

**BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL MEETING
ST. JAMES TOWNSHIP HALL
Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2019**

Annual Meeting

- a. Sign in of members and establishment of a quorum
 - I. Bobbi Welke, Mark Engelsman, Lori Talyor-Blitz, John Fiegen, Tracy Paquin, Sheri Timsak, Maeve Green, Lynne Flannagan, Alvin LaFreniere, Ed Troutman, Larissa McGinnity, Caroline Latta, Doug Hartle, Dick Mulvahill, Linda Wearn, Alan Vicstein, Nancy Smith, Mary Beth Nelson, Carol Aram, Robert Cole, Dick McEvoy, Sue Oole, Angel Welke
 - II. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.
- b. Reading and approval of minutes of prior meeting
 - I. Alan Vicstein made a motion to approve the minutes. John seconded. The motion was approved.
- c. Reports of Officers
 - I. Treasurer's Report
 - i. We are operating year round, with expected revenues of 149,000.
 - ii. The porch has been updated. The front of the museum was updated with the porch update. The kitchen addition has been removed, and the well has been drilled.
 - iii. Our largest cost is in payroll.
 - iv. Building update: The new museum will be just under 2,000 square feet. McDonough construction has put together their budget. We are behind on this because two island subcontractors have pulled out. We are currently working on bringing the cost down. Many of the large costs are in concrete floors and retaining

walls. The designs will need to be finished and put into the permit stage. A proposal will have to be approved by the board before construction begins.

v. Director's Report

1. The historical society has completed the walking tour signs. Brochures are now available. Funding was made possible by Great Lake's Energy's People's Fund. The brochures were funded by CCCF.
2. Research was conducted to collect data on an exhibit for the new museum. Surveying on the Great Lakes will be the theme of the exhibit.
3. A grant was obtained for researching the provenance of the WPA mural. The BIHS has received word that they are the owners of the Zolton Sepeshy mural. The Michigan Humanities Council gave us over \$10,000 for the restoration of the mural.
4. We have received a grant from CCCF to create a commercial fishing exhibit.
5. In the print shop, we have a traveling exhibit on Native Treaties, Shared Rights. It is near the entrance to the old museum. The exhibit will be returned next week.
6. There is an oral history listening station at the marine museum. Rob Cole has been working on organizing and indexing the oral histories that we already have.
7. In May, we had the NMU archaeology team explore the excavation site at the Print Shop.
8. We hosted a pirate party in early June.
9. BIHS participated in the eco-fair. We brought a speaker to discuss indigenous communities and

water. The Kenwabikise sister's cooked indigenous foods.

10. Museum week highlights:

- a. Beaver Head Lighthouse picnic
- b. Music on the porch was attended by over 330 people
- c. The Jingle Dance was attended by 219 people
- d. 56 people attended the strang talk, at the episcopal church.
- e. Frank Mays had a full house for his presentation.
- f. Greg Whitcoff presented on Sepeshy and the story of the mural.
- g. There was an antique appraisal show. Chuck and Ward also staged Protar's house.
- h. The everyone's an artist portion of the art show was a big hit, and great fundraiser.

11. Last week, \$1,170 was raised for the mural restoration.

12. A black history exhibit will be on the island in mid-September.

13. Mary Stewart Adams will be doing dark sky storytelling on September 20th.

14. The membership appreciation gathering will be on August 25th.

15. We have 261 active memberships.

16. Lori will continue to pursue grants for the restoration of the mural and new exhibits.

17. She is focused on continuing to coordinate and partner with community organizations, and work on more robust programing for heritage park.

d. Nomination and election of Trustees

- I. The floor was opened for write in nominations.

- II. Tracy Paquin and Caroline Latta counted the ballots.
 - III. Mark Engelsman, Bobbi Welke, Larissa McGinnity, and Alan Vicstein were voted as the new members.
 - IV. Lynne Flannagan and Alvin LaFreniere are at the end of their terms. They have both been great contributors to the historical society.
- e. Unfinished Business
- I. The Little Traverse Band of Odawa Indians is looking at funding the George Anthony book. The education committee has reviewed the book.
 - II. We are looking for volunteers to interview people for oral histories.
 - III. There are currently 13 board members, and two honorary board members.
- f. New Business
- I. Caroline Latta would like the historical society to approach the issue of derelict cars with the townships. Angel commented that the transfer station board is working on this issue. Mike Weede commented that progress is being made on this issue.
- g. Good for the Society
- I. The red donation box at the lighthouse is locked, and we need to get access to be able to open it.
- h. Adjournment
- i. Angel made a motion to adjourn the annual meeting. John seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

**Beaver Island Historical Society
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2019**

- a. The meeting was called to order at 7:58 pm.
- b. Election of Officers
 - a. Mike Weede nominated Mark Engelsman as President. Bobbi seconded the nomination. Mark was elected president.
 - b. Bobbi nominated Mike Weed as vice president. Angel seconded the nomination. Mike was elected vice president.
 - c. Angel nominated Maeve Green as secretary. Sheri seconded the motion. Maeve was elected secretary.
 - d. Angel nominated Bobbi Welke as treasurer. Tracy seconded the motion. Bobbi was elected treasurer.
- c. Finance Committee
 1. Mural Conservation
 - a. The board has previously authorized to move the mural off the island. We have a quote of \$2240 to move the mural one-way. We have \$1140 dedicated to moving the mural off the island, at this time. The remaining cost for movement is \$1300. The capital committee has agreed to give up some funds for the movement and restoration, as this will be one of the main exhibits in the new museum. Lori and Pasqua will continue to work on grant funding for both restoration and exhibit funding.
 - b. Angel made a motion to use capital funds to pay for the movement of the mural off the island. Alan seconded the motion. MOTION RESCINDED
 - c. Angel made a motion that we move the mural. Angel pledges approximately \$400, to cover the remaining cost of transport off the island. The remaining \$900

revenues came from the Fish Tasting Event. John and Angel have agreed to split the cost of transporting the mural back to the island. We have been given a cap of \$50,000 on the restoration of the mural. We will use \$25,000 from the capital fund at this time to kick off the restoration project. In the meantime, Lori and Pasqua will continue to work on funding. There will be progress reports, with cost updates, as the restoration goes on, so we can continue to plan for funding. Tracy seconded the motion. There were 11 votes for yes, and 1 vote for no.

- i. There are some concerns about the cost of transportation. Due to the nature of the artwork, it needs to be transported very carefully.
- ii. Discussion was held regarding whether we should spend capital funds on the restoration.
- iii. The painting has been exposed to temperature and moisture changes. It should be moved once and be taken care of, so further damage is prevented.
- iv. Discussion occurred regarding the original \$10,000 moving quote, which was not selected, and the ability of board members/volunteers to move the mural to the conservator. It was concluded that an insured professional mover who charges a reasonable amount (\$2,440) was appropriate.
- v. Angel has agreed to donate the remaining funds to transport the mural off Beaver Island, and Angel and John will split the cost for transport back to Beaver Island.
- vi. Alan suggested that at there should be a point that the conservator should be able to offer an update regarding the stage of work, the

remaining work to be completed, and the cost for this completion.

2. Conflict of Interest Form (Handout/to be returned)

d. Adjournment

a. Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Maeve seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.