

The following excerpts are from VIA Minutes, Vol. I

September 27, 1881: A preliminary meeting of Bar Harbor Citizens and others interested in village improvement was held at the Cottage Street schoolhouse pursuant to a published call of the meeting in the Mount Desert Herald. Dr. Hasket Derby was elected chairman and Mr. Joseph Wood, secretary. The matter of a village corporation for the better regulation of public affairs was discussed and met with general approbation. The chairman appointed a committee on Permanent Organization.

October 11, 1881: A committee was appointed to introduce an article at Town Meeting that hereafter the meetings of the Town of Eden be held in the Village of Bar Harbor. The committee of three was appointed Committee to Wait-on Selectmen.

October 24, 1881: Mr. C.S. Leffingwell, reported for Committee on the Constitution, with preamble and by-laws. The first article of the Constitution declares that the society will be known as the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association. Constitution adopted and meeting adjourned.

November 14, 1881: Proclaimed First Meeting of the Association, the meeting elected the Association's officers and Executive Committee.

February 20, 1882: VOTED to insert an article in the Town warrant that all Buckboard Tax money derived by the Town be given the Association to be expended on the streets of Bar Harbor, under direction of Executive Committee.

March 6, 1882: A code for the sanitary regulation in the village of Bar Harbor was revised and adopted. The Executive Committee advised that these regulations be adopted by the Town of Eden and be enforced at once.

1885: (Note of Secretary): On the 6th of March, 1885, the Town of Eden at its Annual Meeting voted "That the polling place of the Town of Eden be changed to the village of Bar Harbor". All Town meetings have since been held in the village. On Saturday, March 25, 1885, at a Special Meeting of the Town of Eden, the code of sanitary regulations, approved and recommended by BH VIA, March 6, 1882, was adopted by the Town.

July 20, 1889: The first meeting was called to order at the Music Room of Hotel St. Saviour, by Parke Godwin, president of the temporary organization, and upon report of Constitution Committee, the constitution was adopted. Officers and Board of Managers for '89-90 were elected. It was voted that the new Association be considered as a continuation of the V.I.A., formed in Bar Harbor in 1881.

September 9, 1890: In regard to report on hacks and electric lights, the matter of hack drivers and public carriages carrying lanterns and the subject of electric lights burning until dawn in

summer was referred to the Committee to Wait on Selectmen, for consideration at Town Meeting next March. And VOTED to authorize Executive Committee to lease for the Association for one year, land near West St. Cove, owned by Mr. T. L. Roberts, for the privilege of tearing down shanties and the place put in order.

February 5, 1891: A meeting was called at the suggestion of Mr. Jesup, who thought the Association might do something to prevent the Legislature of Maine in granting additional privileges to the Mount Desert Railway, and to send committee to Augusta. VOTED \$100 to oppose the street railway scheme. W.H. Sherman, sec.

September 11, 1891: VOTED that \$150 be appropriated for the purpose of removing certain old or dilapidated houses in the area of West St. known as Peanut Row, or be used at direction of Sanitary Committee for similar purpose. Roads and Paths Committee reports that a rock crusher of the best and most modern construction as an implement for producing desirable material in the construction of roads and sidewalks is necessary. The matter of purchasing machinery is now under consideration by Special Town Committee. The committee and the VIA should encourage and assist the Town Committee with presentation at Town Meeting in March.

September 26, 1896: Provisions by Sanitary Committee are VOTED for a VIA Board of Health (consisting of five medical practitioners) and request of Town of Eden Selectmen of appointment of Health Officer, with power to enforce sanitary regulations.

August 17, 1897: Appointed committee for the establishment of a village hospital.

September 20, 1898: Voted that the Sanitary Committee be requested to insert regulation of grave depth and that all coffins be lined with lead, and where burials should be allowed.

July 18, 1899: The Sanitary Committee reports that a telephone was placed last fall in the temporary hospital by the VIA and has proved to be of great service and comfort for Mrs. Higgins and the attending physicians. A bill of \$24 for balance due for telephone is presented.

September 10, 1901: The Village Committee reports on street cleaning from Hulls Cove to the Ocean Drive. Up to September 7th, 240 days work for men had been paid by this committee, and fifty-one and a quarter days for a one horse cart. For seven weeks a boy was employed to go about on a bicycle all day from Ocean Drive to the Bay Drive and collect the loose papers which are so unsightly, but at the end of that time he grew tired of what would have been a pleasure if there had been no idea of work connected with it, nor could the committee fill his position for remainder of season.

July 20, 1902: Resolved, that the thanks of the Association be tendered to Dr. C.C. Morrison, Representative from Eden in the legislature for his co-operative effort that the Association's committee and success in securing the passage of a law prohibiting the hunting or shooting of deer on the island.

September 8, 1903: The Sanitary Committee reports that the isolation hospital, called the Pest House, at Witch Hollow, is now owned by the Town, and this committee's requests were reasonable and it is in a very efficient condition. The Board of Health has just completed a number of improvements. All physicians of the Town are urged to attend the committee meetings.