial lumber prices have fallen, thus making logging on the island less economically attractive. Some logging did occur this year on private land on the island, both selective cutting and clear cutting. We will continue to monitor logging on state land and report to you on any developments. — Dan Wardlow

We want to hear from you

The goal of the newsletter and www.BeaverIslandAssociation.org is to promote greater communication. We welcome opinions, stories,

informative articles, or issues that you feel would be of interest. The next Deadline is April 15th, 2008; the earlier we receive stories to include,

the better. Please submit all articles and comments to: Pam Grassmick, *mcgrass@ameritech.net* or fax to (248) 489-1263.

Homeowner Reference Library Coordinator

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Wildlife Club Liaison

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Newsletter & Website www.BeaverIslandAssociation.org

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Island Logging liaison to the DNR

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Township Liaisons

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Peter Igoe
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pigoe@verizon.net
Peaine Township
Pam Grassmick
Phone (248) 489-0784

Where has all the Water gone?

Beaver Island shoreline property owners (anyone who visits our beautiful beaches, for that matter) have watched with dismay as the water level in Lake Michigan has dropped steadily and dramatically for the past several years.

Theories about why this is happening abound, the most comforting among them being that it is a cyclical process and sooner or later the water will rise as it has historically. But two factors that have not been part of the long-range historical picture cause concern that past cycles may not repeat themselves.

First, of course, is global warming and its byproducts: less precipitation, especially in the form of snow, and greater evaporation over the vast surface expanse of the Great Lakes resulting not only from higher temperatures during the warmer months but especially from the lack of ice cover in the winter.

Second, and new to the public conversation since this past summer, is the accelerating loss of water from Lakes Michigan and Huron through the so-called St. Clair River "drain hole." It turns out this has been a matter of recognized official concern for at least eighty years. The International Joint Commission issued an "Order for Mitigation" for the St. Clair River in 1917. That order still stands, not having been superseded by any later bi-national agreement, but never has been implemented.

The condensed version of what seems to have happened in the St. Clair River is that as a result of dredging to accommodate ocean-going freighter traffic many years ago, much of the protective layer at the bottom of the river was lost and in many places the material at the deepened river bottom has dislodged and washed downstream, leaving the river as much as twice as deep as it

needs to be for such maritime commerce in many places.

It has been known for many years that the difference in water levels between Lake Huron (which is the same as Lake Michigan) and Lake St. Clair have been steadily and rapidly shrinking. Over the past several years, as the Huron-Michigan water level has dropped, the levels of Lakes St. Clair and Erie have risen. For some time the constituent national bodies in the International Joint Commission (Environment Canada and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers) attributed that to weather differences in the lake basins (roughly, that it rained more around Lakes St. Clair and Erie than it did around Lakes Michigan-Huron). But a rigorous scientific study by an internationally respected hydrological firm, Baird & Associates (commissioned by the Georgian Bay Association, from whose newsletter most of this

Phosphorus-Free Automatic Dishwashing Detergents and Green Slime

Many shoreline owners and anyone who traverses our beaches are aware of the "green slime" that has been accumulating in ever increasing amounts. Individuals have asked what they personally can do while researches and government entities try to address our concerns.

Purchasing Phosphorus-Free Automatic Dishwashing Detergents is one method. Phosphorus is an essential nutrient for plant growth and too much can cause excessive aquatic plant growth. Phosphate is the form of phosphorus that has been banned in our laundry soaps but has not been addressed in our dishwashing detergents. If the water in your area is hard, using a spot reducing rinsing agent will help and most are phosphorus free.

Bi-O-Kleen, Citra-Dish, EcoVer, Mrs. Meyers, Seventh Generation, and Shaklee are all phosphorus-free.

Palmolive Gel	1.6%
Cascade Complete:	
Gel and Liquid	4.0%
Sunlight Gel:	4.3%
Electra-Sol Gel:	4.9%
Electra-Sol Powder:	6.1%
Walmart Spot-Free and Stop N: 7	-7.5%
Cascade Complete	
Powder and Tablets:	8.5%
While all tablets from brands	
such as Sunlight, Electra-Sol	
and Palmolive are	8.7%

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account is drawn) disproved that.

