

Report  
of the  
126th Year  
of the

**Bar Harbor**



*Village Improvement Association*

October 18th, 2018

Organized 1881  
Incorporated 1891

33 Ledgelawn Avenue  
Bar Harbor

## **Life Members**

Mrs. Grace Arnold  
Mrs. Catherine Barrett  
Mr. Ron Bilancia  
Mr. Louis Blancato  
Mrs. Charlotte Bordeaux  
Mr. Leslie Brewer  
Tristram and Ruth Colket  
John Collier  
Bob Collier  
Dick Collier  
Barbara Cole  
Suzanne Corbett  
Steve Cough  
Tom Cough  
Mr. Richard Cough  
Mr. Lorenzo Creamer, Jr.  
Mr. Phil Cunningham  
Mr. Lawrence Duffy  
Miss Debbie Dyer  
Miss Barbara Entzminger  
Mrs. John Hoche  
Mrs. Susan Leiter  
Kathryn MacLeod  
Mr. George Merrill  
Mr. David Paine  
Ivan and Terry Rasmussen  
Mrs. Ann Roberts  
Mr. William Scott  
Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Simard  
Kimberly Swan  
Will and Genie Thorndike  
Mr. and Mrs. Scott West

2017

Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association

President: Richard Cough

Vice President: Andy Shea

Secretary: Kathryn MacLeod

Treasurer: Jonathan Nicholson

Directors: Les Brewer, Paul Coston,

Phil Cunningham, Jeff Dobbs,

Ericka Duym, Tom Testa

All visitors to Bar Harbor, as well as residents, are cordially invited to join the Village Improvement Association. No formality is necessary to become a member. Yearly dues for an individual are \$25.00. Life membership is \$500.00.

Dues may be paid on our website [www.barharborvia.org](http://www.barharborvia.org) or mail a check to Mr. Jonathan Nicholson at The First Bank, 102 Main St., Bar Harbor, ME. 04609.

Donations are greatly appreciated. We will acknowledge your contribution.

AS OF JULY 31ST

	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	Proposed Budget 2018-2019
<b>CASH ON HAND AUGUST 1</b>	\$277,545.63	\$300,370.12	\$215,241.70	\$198,319.49	\$240,700.71	\$212,159.96	\$254,157.72	\$249,388.25	\$290,000.00
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>									
ENDOWMENT INCOME	\$5,733.59	\$6,659.95	\$7,385.06	\$11,961.36	\$14,241.98	\$17,184.90	\$18,111.35	\$20,828.69	\$21,000.00
O'NEIL TRUST	\$32,793.14	\$33,476.31	\$34,431.49	\$47,216.71	\$42,150.00	\$31,400.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,400.00	\$31,600.00
INTEREST	\$1,912.61	\$1,057.40	\$563.89	\$523.35	\$431.69	\$331.18	\$326.32	\$302.49	\$280.00
DUES	\$50.00	\$70.00	\$60.00	\$350.00	\$250.00	\$950.00	\$710.00	\$1,190.00	\$500.00
SHORE PATH DRIVE				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
VILLAGE GREEN				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
FOUNTAIN		\$500.00	\$500.00	\$2,396.10	\$0.00	\$420.18	\$693.03	\$1,113.14	\$500.00
GIFTS				\$500.00	\$12,055.00	\$672.04	\$900.00	\$300.00	\$40,000.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$40,489.34</b>	<b>\$41,763.66</b>	<b>\$42,940.44</b>	<b>\$62,947.52</b>	<b>\$69,128.67</b>	<b>\$50,958.30</b>	<b>\$50,740.70</b>	<b>\$54,134.32</b>	<b>\$93,880.00</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS:</b>									
SHORE PATH	\$1,030.90	\$16,191.78	\$55,219.25	\$7,400.00	\$18,516.00	\$0.00	\$12,925.65	\$7,680.00	\$50,000.00
DEGREGOIRE GREEN									\$105,000.00
HOW MEMORIAL/WOODBURY PARK	\$2,074.25	\$2,362.00	\$2,432.93	\$2,317.04	\$2,878.86	\$2,853.95	\$1,930.00	\$1,155.00	\$1,200.00
ACCOUNTANT	\$525.00	\$535.00	\$550.00	\$575.00	\$600.00	\$625.00	\$635.00	\$650.00	\$675.00
INSURANCE	\$1,495.00	\$767.00	\$782.00	\$826.00	\$864.00	\$850.00	\$864.00	\$864.00	\$950.00
MISCELLANEOUS	\$62.95	\$73.25	\$119.19	\$383.28	\$1,986.88	\$419.46	\$1.40	\$0.00	\$100.00
VILLAGE GREEN				\$2,539.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
GLEN MARY	\$12,325.75	\$1,827.05	\$759.28	\$500.00	\$131.59	\$240.34	\$0.00	\$1,346.61	\$500.00
HISTORICAL SIGNAGE				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,508.00	\$2,615.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
TOWN CLOCK				\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
ADVERTISING/ANNUAL MTG EXP		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$527.40	\$1,040.04	\$1,269.00	\$1,500.00
DONATIONS/GRANTS		\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00
IRS	\$151.00	\$136.00	\$0.00	\$301.48	\$257.00	\$929.00	\$345.00	\$352.00	\$250.00
TRANSFER		\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00				
PAYPAL FEES				\$3,780.00	\$45.59	\$7.39	\$19.08	\$24.30	\$40.00
LEGAL					(2,572.50)	\$0.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$17,664.85</b>	<b>\$126,892.08</b>	<b>\$59,862.65</b>	<b>\$20,566.30</b>	<b>\$97,669.42</b>	<b>\$8,960.54</b>	<b>\$55,510.17</b>	<b>\$13,375.91</b>	<b>\$211,000.00</b>

