

BIPOA

Island CURRENTS

Beaver Island Property Owners Association

Spring 2002

Mission Statement

The mission of BIPOA is to:

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.

Important Dates

Fall Newsletter - November 15th

Submission Deadline: Oct 15th

Museum Open House June 16th

BIPOA Summer Lecture Series

at the Peaine Township Hall

Double-crested Cormorants June 17th

Dr. James Gillingham - 7:00 PM

Monarch Butterflies - July 24th

Beth Leuck - 7:00 PM

Museum Week July 15th - 20th

2002 Annual Meeting - July 29th

7:00 PM at the
Peaine Township Hall

Recreation Resource Project

At the summer 2001 meeting of the BIPOA Board, new member Jack Kelly proposed the development of a long-range "Recreation Resource Plan" for Beaver Island as his project for an alternative to a committee assignment. In the succeeding months, the project has developed with some unexpected elements.

As planned, Jack met with the Chamber of Commerce and the two township boards in the fall to discuss the project and secure their approval. After some lively discussion, all agreed to his proceeding with the project with the clear understanding that no action could be taken without township board approval. The next step was to meet in Lansing in March with staff of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and with the Michigan State faculty who might serve as resources. Before this meeting, Jack also communicated with Jim Gillingham about possible later Central Michigan University involvement.

In Lansing, an enormous amount of documentation about recreation-based grants was received and is still being analyzed. The DNR has experienced dramatic cutbacks in funding with consequent losses in staff. They have also developed policy that *continued on page 3 - see Recreation Resource Plan*

Leadership Retreat

Oliver Wendall Holmes said that "the human mind, once stretched to a new idea, never goes back to its original dimensions." That is exactly what happened on April 20, 2002 at the 5th Annual Leadership Retreat. This event was co-sponsored by the BIHS, the Chamber, and BIPOA. The topic of the meeting concerned managing growth and tourism as it relates to Beaver Island. Approximately 40 people who chaired various committees and organizations were presented with new insights from three guest speakers. Prior to the start of the presentations, each representative identified accomplishments for 2001-2002, which are too numerous to list here. After the speaker presentations, small groups *continued on page 2 - see Leadership Retreat*

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BIPOA Committees



Rural Health Center
Strategic Planning Task Force
Committee Chair: Joe Reed
(231) 448-2247



Recreation Resources Committee
Committee Chair: Jack Kelly
(217) 352-3801
Co-chairs Sharon Vance, Krys Lyle
(231) 448-2842



Island Clean-Up
Committee Chairs: Doug Hartle
(231) 448-2368 or (248) 585-4818
& Red Rowley



Island Roads
Committee Chair: Paul Glendon
(231) 448-2772 or (734) 761-7232



By-Laws
Committee Chair: Rick Andrew
(814) 355-3756 or (231) 448-2668



Newsletter and Web Site
Committee Chair: Pam Grassmick
(248) 489-0784 or (231) 448-2314
Co-chair: Doris Larson
(616) 243-1037 or (231) 448-2470



Membership, Promotion & Education
Committee Chair: Marty Maehr
(734) 994-8904 or (231) 448-2926
Co-chair: Doris Larson
(616) 243-1037 or (231) 448-2470



Work with Townships' Planner
Committee Chairs E.B. Lange
(231) 448-2568

Leadership Retreat

continued from cover

were formed to brainstorm ideas concerning short term issues and long term solutions to managing growth and tourism. Many new ideas were formulated in trying to promote and maintain our uniqueness.

Linda Singer from the Michigan Chamber of Commerce was the first speaker. Since this was her third trip to Beaver Island, she was able to lend a clear vision of the obstacles to travel as a tourist. She acknowledged that family values and our natural resources are our greatest assets. She stressed the importance of planning tourism versus just letting it take over the community. Ms. Singer also pointed to developing a unique identity to the business waterfront. She felt that nature-based tourism must be worked into a master economic plan. She mentioned that with an increase in tourist numbers comes a certain threat to our present community. 47% of all Michigan travel occurs in the 3 months summer season. We need to look at events and activities to expand the season. She provided the group with many handouts and suggestions as to people to contact.

Dr. Jim Gillingham, director of CMU's Biological Station, gave his highly enthusiastic views on Beaver Island's natural treasures. He focused on specific features of the Island that make it special, criteria for protection, preservation, endangered species found here, and geographic areas of concern, specifically Egg Lake/Green's Lake

and the Fox Lake bogs, French Bay and Iron Ore Creek. The attendees may never view a skunk cabbage or short-tailed shrew with the same cavalier attitude as before his presentation.

Jim Haveman from the Conservation Resource Alliance (not to be confused with his cousin from the Michigan Department of Community Health) spoke on historical preservation and smart growth. He detailed other communities and gave examples of how to provide for cluster housing with reward for saving green space. Several areas that he stressed included: linking tourism with high quality natural resource experiences, allowing the Island people to control their future, avoiding mega-development, rewarding people for green space areas through conservation easements, and providing opportunities for the Beaver Island Boat Company to work with land owners to manage growth. Wildlife corridors need more attention to provide for optimal habitat.

