
These are some of our thoughts we have after attending Sat Sept.22nd meeting

BLUE FLAG: Beach management isn't required but being aware of knowing how to have beaches cleaned properly & knowing the quality of the water can't be a bad thing. The driftwood and small twigs lots of time get used for beach fires people need to know the pros & cons of the benefits of leaving the beach in it's natural state.

LIGHTING: The only lighting should be on the pier it was discussed possible change to dark sky lighting good idea.

SIGNAGE: Consolidating the signs on a board is a good idea. It was mentioned the Blue Flag would be on a separate panel and could be removed if we don't have that designation that is also a good idea. Blue Flag sign have info for swimmers to find out if lake safe for swimming website/telephone number most people carry cellphones this info is also given on local radio stations.

Howard Street was/is the Main Beach why not post a sign on Howard Street indicating that this is the Main Beach & the Pier Beach location is simple to figure out it's location.

The Municipality has several more right-of-ways with stairs to the beach possibly have signage for all of these. Would it be feasible to have a Beach Access Sign indicating all of these locations/ownership in a areas such as Main Street & Tourist Booth highway 21 might make less traffic congestion at the pier beach if other areas are used more?

TREES: If the majority of people indicate that's what they would like only plant in approved areas by the property owners, don't obstruct lake view or beach access. The lake levels are high not feasible for planting until lake levels are lower if property owners agree on location & how many needed.

The beach is best left in it's natural state therefore it shouldn't have anything permanent other then required signage & always on approval of location from the property owners. The residents/tourists using the beaches can make a difference by not littering & knowing the Bluewater by-laws regarding pets, beach fires, firecrackers etc. this might be something that could be included in the signage.

Terry & Helen Lazaravitch

Hello Pioneer Park Directors!

Firstly, thank you for forwarding the Beach Management Draft plan. I look forward to reading this comprehensive report and appreciate all the efforts that have gone into this initiative. The beach is a personal passion point of mine.

Secondly, I wanted to circle back and address my comment from last August's AGM. I commented that I felt it was a good idea that we (Pioneer Park Directors and Members) consider evolving the Pioneer Park Master Plan (Section 12) to include a more comprehensive perspective, vision and direction for the Pioneer Park Beach - and to include all of the sections and property that are under Pioneer Park ownership not just the Pier Beach.

My suggestion was not really discussed or considered at the time, and I wanted to follow up on this - especially considering that the Municipality has developed a draft Master Plan for the Pier Beach that includes Pioneer Park property. While I applaud this initiative, I feel that Pioneer Park needs to be much more active in providing a vision for ourselves, for all of our beach property - that links to our Mission and our current Master Plan. Working in conjunction and in partnership with the Municipality on the Pier Beach area is of course ideal.

Generally speaking, Master Plans are developed and approved to provide an agreed upon vision and guidance for future Directors and Members to follow without subjectivity or bias. This is no exception...and to echo the opening comments in the Master Plan..."The purpose of this Master Plan is to provide long-term guidance for the future development of Pioneer Park and the ongoing maintenance of the grounds and landscape. Any work in the park, including the undertaking of improvements, should conform to the principles and guidelines expressed in this Master Plan". These opening comments hold true for all the grounds including the beach and I feel it's timely and my strong recommendation to flesh out section 12 accordingly - for our own benefit and it would behoove the Directors to ignite this initiative.

Additionally, as the original Master Plan accredited author now resides in Bayfield, I recommend that the Board consider obtaining Alex Shevchuk's services to further develop section 12 - for a variety of reasons Alex would be the optimal choice, should he be interested.

Lastly - I'd like to be more active in the Pioneer Park Beach Management Committee and wish to join this group. I will do my best to attend any and all meetings live, and if I cannot make a live meeting, I trust we can figure out a Skype call or conference line.

How best to join the committee and get caught up on all the previous meetings? Kelly mentioned there were minutes from past meetings, I hope these are readily available? Please advise my next steps on this.

Thank you - and I look forward to connecting more on this.

All the best, *Ann Laudenbach*

Response to : Bluewater Beach Management Committee:

Beach Management Plan

In June of 2018, as a director of Pioneer Park, I submitted my response/thoughts to the BBMC regarding their beach management plan. I would like to condense my response here:
Upon submission I was informed that a beach management plan was “not” a requirement of the Blue Flag agreement. I had been under the impression that this plan was an imperative.
Subsequently, the August final draft plan (page 5 paragraph 5) contained the addition:
Although a management plan is not a requirement for Blue Flag designation, the committee felt that a plan would enhance environmental protection and promote collaborative, considered beach management.

