

Beaver Island Waste Management Committee
Special Meeting on "Blight"
Peaine Township Hall
36825 King's Hwy, Beaver Island, MI 49782
Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 2:00PM

DRAFT - MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Cole (Chair), Frank D'Andraia (Recording Secretary), Carla Martin, Travis Martin, Joe Moore, and Sheri Richards

ABSENT: Paul Welke.

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Marsh, Transfer Station and Recycle Center Manager, Pam Grassmick, Kitty McNamara, and Bill Markey

CALL TO ORDER: The Beaver Island Waste Management Committee (BIWMC) was called to order by the Chair at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at the Peaine Township Hall.

CHAIR:

Announcements:

The Chair announced to all gathered that this was a Special Meeting of the Waste Management Committee solely devoted to the topic of "Blight in Sight," such as inoperable cars, damaged marine equipment, discarded used tires, old appliances, broken machinery, castaway furniture or similar items. The goal was to solicit public comment in order to develop and implement a plan in which the Transfer Station and Recycle Center may assist and encourage residents to legally dispose of junk, litter and debris. The chair then called upon those present to comment.

A general discussion on "blight" followed with input and observations made by the public, as well as committee members. Topics discussed included, among others:

- **Disposal of Unwanted and Abandoned Tires.** The Transfer Station Manager noted that the current policy in place on the removal and disposal of unwanted and abandoned tires was regulated by Charlevoix County, for the county provides the Station with funds to underwrite the shipping costs of tires to mainland. Under the terms of the agreement, commercial businesses may not

participate in the program. Marsh noted he would like to purchase a trailer to facilitate the removal of tires and was investigating costs.

- **Publicizing Recycling:** Some of those gathered spoke to the need to develop a coordinated effort to publicize recycling of tires, appliances, and other similar items in the media and through official township channels. It was noted that the Transfer Station & Recycle Center lacked a dedicated website through which to publicize recycling opportunities.
- **Recycling Strategies:** A discussion followed on how to educate and incentivise the public on the benefits of recycling. St. James Township Supervisor McNamara noted that St. James was moving forward to strengthen township policies on blight. Markey, Peaine Township Planning Commission Chair, observed the challenges associated with enforcing township policies on blight.
- **Car Crusher:** Considerable number of comments were made about private plans to bring a car crusher to the island this summer and the implications for removal of abandoned cars, old appliances, broken machinery, and like items. It was the sense of those gathered that more fact finding was warranted and the Chair indicated he would follow up.
- **Additional Public Meeting on “Blight in Sight”:** The Chair asked Committee members and the public if another meeting on the topic of “Blight in Sight” was warranted. It was the sense of those present that another special meeting in April would be helpful. The Chair indicated a date and time would be brought before the Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting.

MEETINGS

The next scheduled monthly meeting of the BIWMC is on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 1:00PM.

ADJOURNMENT: Cole adjourned the meeting at 3:25PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Frank D’Andraia, Recording Secretary