We will continue to update you over the summer via our web site and in the fall newsletter with the initiatives that will be brought forth from this gathering.

A special thank you to Anne Glendon for her expertise, work, and guidance through the ongoing visioning process for Beaver Island.

Recreation Resource Plan, *continued from cover*

limits and directs many of the grant programs in ways that will impact Island resources in the future. This information will be incorporated into any grant proposals to be developed for the Island in the summer of 2002 and later. At MSU, the head of the Landscape Architecture Department, who has worked on the Island, indicated an interest in helping. He directed Jack to some resources for planning including programs of small community development and ecological remote sensing. However, the rumored remote sensing data for the Island does not appear to exist.

The surprise developed in the Fall in discussion with the Charlevoix County planner and with the township superintendents. A five-year revision of a "Recreation Plan" for the county and/or the townships is due before July 1, 2002. Jack agreed to assist the townships with this revision. As reported elsewhere, public involvement meetings were held in each township in February and various kinds of suggestions recorded. Other individuals were also invited to submit suggestions. Jack took this material and developed a draft recreational plan for the consideration of the township boards. After suggestions and revisions, it is anticipated that a final plan will be considered by the boards at their May meetings. Jack will be on the Island for those meetings.

The premises of the plan are based on a number of surveys and forums, beginning with the 1989 homeowners' survey in which there was about 90 percent agreement

that the preservation of the natural and historical environment of the Island was the paramount consideration for the future. More recently a second premise has been added. It is that there needs to be controlled economic development on the Island to increase incomes and provide attractive employment. However, this development should never degrade the natural resources which are the primary attraction of the current basis of the economy, second and retirement homes and short-visit tourism. Further, now that Lake Michigan shoreline property is largely unavailable except for some resales at increasing price levels, public access to the lake for those building or renting at inland sites becomes more and more of a critical issue.

The draft five-year plan also attempts to respond to the needs of the resident population, especially of children and youth. Balancing proposals related to this concern and the growing older population are the high costs of development and operation of recreational facilities on an island with a small population. Many facilities taken for granted in mainland communities would require a high level of public subsidy on Beaver Island. The draft plan includes "feasibility" studies and possible alternatives for a number of such facilities and programs.

Most of the time and attention up to the May board meetings is focused on the short-term plan document and discussions. It is anticipated that there will be a process of prioritizing that will go on through the summer and beyond. The "Recreation Resources Project," however, is intended to be a long-term program. It is hoped that immediate

needs will not prevent moving ahead on this project. There are inland developments in various stages of planning and discussion that demonstrate the need for such a long-term plan

A number of elements of the program are being planned for the summer of 2002. The first is to widen the public involvement element of the program to include several "natural" groupings of year-round and summer residents, probably beginning with students in the Island School.

The second is to explore further the availability of remote sensing data on the Island topography and ecology, a necessity in any long-term land-use planning. This will be followed by on-site investigation as time allows.

The third is to continue to work with the township boards in setting priorities for short-term development. Jack hopes that it may be possible to submit at least one grant proposal by the end of the summer.

The fourth is to work with the townships on plans for particular projects, especially those that involve the integration of several elements and land resources. The good news is that Erin McDonough, a graduate student in natural resource planning at the University of Michigan, will be working with the project as part of an internship. Her combination of professional skills and Island knowledge will be a great resource in all aspects of the project. Details of her involvement will be worked out in the next few weeks. Jack hopes that members of BIPOA will be responsive to invitations and requests from Erin this summer since her available time is limited.

Township News

St. James Township

From Don Vyse, St. James Township Supervisor.

Here is a review of the work of the St. James Township Board over the past fiscal year.

- 1.) Completed the Main/Michigan paving project including streetlights and sidewalks. The landscaping will be finished in the spring.
- 2.) The Downtown Sewer District was formed and the sewer installation was completed.
- 3.) In partnership with Peaine Township, we completed the Township Airport runway resurfacing and lighting project along with the installation of the Automated Weather Observation System.
- 4.) Completed the Gull Harbor Natural Area Pathway.
- 5.) Renovated the Township Hall meeting room with new wainscoting, carpeting, and furnishings.
- 6.) Began work on establishing a Public Safety Authority with Peaine Township.
- 7.) Worked on a Township Nuisance Ordinance that will help with the appearance of our community and our efforts to develop Community Pride.
- 8.) Worked with Peaine Township to develop plans and funding for the proposed East Side Drive Emergency/Fire Station.
- 9.) In conjunction with Peaine Township began exploring a potential harbor boat launch site.

10.) St. James Township applied for an MDOT grant to help construct a non-motorized pathway along Donegal Bay Road from Lodge Road into the Township Campgrounds.