<b>CASH ON HAND JULY 31</b>	<b>\$300,370.12</b>	<b>\$215,241.70</b>	<b>\$198,319.49</b>	<b>\$240,700.71</b>	<b>\$212,159.96</b>	<b>\$254,157.72</b>	<b>\$249,388.25</b>	<b>\$290,146.66</b>	<b>\$172,880.00</b>
<b>VIA ACCOUNTS RECAP:</b>									
Operating Checking	\$11,806.18	\$123,631.76	\$31,175.41	\$70,662.48	\$116,731.01	\$157,758.96	\$151,571.74	\$139,971.48	\$50,000.00
DeGregoire Green Checking									\$13,031.54
Certificate of Deposit 660883	\$12,741.21	\$12,811.47	\$12,854.47	\$12,889.63	\$12,921.86	\$12,954.24	\$12,972.97	\$6,426.09	\$0.00
Fountain Checking	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,396.10	\$2,405.51	\$3,113.30	\$4,287.25	\$0.00	\$0.00
Capital Reserve CD	\$112,647.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80,717.55	\$290,146.66
Capital Reserve Money Market	\$163,174.90	\$78,798.47	\$154,289.61	\$154,752.50	\$80,101.58	\$80,331.22	\$80,556.29	\$249,388.25	\$290,146.66
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$300,370.12</b>	<b>\$215,241.70</b>	<b>\$198,319.49</b>	<b>\$240,700.71</b>	<b>\$212,159.96</b>	<b>\$254,157.72</b>	<b>\$249,388.25</b>	<b>\$290,146.66</b>	<b>\$172,880.00</b>
<b>VIA Endowment (market 7/31)</b>	<b>\$297,325.00</b>	<b>\$490,462.79</b>	<b>\$557,771.48</b>	<b>\$614,774.70</b>	<b>\$685,551.91</b>	<b>\$713,617.19</b>	<b>\$771,175.52</b>	<b>\$827,179.13</b>	<b>\$2,901,805.65</b>
<b>Gladys F O'Neil Charitable Trust (7/31)</b>					<b>\$2,664,628.19</b>				

Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association  
126<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
August 17, 2017

President Richard Cough welcomed 12 association members and guests to the 126<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Society held at 33 Ledge lawn Ave. in Bar Harbor. In attendance were officers: Richard Cough, Andy Shea, Kathy MacLeod and Jonathan Nicholson. Directors: Jeff Dobbs, Phillip Cunningham. Absent but excused were Deborah Dyer, Leslie Brewer, Ellen Grover, Scott West and Tom Testa.

The first order of business was to approve the minutes of the 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was unanimously passed.

Mr. Cough said the focus of the 126<sup>th</sup> meeting is to celebrate our accomplishments.

Election of Officers and Directors

Mr. Cough recommended the group elect the slate of Officers and seven Directors to the BHVIA Board

President: Richard Cough

Vice-President: Andy Shea

Secretary: Kathryn MacLeod

Treasurer: Jonathan Nicholson

Directors: Leslie Brewer, Phillip Cunningham, Thomas Testa, Jeff Dobbs, Deborah Dyer, Ericka Duym, Paul Coston

The motion to elect the Officers and Directors was made by Mr. Dobbs, seconded by Mr. Shea.

