

## Above Board, September 12, 2022

Your Trustees met on Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 10a to 2p. Following are the topics we discussed:

### Memorial Garden Funding

Bay View has benefited greatly from our members' strong interest in particular areas. This is the reason our pickleball group, memorial garden, library, historical awareness, etc., are all thriving! The Trustees and our members are grateful to all our volunteers and donors who support the activities they particularly care about. The Memorial Garden is an especially important part of Bay View because it helps us remember and honor the family members and friends we have lost.

Trustees care about those special interest areas. However, in addition, Trustees are also obligated to care about parts of Bay View that don't have special interest support such as saving up to pay for future replacement of the water and sewer systems, maintenance of all our buildings, road repair, viaduct replacement, etc.

In the case of the Memorial Garden, the Trustees knew when the garden was established, that it would need a fund to ensure long term care of a garden containing the ashes of our loved ones. What would it cost if we no longer had volunteers willing to weed and plant each week? What if we had no volunteers to work with our bereaved to facilitate the burial of our loved ones and had to pay people to do it? The Association wanted a fund large enough to make sure the garden would be cared for if the worst case happened; a fund that would be large enough so interest alone would be sufficient to pay for what is needed to take care of the garden annually.

We were able to build up that fund through Association fees for interment of ashes and direct donations to the garden. The fund is now a bit more than \$320,000. At this point, the fund is now at the level where our maximum draw rules would provide more than enough dollars for annual expenses if we had no volunteers and had to pay for all they do, irrespective of funds which could be made available to the Memorial Garden from the CapX reserve fund.

Donations are a large part of what has enabled the fund to grow. For example, as of August 31<sup>st</sup> of this year, the fund received \$12,300 in donations, which is nearly what the fund received from placement fees. All donations to the Memorial Garden will continue to be deposited into the Memorial Garden fund, which will allow the fund to continue to grow until that time when the Memorial Garden

needs it. However, beginning in fiscal year 2023, the Trustees will no longer add placement fees to the Memorial Garden fund.

Beginning on Oct 1, 2022, we will be posting placement fees to a much less popular area of need that is short of sufficient funds: the CapX reserve fund. By continuing to build the Association's CapX fund, we hope to minimize the need for future special assessments. Therefore the decision to divert the fee to the CapX fund benefits all current and future leaseholders.

### **Bike Path**

The Operations Committee recommended sign changes in specific locations along the bike path in order to improve safety. The recommended changes can be found here: [Bike Path Signage](#). In addition to improved signage, the recommendation includes recommending that Bay View staff cut back shrubs and plants that have overgrown onto the sidewalk and impede visibility. If you have additional ideas for improving safety, please email the Operations Committee at this email address: [operationscomm@bayviewassociation.org](mailto:operationscomm@bayviewassociation.org)

Additionally, there is a rumor that Bay View Trustees are in conversation with the Top of Michigan Trails Council about the possibility of moving the bike path to our bluff. While the Trustees are well aware of the safety issues associated with the bike path's current location, moving it to the bluff is not on the table. The bike path routes to Harbor Springs, Alanson and Charlevoix all have more serious safety issues than the short bit through Bay View and those issues would need to be solved long before any conversation with Bay View should or would occur.

### **Commitment to Good Service**

Each year, after the Annual Meeting, the Trustees are asked to sign two documents. The first is a standard conflict of interest agreement whereby Trustees agree to avoid any conflict of interest as we carry out our duties as Trustees.

The second is a Commitment to Good Service agreement, which lays out a minimum guideline for good service and ethical conduct expected of Trustees. If you are interested, a copy of the document can be found here: [Commitment to Good Service](#)

### **Education Director Update**

As you know, Jeanne Greer will retire from her position as Education Director as of September 30, 2022. We thank her for all she accomplished during her years as our Education Director.

Our Executive Director has finalized the job description for Education Director, has shared it with the Education Committee, and has posted on the website. You can find it here: [ED Job Description](#). If you know of anyone who would be qualified and interested in the position, please suggest that he or she apply.

Barbara Pfeil, Pam Graham (Chair of the Education Committee) and Laura Smith (Assistant to the Education Director) will be members of the team interviewing the candidates. So far, three people have indicated interest. Barbara hopes to make the hiring decision in November. Jeanne Greer has agreed to help orient her replacement.

### Harbormaster

Earlier this Summer, Tom George announced that he is retiring from his volunteer position as Harbormaster. We thank Tom for his many years of commitment to the waterfront and mentoring of the waterfront staff.

After much discussion, Barbara Pfeil and the Personnel Committee have agreed that the Harbormaster job should be a paid position, reporting to the Recreation Director. Once the job description is written and posted, I will let all of you know about it in case anyone wants to apply.

### Bits and Pieces

- The discussion on a golf cart policy was moved to the October meeting
- Also at the October meeting, the Trustees will hear a report on the Worship & Religious Life Visioning work.
- I have heard that a few people want paper copies of the Policy Manual. We don't print the policy manual since one of the jobs of the Trustees is to review policies older than 3 years and either reaffirm, edit or delete them. With frequent changes, it becomes a poor use of funds and staff time to create a paper Policy Manual. If you want to read it, the Policy Manual can be found here: [Policy Manual](#).