11.) We were able to extend the paving project to complete rebuilding of Back Highway and paving of Gallagher, Kenwabikise, and a section of Donegal Bay Road with Township road millage funds.

Some additional goals for this year are:

- Complete a 5-year Recreation Plan
- Oversee the repairs and improvements to the Yacht Dock.

Congratulations to Mr. Don Vyse on being named Citizen of the Year!

Peaine Township

From the desk of John Works, Peaine Township Supervisor

Mr. Works would like to relate to property owners several important projects occurring in the Peaine Township this year. In April, a joint meeting was held with the St. James Township officials to form an intergovernmental emergency services authority. The authority will obligate St. James to help pay for improvement made in Peaine Township relating to emergency services. A \$40,000 grant was awarded to Peaine Township from the Department of Agriculture-Rural Development

fund. As reported last year, the need to provide better fire protection for the homes located in this township was identified. A joint township bond sale will take place this summer, with hopes of breaking ground on a new fire station in the fall.

As many of you have commented, the roads were very good most of last summer. Mr. Works is again planning to have extra equipment brought in to provide for the same quality of road repairs this year. Dust control however has soared to 90 cents/gal. Since there is only one supplier, no bidding will take place.

Gary Voight, the engineer working with both townships on the Island roads, will be holding public hearings concerning Peaine township roads. He hopes to establish a road plan for Peaine Township with year-round and seasonal input. Look for these meetings this summer. Where, how much, and how to pay for the upgrades will be discussed. The presentation hopes to identify various funding avenues such as special assessment districts vs. a special election in August if a bond issue is to be used.

Of concern on the political front is a move by Michigan's governor to change the process of road funding. A bill is being debated that would eliminate road commissions around the state. What this means to Beaver Island is that they would have to purchase equipment and would not be sharing with

Charlevoix County. The road funds would then be controlled from Lansing. Although our roads have not been a priority for Charlevoix County Road Commissioners, the monetary and human work required to run an Island road department would be a huge burden on townships.

The Recreation Plan is being aggressively pursued with Jack Kelly. Each township must have an independent plan in place in order to qualify for grants from the state or federal government. The townships are also looking into a joint funding plan to purchase the "Gillespie" docks from Ed Welter for use as a boat ramp.

John wishes to remind individuals that he will continue his Friday afternoon office hours (1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.). Please stop by and meet your supervisor. Monthly Peaine Township Meetings are scheduled the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 8:00 p.m. at the Peaine Township Hall. Zoning/Planning meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Peaine Township Hall. Please try to attend one of these meetings over the summer - seating is never an issue. The Township officials want to be aware of property owners' questions, concerns, or comments.

BIPOA wishes to thank both John Works and Don Vyse for their efforts with providing information to our newsletter.

Beaver Island Community School Elections & Millage Proposals : June 10, 2002

I. Operating Millage Proposal Non Homestead and Non Qualified Agricultural Property Tax

This millage will enable the school district to levy not more than the statutory rate of 15.7908 mills against non-homestead and non-qualified agricultural property required for school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation guarantee.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, exempting therefrom homestead and qualified agricultural property as defined by law, in Beaver Island Community School, Charlevoix County, Michigan, be increased by 1.5 mills (\$1.50 on each \$1,000.00 of taxable valuation) for the year 2002, to provide funds for operating purposes (this millage is to restore the "Headlee" reduction); the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2002 is approximately \$89,022?

II. Millage Proposal, Building and Site Sinking Fund Tax Levy

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in Beaver Island Community School, Charlevoix County Michigan, be increased by and the board of education be authorized to levy not to

exceed 1 mill (\$1.00 on each \$1,000.00 of taxable valuation) for a period of 5 years, 2002 to 2006, inclusive, to create a sinking fund for repair or construction of school buildings, purchase of real estate for sites for school buildings, and all other purposes authorized by law; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2002 is approximately \$74,742?

*Above is the exact wording from the Official Ballot.

Beaver Island Community School Charlevoix County, Michigan Regular Election June 10, 2002.

Member of the Board of Education Four (4) Year Term Expiring in 2006.
Barbara Varnum Schwartzfischer
(write in)

Member of the Board of Education Three (3) Year Term Expiring in 2005
(write in)

Member of the Board of Education Two (2) Year Term Expiring in 2004.
Nancy Ann Tritsch
(write in)

If you have any questions please call Kitty McNamara at (231) 448-2744.

The Community Internet Techology Forum - by Bill Cashman

A few years ago, an interesting thing happened to us on our way to the twenty-first century. In an effort to make Internet service affordable to the Beaver Island School, the original partners of the Beaver Island Internet Project (the School, CMU, and the Medical Center) decided to offer Internet service to everyone on Beaver Island. At that time no one knew what kind of demand there would be. It was hoped twenty or thirty subscribers could be found, enough to help defray the cost.