Ellen Grover and Scott West are stepping down. Mr. Cough thanked them for their service. New board members Ericka Duym and Paul Coston were

welcomed, Mr. Cough stated the Board looks forward to having their presence and expertise at future meetings.

### Treasurer`s Report

The treasurer's report was read, accepted and next years budget was approved. Motion was made by Mr. Shea and seconded by Mr. Dobbs.

It is estimated that approximately \$30,000 would be needed for shore path improvements and \$50,000 is still on the books for MDOT Route 3 improvements. It was also mentioned that Bar Harbor Bank and Trust is now reviewing the O'neil Trust annually with the benefactors which includes the VIA. We get about \$30,000 a year from this Trust. It was also recommended by Mr. Cough we form a financial committee made up of himself, Andy Shea, Jon Nicholson and Paul Coston to review our endowment and our policies and see how we want to proceed.

Bill Horner gave an informative talk on his new endeavor, History Trust, a community-wide effort to save Mount Desert Island's archives. Bill discussed how History Trust came about and his hopes for a central information agency handling many aspects of MDI's history.

The new BHVIA documentary produced by Dobbs Productions, written and narrated by Dick Cough premiered at the meeting to rave reviews. It will be a permanent record of the VIA's history and will be available for viewing on our website, Facebook page and the Acadia Channel.

### Village Green

Mr. Cough noted the how well the granite slab on top of the Veterans Memorial is protecting the bronze plaques. The slab looks nice and adds to the attractiveness of the memorial. Thank you to Jeff Gamage of Freshwater Brick and Stone who donated the slab.

There was a discussion about enlarging the bandstand. There isn't enough space for all band members to sit during a Band Concert. Mr. Dobbs is working with the town on a plan to add seating to the bandstand.

Thank you to Alexander Philips for maintenance of the Village Green Clock.

#### Shore Path and Grant Park

2016 repairs to the shore path and future trouble spots that may require our attention were discussed. Grant Park's new look is a pleasant surprise for walkers on the Shore Path. The work is about 99% complete according to Jeff Dobbs. Dick Cough continues to be concerned about the width of the shore path and access for future construction projects. The concern was brought up at previous meetings. Mr. Cough met with David Witham earlier in the week to discuss additional improvements and repairs the Bar Harbor Inn would like to make to sections of the seawall and their outside dining patio. The VIA will donate some money, if necessary, to help with seawall repairs.

#### Glen Mary

Although she has stepped down from the board, Ellen Grover will continue to keep an eye on things at Glen Mary. She has spent many hours caring for the park and contacts the VIA when there are concerns, or repairs are needed. Ellen will be given two gift certificates from local businesses for her dedication and willingness to maintain Glen Mary. Mr. Cough thanked her for her tireless efforts.

Mary Shannon bench needs to be reset.

#### Website and Facebook

Kathy MacLeod reported the BHVIA Facebook page has 1,063 likes and our website had 1,877 views from August 2016-August 2017. Ms. MacLeod was thanked for her work in keeping both the website and Facebook page current and interesting to read. Contemporary and historical photos are on both.

#### MDOT Route 3 Project

The BHVIA has made \$50,000 available for the MDOT Rt. 3 project multi-use path. There wasn't much headway in getting backing to light the entire path and improve other elements. Dick Cough felt it was in the VIA's best interest to get

back to our roots (we leased the Village Green from the Town in 1899) and pursue setting up a new park on a vacant lot between West Street and Harbor Lane. To date the owner, Joseph Cough has agreed to give the VIA an easement on a portion of this property. Perry Moore is on board to design a plan keeping in character with Beatrix Farrand, former VIA member and landscape architect, by researching her drawing of the Village Green and other Bar Harbor gardens she designed. The board unanimously voted to approve going forward with this new approach to create a park on the land which was formerly the DeGregiore Hotel. Some funding has already been pledged and once secured others will be contacted. Potential names for the proposed park include DeGregiore Gateway Park or DeGregiore Green. Next steps include working with the MDOT, Town and getting a lease signed once all parties are on board.

Motion to proceed was presented by Mr. Cunningham and seconded by Ms. Duym.

It was voted to appoint a committee to study and review the BHVIA By-laws to make changes in order to allow us to move the annual meeting to the fall, rather than having it during the busy summer season now that no summer residents are serving on the Board. We should also check for other changes that might need to be made in the By-laws. A motion was made by Mr. Cunningham and seconded by Mr. Dobbs.

It was further stated by Mr. Cough that through discussions at the previous spring meeting the purpose of the annual meeting should be to review the state of the BHVIA and its accomplishments each year. Any complicated or extended issues should be discussed in the spring at our working meeting.

