

BLUFF POINT ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting

July 15, 2017

Tom Close called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Lightner Library on the Keuka College campus. He affirmed that there was a quorum. It was moved, seconded, and voted to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2016 annual meeting. Treasurer Rodge Williams reported an ending balance of \$5945.49. It was moved, seconded, and voted that the secretary cast one vote to elect Wendy Disbrow, Marcia English, Fred Geyer, and Rodgers Williams to membership on the Board of Directors. The board elects its own officers.

Finger Lakes Museum and Aquarium Executive Director, Natalie Payne, spoke of new developments at the museum: new signs at the entrances and interpretive signs throughout the campus, use of an Environmental Facilities grant to create environmentally sensitive landscaping, the Creekside Center with canoe and kayak programs for the community and special groups. The Townsend-Grady Wildlife Preserve is a nearby 16 acre plant and wetlands wildlife site. Trails and a boardwalk will be developed and interpretive walks are planned. Renovations to the former school building continue with a plan for community and event space. Grand applications and fund-raising efforts continue.

Town of Jerusalem Update Jerusalem Supervisor Patrick Killen and Wayne Ackart provided an overview of the proposed sewer project to include East Bluff Drive, West Bluff Drive, Indian Pines, Crescent Beach, the Keuka Lake State Park, and Branchport. Extending sewers to these areas would ensure the quality of the lake. The total cost is projected to be \$17 million, with grants and other funding opportunities available. New customers would pay a projected \$110 per month. The project must be approved by a referendum before it can go forward. Public meetings will be scheduled and the vote will need to be held at a time and in a manner that all residents will be able to vote easily. BPA's role will be to offer an online discussion at our website.

Vernon Brand, Town of Jerusalem Assessor, spoke of the revaluation of all properties in the town (3500) scheduled for 2018. Statements of physical descriptions and estimated market value of each parcel of land will be mailed to property owners in March, 2018. There is a process for owners to appeal their assessment including requesting an interior inspection and "grievance day" on the fourth Tuesday in May.

Tim Cutler spoke about the process to update the Jerusalem Comprehensive Plan every ten years. Tom Close, Ivan Martin, and Jonathan Hunt are working on this project. The document is an important part of the town's application for grants to cover community improvement projects.

Watercraft Steward Project Dennis Carlson, president of the Keuka Lake Association, spoke on the continuing need to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species in Keuka Lake. Curly leaf pond weed, water millefleur, zebra mussels, starry stonewort, water chestnut, Asian clam, Chinese mystery snail, and rudd (a fish) are found here. The Steward Project provides volunteer inspectors at boat launch sites

around the lake who check for residue of plant and animal life on boats. Inspectors are trained by Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Finger Lakes Institute. Dennis thanked BPA members who are serving as volunteers in this program.

New Business The Garrett Memorial Chapel, a treasured landmark at the end of the Bluff, is holding a series of fund-raising events through the summer. Maintenance projects include extensive repairs to the roof and the crypt. A resident described concerns about refuse removal on the Bluff and inquired about forming a “trash district” that would deal with one company and be more easily able to address issues as they occur. The BPA board will discuss the feasibility of this proposal. Annette Toaspern spoke of two upcoming events sponsored by the Jerusalem History Club: “The Plank Road” on July 20 and “Finger Lakes Formations” on August 8.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Martha Johnstone

Secretary