In a few short years, the number has grown to a hundred and fifty. Early on, the system seemed clogged, so it was improved with the purchase of a full T1 line and new dial-in lines, but for each upgrade of the equipment more new subscribers appeared, and the degree of clog seemed constant. A little use of the Internet bred a great appreciation for it, even a dependence, and the problems were responded to by grumbles, complaints, and anger. Either people couldn't get on, or couldn't stay on, or had a connection that seemed worse than before.

The Project was besieged with calls for help. It had neither the time, experience, personnel, or budget to help with this plethora of problems. It was wilting under the attack of disgruntled subscribers: this was not anything it had bargained for. It began to hope some benevolent alternative service provider somewhere could be induced, tricked, or bribed into picking up the slack.

On Wednesday night, March

20, 2002, fifty-seven interested Beaver Islanders heard the good news: it was no longer a question of whether or not someone could be found, but of which of at least three viable candidates we thought would do the best job. After Denise McDonough's introduction, Chuck Schmidt briefly addressed the nature of our dissatisfaction with the current system. Then the three representatives of viable alternates made their presentations.

Dave Hanchett of Great Lakes Energy was first, although he was preceded by an assistant who ably read some generic facts. Dave had two options: he could offer anyone right now a satellite connection to the Internet. They would have to purchase equipment, a dish, which would cost about \$700. Service would run around \$70 a month. A better possibility was that GLE would replace BIIP. We had reached the minimum number of users to induce this, 150, so if we accepted GLE, they would operate 48 modems out of the School (if the School let them do this, it would receive free access) and charge the same as BIIP: \$20 a month. While he did not promise to station a man on the Island to take care of problems, he did say that he would provide 24/7 phone support with a live operator.

Charlene Burnison of TDS took the stand next. She said that her minimum number of subscribers was 300, but in this case she would make an exception. In her brief presentation, she indicated that TDS could offer the same dial-up service as GLE. Their

modem base would be moved to the mainland, where it would be easier for them to service.

Jeff Forrest of Wireless First spoke next. He has already played an Island role by providing the Beaver Head Lighthouse school with a microwave relay, providing them always-on, high speed Internet access. He sketched in a two-part plan. First, he would use the existing TV cable (owned by Pine River Cable, whose owner, John Metzler, was unable to attend) to provide everyone it reaches with high speed always-on Internet service at \$40 to \$50 a month. He described this as an easy to accomplish goal technologically and he could do this by the summer. For those beyond its run, he would lease space on an existing tower for a wireless transmitter and provide always-on wireless access for about the same amount per month. The wireless installations would cost about \$200 for the antenna, and using new NLOS technology would not require a direct line-of-sight. His system would establish a network in which each antenna on each individual customer's home helped propagate the signal to and from the tower. So his combination of wired and wireless would provide much better and faster service (for a little more than twice the current cost.)

After this presentation, Island resident and Internet designer Jeff Cashman spoke about the problems of a satellite connection through Starband. While download speeds were great for large single

file downloads, upload was not, and the current 2-way satellite solutions, both Starband and DirecPC/Direcway/Pegasus/Earthlink, are not good for doing business or interactive activities. E-mail is slower than BIIP. Secure pages (for example online banking or checkout pages when you order something online) are also slower than BIIP, and the inherent high latency of a Satellite connection makes activities like VPN, Telnet/Shell access, interactive activities, and gaming impractical over a satellite connection. In addition, there were weather interruptions, and service was less than adequate. The cost was \$700 for equipment and installation and \$70 a month. As a positive note, the always-on connection is a very nice feature, and once you have an always-on connection, you will never want to go back to a dial-on demand situation. If there were no other high speed options on the horizon, Satellite might be a high-cost partial solution for someone primarily interested in downloading and an always-on connection. But he did not recommend proceeding in this direction if a wireless solution was a possibility.

After these presentations, this question was asked: how do we decide which of these systems would be best for us? Kitty McNamara said that the BIIP Board had asked Internet consultants to submit proposals to them detailing how they could help answer this by investigating these and other possibilities. Three such consultants were in the audience:

Fred Trimble of Trimble Consulting in Traverse City, Chris Pease of Tech Progressive in Charlevoix, and Tim Dwyer of Traverse Technologies on Beaver Island. Kitty said the BIIP Board would evaluate their proposals and award one of them a contract, with their report due by June.

Ed Wojan said that this was such an important issue that he hoped other organizations would play a role in making this decision. He wondered if a committee could be formed to include all three consultants. They were asked if this was feasible, and could think of no immediate objection. But Kitty said funds were limited, unless the Townships, considering the significance of this matter, would kick in something—and here she looked pointedly at Don Vyse. He was not in a position to commit to this, whereupon Ed Wojan said he would donate a thousand dollars to such a committee to start the ball rolling. He added that he had been reluctant to use the Internet in his business because of its unreliability.

During the discussion that followed, questions of many sorts were answered, and everyone came away with a better understanding of the issues. There was a surge of good feeling over the fact that instead of facing a possible curtailing of our link to the world wide web, on which so many of us rely and which is growing exponentially in importance for the future of this otherwise-cut-off island, we have several viable options, each one of which promises to improve our connectivity, and lives.