As noted by Mr. Donnelly (Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation), this is not a large area of beach (140 metres) and the majority of it is owned by the Pioneer Park Association (as noted in the Summary of Findings in the Grodzinski Report of 2014).

Mr. Donnelly has written a very comprehensive and thorough document.

Here are my concerns:

The report does not state that the Pioneer Park Association votes yearly at their AGM to determine if the membership wishes the beach area owned by Pioneer Park to be designated “Blue Flag” and to give permission to the Municipality of Bluewater to submit the application for Blue Flag status. Should agreeing to the BBMC Beach Management Plan be linked to receiving BF status? I think this should be discussed and legal advice sought.

Page 6B: Bayfield’s Coastal Setting:

The wording “privately” owned public beach should be added to this sentence.

Page 23: Signage:

Pioneer Park is not recognized at all on the current signage. I would hope that new signage would re-consider this and also that signage be placed as to not block the Lake Huron sight line.

Page 26: Accessibility

“There is currently no plan to make significant alterations to the public space by installing a “boardwalk”.

In the Grodzinski Report (2014), Page 4, paragraph 2 it states: “The Municipality informed the Optimist Club that it does not have the authority to consider or approve the construction of a boardwalk as the beach is the property of the Pioneer Park Association (with the exception of a 39 ½ ft wide right of way).

In the Pioneer Park Master Plan (Section 12.2) The Beach it states that no permanent structures may be erected on the Pioneer Park beach.

Page 26. viii) Beach Entrance/Gateway - Landscaping:

I do not support the inclusion of this section in the BBMC Beach Management plan. I believe that any landscaping plan must first be considered by the Pioneer Park Beach Committee , approved by the board of directors and then taken to the membership via the AGM for final

approval, as part of the Pioneer Park Association Master Plan. I am not in favour of tree planting on the beach as I feel it will block the natural vista of Lake Huron as one approaches the beach from Long Hill Road. If future bank revetment is needed and trees have been planted on the beach, we could lose our ability to access the park bank to do future work. I would like the board of directors to consider hiring Alex Shevchuk, the author of our Master Plan, to develop a more in depth addition to: 12.0 The Beach section - including many of the ideas put forward by Patrick Donnelly. This should be in a more concise format - perhaps a page or two.

Page 30: Structures on the beach
The beach management plan states that “no structures should be permitted on the beach, except for approved seating recommended in conjunction with this management plan. Pioneer Park Master Plan states “that no permanent structures” are to be on the beach and we have a standardized park bench design should that be considered at some point. Any change to the bench design would require approval from the PPA membership. If armour stone is placed along the beach/parking curb line, it could act as seating on PPA land. To conclude, Mr. Donnelly and the contributors of this plan have written a very comprehensive and thorough document. Perhaps if the document provided a one page summary of what is intended in the beach management plan, it would make it an easier task for our membership to vote on.

Pattie MacDonald

As a whole the beach management plan as offered appears fine with the acception landscaping is not needed.

The armour stone looks great on the pioneer park area of the beach. Looks so much bigger and inviting. So easy to sit on and look at the lake.

The logs are so natural to be there and are used to sit on when you get out of the water or just enjoy the sunset.

As a kid who grew up in Bayfield in the 50's and 60's love the untouched look. Have always gone to the beach through out the years and now own a cottage here(soon to be here full time). No need for trees between armour stone as it is just so natural the way it is now.

Please no signs to block the view.

Agree some signs are needed but should be along the side and not blocking the view.

Thank you for allowing my comments to be stated.

Karen Humphries

There has been a lot of effort put into developing a Beach Plan by a selected group without sufficient input from PP membership.

There has been a public meeting for residents to have their say. It was recommended in the report from Donnelly that the residents of the grove be consulted, PP would like to keep on good terms with these folks.

I would suggest the membership of PP should also have a meeting for their input as owners of 75% of the beach. An appropriate time would be in the spring when seasonal residents are available.

The Beach Management Plan should be tied to the Blue Flag.

Landscaping should not be considered at this time because of the volatility of the water levels. If there are improvements that can be made to the pier area, the Municipality should proceed on their own.

