



SPLKA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2016 at 9:30 AM

“The mission of SPLKA is to preserve, promote, educate the public, and to make our lighthouses accessible to all.”

Members Present: Kirk Lindquist, Roger Pashby, Sue Ann Schnitker, and John Truxell

Members Excused: Lenore Janman , Sheila Meeusen, and Kim McDaniel

Staff Members Present: Carol Cooper, Jim Hardie , and Peter Manting, Priscilla McBeth

Others Present: Ted Robinson

Call to Order/Establish a Quorum

Sue Ann Schnitker called the meeting to order at 9:30. All of those present stood for the pledge of allegiance and prayer.

Audience Comments/Correspondence

Dena Sanford, Architectural Historian, USDI, sent us a letter acknowledging receipt of the 2014-15 Biennial Report for the Ludington North Breakwater Light. The interpretive programming developed by SPLKA was commended, including the lighthouse activity booklets and youth field trips to the light. The next biennial report will be due in April 2018.

Approval of Minutes of Board Meeting of July 9, 2016

Minutes were approved as revised. The maintenance report (page 3) was amended to include Jim Groent, as one of the painters of the east side keepers quarters at BSP.

Treasurer's Report

Roger Pashby presented the current balance sheet and Assets as of July 31, 2016. Total assets are \$436,746.63.

Treasurer's Report was approved as submitted.

Reports

Executive Director's Report

Peter Manting reported the following:

- The “No Diving Or Jumping” break water signs need to be repainted. This is a City/SPLKA shared responsibility.
- Planning for the 2017 Lighthouse Festival (August 25 -27) is proceeding. The Maritime Museum will also participate in the festival. A media announcement is planned during the week of August 27, 2016 at BSP.
- Peter is working to get a part of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra to come to Ludington to perform several commissioned lighthouse works.
- Trex board sales continue to sell well. So far this year, 67 have been ordered.
- Tours at Little Sable were down in July, up at BSP, and steady at White River. Gift shop sales continue to be strong.
- Annual Dinner reservation forms will go out soon. The second newsletter will be sent out after the annual meeting.
- The “Night at the Lights” event at Little Sable was a great success.

Maintenance Report

Jim Hardie reported the following:

- The new brass vent covers for White River are ready for installation.
- New lights are being installed at the Breakwater Light on the first floor and the gift shop (with solar kits). The portholes will be cleaned up this winter, and the glasses may need to be replaced (sand blasted!).
- Little Sable activity includes installation of some of the old walkways from Big Sable to show the State Park what we would be proposing if they allowed us to sell Trex boards, and bee management!
- New beds have been purchased for Big Sable. There have been problems with the BSP septic system. New baffles will be installed sometime after Labor Day.

Goal Committees

Goal I: Financial Stability and Development

No Report.

Goal II: Capital Projects

John Truxell reported that he is having trouble finding a contractor to give them a price on the remodeling of the storage shed at White River. He will continue pursuing contractors.

Goal III: Interpretation and Youth Education

No Report

Goal IV: Marketing and Public Outreach

Kirk Lindquist reported that the NMHG grant application for the HSR for Big Sable has been submitted. Work continues on the lists of governmental and corporate contacts.

Other Business

Board Vacancies (2)

Sue Ann shared the 2 board applications received from the SPLKA membership: Jeff dePuis and Ted Robinson. The bylaw requirement for 3 years of continuous membership (Section 2E) would be waived for Mr. dePuis and Mr. Robinson. Roger moved (seconded by John) that these two names be placed in nomination at the September 17 General Membership meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Shining Light Award

This year's award will be given to Bob Sperling for his many years of service and dedication to SPLKA. Peter will have the plaque engraved and available at the Annual Meeting.

Country Magazine Article

Roger's article on SPLKA's keeper program was accepted! Copies will be provided to the Board at the October meeting.

NLBL

Project costs will be charged to the Contingency Fund. If necessary, this project can be paid for from the Capital Improvement Fund, depending on future draws from the CF.

Roger Pashby moved to accept; John Truxell seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Lighthouse Discussion

Jim Hardie discussed that the North Manitou Lighthouse is up for auction. Board members discussed the need to find out more information. Peter and Jim agreed to look further into this matter.

Personnel Items

Peter reported that Priscilla McBeth will be stepping down from her present position as Gift Shop Manager at the end of the year. Peter has been approached by Rachel Bendele with a proposal to combine her position with the gift shop manager's position. Peter is asking for board comments and questions as he considers this proposal. Peter will make a recommendation on how he intends to fill this position to the Board Personnel Committee before he prepares next year's budget.

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned at 10:51 AM.

Submitted by: Kirk Lindquist, Vice President