Wireless First Proposal

Here is a rough outline of our plan and timetable for cable and wireless access for Beaver Island:

1. Do engineering plan for high bandwidth link to the Island (probably 10 Mbps)
2. Come to the Island to scout existing tower sites and assess the cable TV system.
3. Order equipment and install the link in June.
4. Order and install cable headend in late June or early July.
6. Install wireless system in August.

We will be able to provide T-1 Internet access to large customers (schools, etc.) for \$1000 per month complete. This link would tie directly into our router. We would deliver via fiber or point-to-point microwave.

Our cablemodem and wireless residential systems would have variable download speeds and 3 pricing levels:

256K-\$35/mo
(10x faster than modem,
always-on, no dialing)
512K-\$55/mo.
768K-\$75/mo.

Commercial sites - 1 workstation:
256K-\$50/mo.
512K-\$80/mo.
768K-\$100/mo.

Commercial sites can network multiple computers for a higher fee. Cablemodem install is \$99 and the modem costs approx. \$200, or lease the modem for \$5/mo. Wireless install is \$199. Modem will cost \$700 or lease for \$15/mo.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Jeff Forrest. (231) 922-2367

Proposed Amendments to the By-Laws

After a review of the by-laws, following are recommended updates and changes to the by-laws to both improve the functioning of the organization and to maintain consistency. These updates will be voted upon at the BIPOA Annual meeting on July 29th.

ARTICLE II

Section 1 - Officers

- a. OLD: The officers of this organization shall consist of a President, Vice President, and **Secretary/Treasurer.**

NEW: The officers of this organization shall consist of a President, Vice President, and **Secretary and Treasurer.**

Rationale: We have operated with a separate Secretary and Treasurer for a number of years as the duties of each position were too demanding for only one person to handle.

- b. OLD: No member shall be nominated to office or to the Board of Directors who has not been a member in good standing for at least **two years.**

NEW: No member shall be nominated to office or to the Board of Directors who has not been a member in good standing for at least **one year.**

Rationale: A delay of two years after a member joins BIPOA before we can enlist their aid on the Board can limit our ability to have the most knowledgeable and

motivated candidates run for election.

- c. OLD: The Vice-President shall perform all the duties of the President in he is/her absence **and serve as Membership Chairman.**

NEW: The Vice-President shall perform all the duties of the President in his/her absence.

Rationale: We have had a non-officer Board member serve as Membership Chairman for a number of years. While the Vice President could handle these activities if so directed by the President, in recent years the Vice President has been assigned other tasks.

- d. OLD: The **Secretary/Treasurer** shall handle the correspondence of this organization as directed by the President. He/she shall keep minutes of all meetings and shall be custodian of all **financial records**, papers, files, books and other **club** property necessary for him/her to use to perform the duties of the office when serving in the secretarial capacity.

NEW: **The Secretary** shall handle the correspondence of this organization as directed by the President. He/she shall keep minutes of all meetings and shall be custodian of all papers, files, books and other property **of this organization** necessary for him/her to use to perform the duties of the office when serving in the secretarial capacity.

Rationale: Changes the wording to be consistent with previous changes above.

- e. NEW: **The Treasurer shall be custodian of all financial records of this organization necessary for him/her to perform the duties of the office Treasurer.**

Rationale: Changes the wording to be consistent with previous changes above.

OLD: **When Serving in the capacity of Treasurer**, he/she shall receive payment of all income, including dues and after recording same, shall deposit ...

NEW: He/she shall receive payment of all income, including dues and after recording same, shall deposit ...

Rationale: Changes the wording to be consistent with previous changes above.

OLD: All bills and expenses of this organization shall be paid by check, such checks to be signed by the Treasurer **and co-signed** by the President.

NEW: All bills and expenses of this organization shall be paid by check, such checks to be signed by the Treasurer **or** by the President.

Rationale: In reality, it has proven very difficult and cumbersome to have the President co-sign all checks written by the Treasurer since

he/she and many of the Board members may be off island for a good part of the year and can be widely separated geographically. This change alleviates this problem. The Treasure's accountability is assured since he/she reports on all activities at each Board meeting and presents a report at the annual meeting.

NUMBERING CHANGES:

ARTICLE II, Section 1, **item e) changed to f)**

ARTICLE II, Section 1, **item f) changed to g)**

Rationale: Changes the numbering to be consistent with previous changes above.

Section 2 Board of Directors

- a. OLD: The Board of Directors shall consist of **seven** members. The Board members shall be elected for a **one** year term, renewable as willing to serve, for no more than **five** years.

NEW: The Board of Directors shall consist of **nine** members. The Board members shall be elected for a **three** year term, **1/3 of the directors to be elected each year**, renewable as willing to serve, for no more than **six** years.