Mr. Cough thanked Mr. Dobbs for designing a new Lifetime Member certificate and Annual Report cover this year. Full Circle Printing in Ellsworth printed 100 of Lifetime Member certificates for the VIA. The cost was \$55.00.

Within the past year Curtis and Laurel Simard, Will and Genie Thorndike, and Mr. and Mrs. Scott West became Lifetime Members of Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association. Mr. Cough thanked them for their generous donation.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded and approved. Mr. Cough thanked everyone for their attendance.



On the way out the door Treasurer Jon Nicholson took two buckets of collected coins from the fountains for processing and redemption.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Cough  
Kathy MacLeod

## BAR HARBOR VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION GIFTING POLICY

Since 1890, The Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association has worked to carry out the mission of its founding fathers who assembled, based on their perceived need, to provide: *'some method of united action to preserve the natural beauties of the place by ornamentation of the streets and public grounds of the village, by the planting and cultivating of trees, and doing such acts as shall tend to beautify, adorn and increase the attractions of the village and to promote the public welfare.'*

To that end, The Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association has decided to establish an annual gifting opportunity for the community; the criteria and application process, as written below, reflect the original intent of the Association. As in the past, the Association does not intend to fund entire projects, but rather to provide seed money to initiate a project, or perhaps to complete one. Funds will be awarded once a year at the discretion of the VIA. Applications may be submitted to any Director by April 1<sup>st</sup> and will be announced at the annual meeting in August.

### Criteria:

- 1) Project must be within the town of Bar Harbor
- 2) Town projects will have priority over other groups

### The presentation to the board should include:

- 1) Project plans
- 2) Project description (not to exceed one page)
- 3) Estimated cost
- 4) How project will enhance the community

### Award winners and amounts will be based on:

- 1) Value added to the community
- 2) Enhancement or beautification of some aspect of the community
- 3) Number of people who will benefit from the project
- 4) Other sources of funding for the proposed project
- 5) Presentation of proposed project to the board
- 6) The discretion of the VIA Board



## Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association

### Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association

#### By-Laws

(adopted 8-8-1941; revised 8-15-1991; revised 8-17-2017)

**Preamble:** Whereas, it is evident to all who are interested in the Village of Bar Harbor that some method of united action is needed in order to preserve the natural beauties of the grounds of the village, by planting and cultivating of trees, and doing such other acts as attractions of the village and to promote the public welfare; therefore we have formed ourselves into an Association and agree to be governed by the following by-laws:

1. "The corporation shall be known as the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association."
2. "The following persons shall be members ex-officio of the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association and free from obligation to pay dues: all municipal officers of the Town of Bar Harbor, including the Town Manager, the Superintendent of Acadia National Park, or his designee. Other members shall be such other persons as may be elected by the Directors. Annual Membership fees for an individual or a Life Membership fee for an individual may be established by vote at any annual meeting.
3. "The annual meeting of the Association shall be held in October at some convenient place in the Village of Bar Harbor of which due notice shall be

given by the Secretary. Other meetings of the Association may be called by the President and shall be called upon written request of five members.”

4. “At the annual meeting, the Association shall elect by ballot the following officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and seven members to serve as Board of Directors of eleven, which shall include at least one member acquainted with the conditions in each of the following fields: 1) Finance, 2) Health and Sanitation, 3) Paths or Trails, 4) Public Grounds or Parks, 5) Town Building, Zoning or Planning Ordinances. Special Committees may be appointed at any time by a vote of the Association or by the Board of Directors.”
5. “The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and its Board of Directors, and in his absence the Vice-President shall perform the duties of his office. The Treasurer shall have charge of all money and other property of the Association and at the annual meeting shall report in writing, supported by an account and vouchers for audit. He shall be the sole dispersing officer of the Association and shall pay out monies only upon written approval of the President or a member of the Board of Directors, except for usual office expenses. The Secretary shall keep a complete and careful record of all proceedings of the Association and its Board of Directors, shall have charge of the books, records, and seal of the Association, shall give due notice of all meetings, shall send copies of the minutes of each meeting to all of the Board of Directors, and shall take charge of the preparation of the Association’s Annual Report.
6. “Deeds and contracts shall be executed by the President and Treasurer and shall be stamped with the seal of the Corporation bearing its name and the year 1891. No member shall be personally liable for any contract or debt of the Association.”
7. “Eleven members of the Association or a majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum; and a quorum being present, a majority thereof shall control.”
8. “These By-Laws as a whole, or any part thereof, may be repealed or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any official meeting of the Association, but notice of any proposed change shall be given at the call of the meeting.”