

# *The Beaver Island Association*

*Supporting Environmental and  
Economic Sustainability*

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## ***Minutes for Beaver Island Association Board Meeting Thursday, June 8, 2017 1:30 – 4:00pm***

Attending: Kevin, Alan, Patrick, Bob A, Bob T, Ken, Jim, Beth, Don, Sheri, Taffy (by phone)

1. Island Fellow---Kevin gave an overview of the selection process and the upcoming island visit by the chosen candidate next week with a public session from 10:00 to 11:00 am at the BIC Center
2. Island Summit—Patrick reviewed the planning status of the Sept. 25-26 Island Summit with twelve islands so far signed up to participate. Both structured activities and open sharing time are scheduled. Significant publicity will be pursued as the date draws closer.
3. NMU Initiative—Kevin described the progress since last fall, with initial plans to service the school and northern section of the island. Tower loading of the Font Lake tower needs evaluated, with the uncertainty of what ATT will be doing after receiving approval from the St. James Township board for changes to its equipment. NMU has received a \$6.2 million loan from the state to build out its Upper Peninsula service, which we would be part of.
4. TDS Correspondence—The board discussed the last TDS reply and the need to continue to press TDS for its plan for both internet capacity and 911 reliability/redundancy. A meeting with Triston Cole and Wayne Schmidt will be pursued, along with township and county officials.
5. EMS—Don reviewed the activity with the RFP for the ESA investigating the potential for outside expertise in some level of relationship with our BIEMS. Three bidders expressed interest, and one has visited the island. All are extremely capable and would offer depth and experience in EMS operation. Submission date is the end of June. The August ballot proposal for EMS for Peaine Twp. was discussed, and no members have seen any communication explaining it other than the township meet minutes.
6. BIBT—Beth reviewed the Memorial Weekend event, with good turnout for both field trips and lectures.
7. Waterways Trail—The process continues with the DNR with an upcoming site review this month.

8. Trails Committee—Several board members attended the recent planning meeting for a proposed Trails Committee. We agreed to offer support where we could, but not pursue any formal involvement as an organization.
9. Alan described the display BIA had for the Chamber of Commerce Community Appreciation event. Thanks to those who made it happen on short notice. It was agreed to have the presentation run on a loop as attendees arrive for the annual meeting.
10. Kevin reviewed our financial status, approximately \$1200 in the checking account. The fall EMS communication activities and newsletter costs, with the Spring edition going to all island PO box holders, coupled with significant website support costs, have taken a toll on our balance. It was agreed to cash out half of the \$5000 CD maturing in July, and a group of Jim, Beth, Kevin & Alan will evaluate website hosting alternatives to reduce cost.
11. Kevin is working on a duplicate Quicken record system to simplify the manual books since the inception of the organization. This year will be kept both ways with a transition to electronic next year. Coupled with the membership listing maintained by Sheri we should have a system that is easier to maintain and allow us to communicate more readily by email, saving significant paper & postage cost.
12. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 10.. Timing was discussed, and agreed to start at 3:30 instead of 4:30 to work around earlier comments about dinner time interference. Instead of a postcard, an email will go to members as a reminder, and Ken offered to post flyers around town. Content was discussed, and agreed on four topics: Peaine Twp. EMS ballot proposal; Island Fellow; Island Summit; and the NMU presentation given to the St. James Township Board.
13. Director terms was briefly discussed. No directors term limit off this year, but Pam, Taffy, Bob T., Keith and Mark are up for term renewal and Jim, Ken & Bob A. term limit off July 2018. By-laws would allow one additional director (for a total of 15). Several names were discussed but no consensus on pursuing another at this time.
14. Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Prepared by Bob Anderson