Rationale: It is difficult to maintain continuity when all members of the Board are up for election each year. Also, the 3 year term helps to insure the advance commitment of

board members to be involved past the initial year, which is primarily a learning year. In terms of the number of Board members,, as BIPOA continues to grow and become increasingly involved in a variety of activities, two additional members of the Board will help to share the work load.

- e. OLD: It shall be necessary to have a quorum of at least **four** members to conduct business at any Board meeting.

NEW: It shall be necessary to have a quorum of at least **five** members to conduct business at any Board meeting.

Rationale: Changes the wording to be consistent with previous changes above.

ARTICLE V

Section 1 Dues

OLD: Dues of this organization shall be set annually by the Board of Directors. **Dues payments will cover the calendar year.** All dues shall be paid to the Treasurer within on (1) month of their expiration date. Dues can be waived upon written request to the **Secretary/Treasurer** for special circumstances. Members in arrears after 12 months shall be dropped from the rolls of the organization.

NEW: Dues of this organization shall be set

annually by the Board of Directors. **Dues payments will cover the fiscal year beginning at the date of the Annual Meeting.** All dues shall be paid to the Treasurer within on (1) month of their expiration date. Dues can be waived upon written request to the **Treasurer** for special circumstances. Members in arrears after 12 months shall be dropped from the rolls of the organization.

Rationale: Changes the wording to be consistent with previous changes above. Also, changing the dues year ties it to the time period over which most people pay their dues (at the annual meeting or during the summer).

We are always interested in hearing from you

The goal of the BIPOA newsletter and web site is to promote greater communication between all Island property owners. We welcome all opinions, interest stories, informative articles or issues that you feel would be of general interest. Please submit all articles or comments to: Pam Grassmick either via fax number (248) 489-1263 or at our web site: beaverisland.net/bipoa

And please join us for the BIPOA annual meeting on **July 29th** 7:00 p.m. at the Peaine Township Hall.

Membership Updates

We wish to thank our regular membership for their continued support of BIPOA. With your financial support and personal interest in this organization, we are able to provide for web site development, newsletter mailings, and directives regarding financial support of Island programs that are appropriate to our mission statement. Although we are all volunteers, we take your input very seriously and look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting.

As requested at last year's meeting, the BIPOA board has addressed the issue of supporting water quality studies around the Island. We, as an organization, have agreed to provide some needed funding to help support this endeavor spearheaded by C.M.U. As written in the Fall 2001 Island Currents, a fund has been established for donations to help offset the actual cost of these studies. Please refer to the on-line archives or copies of the newsletter housed in the Beaver Island District Library. For more information, contact Dr. Donna King or Dr. Jim Gillingham at C.M.U.

Annual Meeting Notice

In an attempt to provide for the best possible use of time, the BIPOA board is announcing the business portion of the annual meeting will be held on July 29th as written. We have separated the lecture series from the general business portion to provide for a better coverage of committee reports, election of the board members, updates to by-laws, and issues of importance to our general membership. Please mark your calendar. Committee reports promise to be very informative. One example will be a presentation made by Jack Kelly and Erin McDonough on the long term recreation resource plan.

Beaver Island Rural Health Center Confirms Land Donation, Approves 2002 Priorities

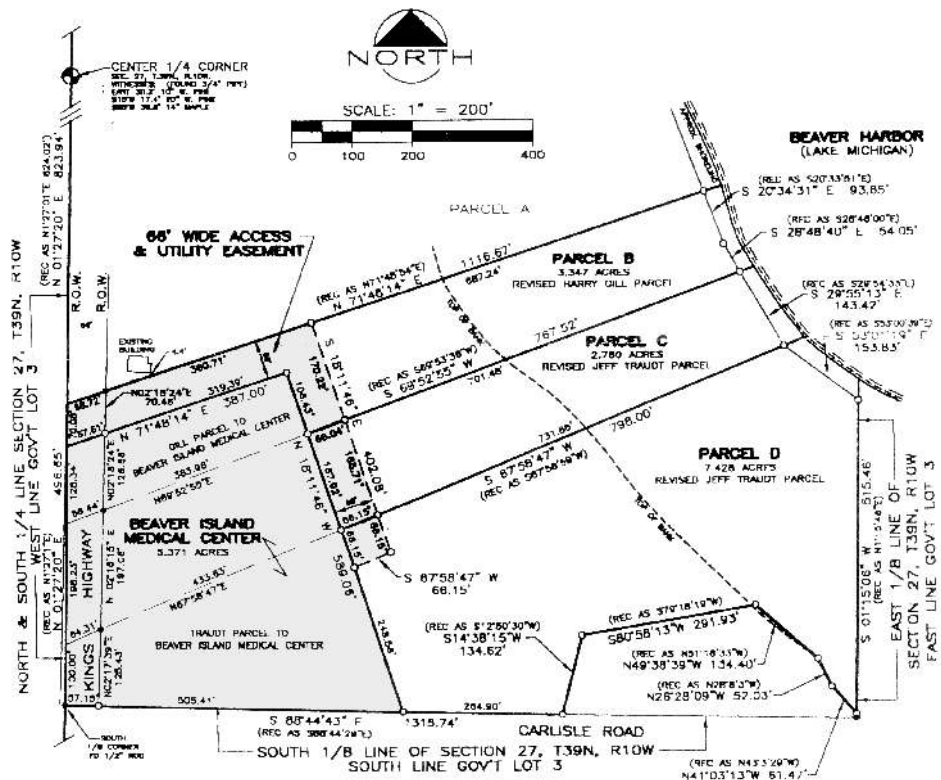
At its Board meeting on March 19, the Beaver Island Rural Health Center Board announced that the transfer of land being donated by the Traudt and Gill families should be finalized in the next few days. As soon as the deed transfer is complete, a site plan will be developed that includes road access from both the Kings Highway and Carlisle Road. Part of the road will provide access to the lakeside portion of the property which the two families are retaining. The site plan will also include a preliminary outline of the new facility as well as allow space for future development of a supportive housing complex.