In mid-2005, after being presented with all the findings of the Baird report, one of the co-chairs of the International Joint Commission announced that he was convinced it was valid science and sufficient cause to further investigate the erosion problem in the St. Clair River. As a result, a new first phase was added to a pending Upper Great Lakes Study: examination of St. Clair River erosion and potential mitigation measures. That still has not happened, however, because Environment Canada would not allocate the Canadian portion of funding for the study. Funding finally was approved for the first two years of the project, and it recently was announced that timing of the St. Clair River study has been moved up for completion in early 2009. But in the meantime it is estimated that 2.5 billion gallons of water leave Lakes Huron-Michigan every day—three

times more than was thought to be the case until quite recently.

Two types of remediation are contemplated: placing large rocks in the deepest "holes" in the river to stop further erosion in those areas, a fairly "low-tech" measure that could be accomplished rather easily and inexpensively; and eventually designing and building permanent variable control structures that would "hold back" some of the St. Clair River outflow from Lakes Huron-Michigan. (According to the Georgian Bay Association, preliminary designs for such structures were developed by the International Joint Commission after Lake Michigan-Huron water levels reached all-time lows in the mid-1960s, but as the lakes rose again over the following twenty years they stayed on the shelf without further development.)

Some folks advocate for dumping rocks in the parts of the St. Clair

River already known to be the deepest now, without waiting for a complete three-dimensional analysis of the contours and flow characteristics of the entire river. A friend of mine who has a cottage on Lake Huron in the Upper Peninsula (and is former statewide chair of the Michigan United Conservation Clubs) has been writing letters to that effect to politicians and the Corps of Engineers.

Whether or not that is a good idea, it seems like a very good idea for everyone who is concerned about this issue to communicate such concern to all our elected representatives (and to the International Joint Commission, www.ijc.org) and demand prudent, decisive and expeditious action before we lose any more water and gain any more unwanted expanses of beach. I plan to do so, both personally and as a spokesperson for BIPOA, and I encourage all BIPOA members to do the same.

— Paul Glendon

Beach Cleanup a Big Success

The 2007 Beaver Island Beach Cleanup was once again sponsored by the Beaver Island Property Owners Association on September 22. In association with the Great Lakes Alliance this nationwide event drew over 25 volunteers on a beautiful sunny day. The volunteers, ranging from school children to retired residents, combed almost 19 miles of beautiful Beaver Island beaches and retrieved 203 pounds of refuse. In addition, thanks

to the loan of the Beaver Island Community School pickup truck, volunteers hauled three loads of the old Little Sand Bay trail decking to the township wood chipper at the Transfer Station. That brought the total weight of trash removed to over 1,700 pounds!

After their hard work volunteers were treated to a free lunch courtesy of BIPOA. Served at the school, the lunch featured hotdogs cooked by John and Carol Runberg.

Special thanks go to the Runbergs, Deb Robert for working with the school children, McDonough's Market for donating the hotdog buns, the townships for taking the trash at no charge, and Pam Grassmick for hauling all the food and setting up the lunch.

Be sure to watch for information about next year's beach clean-up and volunteer a half day of your time to help keep our Island beautiful.

Your Board of Directors

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Beaver Island Community Development Corporation moving forward

Ten years ago a group of dedicated individuals came together to address the apparent need for improved care of the island's senior citizens. Today the Beaver Island Community Development Corporation is moving forward towards the goal of providing a housing project for low to moderate income seniors with basic independent living capabilities. This group has grown and met many challenges along the way. Today the vision is closer then ever to becoming a reality.

A Brief **History**:

In 1997 Pete, Joe Letoff, B.J. Wyckoff, and the late Lorine Adams got together to begin planning a facility for senior citizens. From there the Beaver Island Housing Committee was formed. Joyce Runburg and Nina Simpson-Jones joined the team at this point. This group of local citizens was dedicated to ensuring the quality of life, promoting independent living, and creating opportunities for seniors to remain in their communities, thus allowing island residents to care for their aging relatives in an appropriate and accessible housing project.