Trees should not be planted.

Limited varieties grow in sand.

PP needs access to our lands for bank maintenance not relying on the Municipality.

No shade provided in the afternoon

Driving down to the beach view of water is obstructed.

Maintenance

Older people view the sunset from their vehicles as they did when PP allow vehicles in the park.

Their view would be obstructed.

What Lois Lance once said about PP If it isn't broke don't fix it.

At the AGM it was brought forward about expanding our Beach section 12 in our Master Plan . I would like to join this committee.

Bud

Please find my comments after reviewing the master plan “final draft” as presented at the public meeting in September.

The final draft to establish a Beach Master Plan with respect to the jointly owned Blue Flag Beach on the whole has considerable merit and with a few modifications and /or changes is a workable plan.

From my personal viewpoint however I would like to see a change to the beach cleaning policy. Specifically to limit “hand raking” unless it is deemed by agreement of the joint owners that a health or safety condition exists. I.E. No hand raking for aesthetic purposes only.

Additionally and as indicated by Pat Donnelly in his report, Amenities must forego user wants versus user needs to maintain the health and enjoyment of the beach. Therefore my position on the “landscaping plan” that would include tree planting and grass planting, benches, picnic tables etc., should be omitted from the master plan. There are numerous reasons I believe that leads me to this position of elimination such as reduced visual vistas, cluttered sight lines, ongoing and costly maintenance concerns, not a natural environment and lastly the very small size of this property will not support these additions without becoming obtrusive and a visual eyesore.

The municipality as part of the BBMC has indicated they would like a final plan that they utilize for the other beach properties under their control. Likewise I believe that PPA should also create a beach masterplan that is applicable to their other beach properties other than the Blue Flag designated beach. It is hoped that these plans would closely mirror each other but not necessarily be identical. By example “Dogs on beach policy which is different for the Blue Flag and PPA beach areas.

Carl Humphries

Dear Pioneer Park Board,

I would like to address the draft from Bluewater. Please reject it as it is currently presented. There are so many inconsistencies within this document making it hard to read.

I'm sending an attachment (sorry, it will come late in separate email) with some specific references to the document, but in general, I do not feel this document is ready to go forward.

I appreciate the hard work of the committee to get this in a form to be presented to Pioneer Park and its members. There is a lot of information here and a lot that could be discussed. Many thanks to the time and energy to those who worked so very hard to get this put together. I know it was not an easy task.

However, there is just too much here that doesn't carry thru out the document in a consistent manor and a few things I really question how they could be interpreted in the future if this document goes forward.

It is confusing to understand which beach this report is talking about as the name changes from paragraph to paragraph. I would like to see an agreement to the name and then that name carried consistently thru the document, with a notation when old document pages are being put in the report with a different name that it is not the correct name.

I also wonder what impact the extended north pier had on the shoreline.

Figure 6: 1935 Shoreline Land Survey (showing water's edge & HWM) Page 14
Please note...this beach as of 1935 is the beach before the North Pier extension. That North Pier extension has changed the shape of the Pier Beach more than any other single development, water levels included.

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to continue...

I wanted to add this one piece I don't understand...

A. Human History ...at the beach Pg 15 The ABCA Shoreline Management Plan (ABCA, 2000) identified the Bayfield shoreline as having 53% of the 3 km shoreline protected with erosion control structures (p. 44). It also suggested that in order to better protect the 15

residences that were identified as being within an area of slope stability concern (p. 73), the municipality may wish to consider confirming or acquiring ownership of the beach and constructing community shore protection (e.g. offshore breakwater). This report did not uncover any evidence that the earlier consideration was being actively pursued.

I am assuming that page 73 is from another document as this document does not have 73 pages. But alarming is the reference to the municipality considering acquiring ownership of the beach.

I hope the Board will reject this document as it is presented, and will ask for a document that is consistent in its naming of the Pier Beach, will have a lawyer look over anything new to come forth, and have a document drawn up in which Bluewater will sign they understand that Pioneer Park entering into discussing or even having an agreement by no means is an indication of Pioneer Park giving up any ownership of the Pier Beach. I also do not feel this document should be tied to the Ble Beach program and if that Blue Beach doesn't get renewed at any time in the future, the Pioneer Park board will have the discretion to re-evaluate their position on any Beach management plan.

Have a lovely Thanksgiving!!!

Concerned Pioneer Park Member