Other Board actions included approval of a car raffle to com-

pensate for lack of two annual fundraising events which will not be held this year. Raffle tickets will sell for \$100 each. Only 400 tickets will be printed, thereby offering good odds to purchasers. Tickets will be sold from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

In addition, the Board approved priority objectives for 2002. The list includes:

- Hire a chief Operating Officer or equivalent.
- Improve billings and user-friendly statements.
- Complete contract with the two townships.
- Improve communication with Boards of Peaine and St. James Townships.



- Prepare site plan for the new facility.
- Prepare Financial Pro Forma and Business Plan for the new facility.
- Finalize all issues related to the new facility's size and functions.
- Hire an architect.
- Design and implement an effective communications plan to keep the community informed and involved throughout the planning and building process.
- Review Pine River contract and all related medical service issues.
- Create a pool of medical professionals whom we can call on for relief care and extended services.
- Explore networking opportunities with hospitals and regional medical resources.
- Establish a working agreement with BI EMS.

BIHS Nature Walks

- Bird Banding and Beaver Island Birds. Ms. Nancy Seefelt. Thursday June 13, 2002, 6:00 a.m.
- Beaver Island Early Summer Flora Dr. Ed Leuck. Saturday June 22, 2002
- Biology of Beaver Island's Sand Dunes. Dr. Beth Leuck. Saturday June 13, 2002
- The Mammals of Beaver Island Mr. Dan Benjamin. Saturday July 20, 2002.

Sponsored by the Beaver Island Historical Society and CMU. Trips begin at 9:00 a.m. at CMUBS. Field trip fee is \$15.00. For ticket information, please call the Print Shop at 448-2254.

Governmental Contacts:

St. James Township Officials

Don Vyse, Supervisor
 Jim Wojan, Treasurer
 Jean Palmer, Clerk
 Tim McDonough, Trustee
 Rick Speck, Trustee

Peaine Township Officials

John Works, Jr., Supervisor
 Donna Kubik, Treasurer
 Colleen Martin, Clerk
 Paul Nelson, Trustee
 Judy Lanier, Trustee

Charlevoix County Government:

Charlevoix County Commissioners can be reached at:
 203 Antrim Street
 Charlevoix, Michigan 49720
 or (231) 547-7200
 James Behling-R
 Phillip R. Johnson-R
 Victor R. Patrick-R
 Carl Price-R
 Donald R. Smith-R
 * Shirley Roloff-R
 (Ms. Roloff is County Commissioner liaison for Beaver Island.)

U.S. Representative:

Bart Stupak-D
 stupak@mail.house.gov

State Senate:

Walter North-R
 wnorth@mail.coast.net

State Representative:

Andy Neumann-D
 anemann@house.state.mi.us

County Clerk:

Jane Brannon (231) 547-7200

Register of Deeds:

Charlene Gaskin (231) 547-7200

Treasurer:

Joan Balch (231) 547-7202

Sheriff:

George Lasater (231) 547-4461

Natural Notes



BIPOA Summer Lecture Series

Dr. James Gillingham, director of C.M.U. Biological Station will discuss "**Double-crested Cormorants**". This talk is open to the Public, and free of charge.

Light refreshments will be served.

Mark your calendars!

June 17th, 2002

7:00 p.m.

Peaine Township Hall.



Beth Leuck will discuss "**Monarch Butterflies of Beaver Island.**" Open to the Public and

free of charge. Light refreshments will be served.

July 24th, 2002

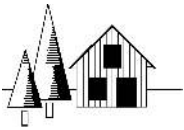
7:00 p.m.

Peaine Township Hall.



Island Clean-up Day

Doris Larson is spearheading an Island Clean-up day after the 4th of July. Please join us and watch for postings of the dates at local businesses.



B I P O A

Membership Application

Beaver Island Property Owners Association

New Member Renewal Update Address

* 2002 Dues: \$20.00 *

Your Name: _____

Island Address: _____

(Address Line 2): _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____ Fax: () _____

E-mail Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different than above)

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

(Address Line 2): _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____ Fax: () _____

E-mail Address: _____

I would be interested in serving on a committee.