To initiate the project, a Supportive Housing Market Study and Action Plan were completed. Hobbs and Black were selected to design and implement action plan objectives. The study indicated that the majority of residents favored senior housing and the action plan was proving successful with the completion of a set of workable plans.

The proposed supportive housing project includes construction of six units in the initial phase and additional units to be added as community needs warrant expansion. The housing complex will include 4 one-bedroom and 2 two-bedroom apartments with approximately 600 and 700 square feet respectively. Each unit will include a private handicap accessible bathroom, living room, and kitchenette with small appliances. All units will be equipped with medical

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emergency alarm system. The units will share a communal kitchen and common dining area which will also serve an activity center. A screened and weatherized porch is also planned.

The project will be constructed on 2.0 acres donated by the Gills and the Traudt families located in St. James Township. The project is on the same site as the medical center allowing easy access and the coordination of services.

An **Update**:

Today the group is called the Beaver Island Community Development Corporation and they are moving forward with *The Beaver Island Supportive Housing Project* after a major success in securing a loan for \$582,000.00 from the United States Department of Agriculture for rural development. The loan will be repaid from rental fees. For the first three years of operation a site management company will be hired to determine eligibility of each of the rental units.

At this point \$125,000.00-150,000.00 needs to be raised to break ground. This amount is needed for fire suppression equipment and geothermal heating system. Many other resources such as grants, benefits, and private contributions have all added to the magic number needed. Nina's Restaurant raised \$10,000 this year at the annual benefit dinner. There is no doubt that it has been a long and difficult road for this project. It is very close to the goal but not there yet.

The current board consists of: President, Pete Lodico; Secretary, Nina Simpson-Jones; Treasurer, Sandy Birdsall; and Director, Don Spencer.

Visit their website www.beaverislandcdc.org for current and new information. — Jane Dwyer

	ver Island Association
Men	nbership Application
	New Member Renewal Update Address
	* 2008 Dues: \$20.00 *
Your Name:	
Island Address:	
(Address Line 2):
City:	
State:	Zip:
Telephone: ()Fax: ()
Mailing Addı	ress (if different than above)
Your Name:	
Address:	
(Address Line 2):
City:	
State:	Zip:
Telephone: () Fax: ()
E-mail Address:	
	Send Beaver Island Association News Updates via this email address
or	Send Beaver Island Association News via postal mail
	I would be interested in serving on a
	committee.
	I would like to help with the annual meeting.
Please Mail	with your Membership Dues of \$20.00 to:
	Beaver Island Association

Box 390

Beaver Island, MI 49782

Beaver Island Association Library Resource

The Association's resource drawer at the Beaver Island Library has recently been restocked with articles and handouts on many topics related to island ecology and land use. We've also stocked copies of the Association's new DVD *Environmental Quality in the Great Lakes Region*. The DVD includes three

short videos, including *A Great Lakes Jewel, Invasive Phragmites,* and *It's All Connected*.

A Great Lakes Jewel is the video shown at our 2007 Annual Meeting, and is a guide to island ecology for visitors.

Invasive Phragmites shows how this invasive grass species has

choked our coastline, and describes efforts to combat the invasion.

And *It's All Connected* is a very helpful short video which describes how a septic system works and how to properly care for your system. All materials in the drawer are free for the taking, and courtesy of your Association.

— Dan Wardlow

Moving? Online Now? Please Keep Us Updated

Anytime that you do not receive your BIPOA newsletter, there is a reason. The most common is that either you moved and did not notify us, or that your dues were not paid and we had to remove your name from the mailing list.

Please clip off your name from the address area and return it to us when you are moving, so we will be able to get the newsletter off to you promptly. You may also e-mail us via the Beaver Island Association website or you may choose to receive Beaver Island Association news updates via email instead of via postal mail: www.BeaverIslandAssociation.org



Beaver Island Association

Supporting Environmental and Economic Sustainability

Box 390

Beaver Island, MI 49782