I would like to help with the annual meeting.

I would like to help with special projects:

Please Mail with your Membership Dues of \$20.00 to:

Beaver Island Property Owners Association

Box 62

Beaver Island, MI 4978

Letters to the Editor: Beaver Island Zoning Changes

In reading Doris Larson's interview with Zoning Administrator Kevin White in BIPOA's Fall 2001 Newsletter, one notices that although it is mentioned that the Planning Commission is making amendments to its existing Zoning Ordinance, no information whatsoever is provided describing just what such proposed amendments are currently being discussed and decided by those local governmental officials entrusted with such matters.

Given that land use planning issues stand as perhaps the most crucial concerns now facing Island residents and property owners, and that changes to the existing zoning ordinances are primary factors that define and shape the Island's very future, it would seem that efforts to offer in-depth and detailed reporting of any and all matters relating to zoning fall directly within BIPOA's mission statement.

Yet BIPOA's recent editions of its website and its paper counterpart, *Island Currents*, have apparently left its membership (and others who might rely on the information they provide) with little in the way of direct and clear awareness of the ongoing proceedings of these bodies.

Many of those affected by the decisions at such local governmental meetings are, for reasons of distance and time, in many instances unable to attend those meetings in person. This fact makes it all the more vital that a local interest group like BIPOA function as a resource and conduit for accurate information relevant to the concerns of property owners.

Without such a concerted and consistent effort by BIPOA to broaden awareness of crucial planning directions and decisions, public input and influence over these decisions remains limited; and such a lack of proper public guidance works against, not toward, the pursuit of BIPOA's admirable and relevant Mission Statement.

Sincerely,
Robert Cole



We immensely appreciate Robert's comments and the points that he makes. Although BIPOA did have the Chairs of both townships' Planning Commissions discuss planning and zoning issues at our annual meeting 2 years ago, we have not had a BIPOA member or BIPOA committee actively involved with the Commissions in the meantime. E.B. Lange, a former Chair of our Board of Directors, has spent numerous hours of her time attending Planning Commission meetings in the past and keeping the Board up to date. But over the last several years, E.B. has had other very important personal issues to address in her life and has been unable to continue as a liaison in the same fashion as she did in the past. We have sorely missed her. As Robert so well points out, the planning and zoning issues are so important to BIPOA members that we need to reinstate continuous representation and a communication conduit between the Planning Commissions and us. Hence, I would like to make a call for volunteers who would be willing to serve on a new "Island Planning Committee" for BIPOA. The Island Planning Committee's responsibilities would include attending Planning Commission meetings and keeping BIPOA apprized of the most current developments in island planning and zoning. I feel that we need to establish a committee since it is very demanding for one person to try to attend all of both townships' Planning Commission meetings (as E.B. did so heroically in the past.) A committee with 3 or 4 members could spread meeting attendance between several people so that we have continual coverage throughout the year.

As an organization of volunteers, we depend on our membership to help fulfill what, we think, is our important role in the island community. We need your help! Please respond to me or to Pam directly if you would like to be involved with this very important new BIPOA committee. We appreciate your support.

Respectfully,
Rick Andrew, President, BIPOA

Your BIPOA Board of Directors

President

Rick Andrew

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(231) 448-2524

Doris Larson

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Grand Rapids, MI 49506
(616) 243-1037
e-mail sanctuary@illinoisalumni.org

30480 East Side Drive
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2470

E.B. Lange, Past President

30330 East Side Drive
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2568

New Members

We wish to welcome our newest members:

Bruce and Lenore Jacobson
Mary and Jeff Read
Mark and Laurie Hoogterp
Harold and Sarah McKerlie
Dr. Don Falik
Steven Velloff
and Constance Currie
Janet Gilson
Richard and Neva Larson
Keith and Christy Albin

Attention All Seasonal Residents!

We would like to help provide Beaver Island teens and visiting teens with activities this summer.

BIPOA wishes to support the initiatives of the BI Youth Consortium through co-sponsoring events.

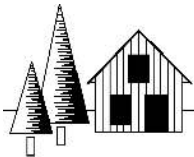
If you have a couple of hours to spare and are interested in discussing potential activities such as once a month game parties, dances, and informal gatherings, please call: Pam Grassmick (248) 489-0748 until June 15th, or (231) 448-2314 until Mid-August.

Moving? Please Keep Us Updated

Anytime that you do not receive your BIPOA newsletter, there is a reason. The most common are 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. We have received several newsletters back over the past year with no forwarding address. If you would clip off your name from the

address area and return it to us when you are moving, we will attempt to get the newsletter off to you promptly. You may also e-mail us via the BIPOA website - www.beaverisland.net/bipoa.



B I P O A

Beaver Island Property Owners Association
Box 62
Beaver Island, MI 49782