

SPLKA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MAY 19, 2020

The May meeting of the Sable Point Lighthouse Keepers Association was held via ZOOM programming on the internet due to the COVID-19 Virus, and rules pertaining to social distancing.

1-Call to Order- President Al Cocconi. A quorum was established with all **Board Members** present and all **Staff members** present.

2-Pledge of Allegiance led by President Cocconi.

3-Audience and Communications- There were no letters or audience communications to offer at the meeting. There were two letters presented that explained how the two organizations were handling the start up of their organizations once the all-clear is given by the government. They were the GRAM, (Grand Rapids Art Museum, and Cincinnati Museum Center).

4-Approval of Minutes from the April 24, 2020 meeting. Motion made by Bill McBeth to accept the Minutes as published. Motion passed.

5-Treasurer's Report-The Treasurers report was in the packet. After some discussion concerning the loss of revenue from being closed due to COVID-19, we are still holding our own financially. We will be hard pressed if this continues through the summer season. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Roger, motion passed.

6-Staff reports- Executive Director's Report- Peter Manting. Report and extra information are in the Packet. Report accepted as presented.

WRLS Report-Matt Varnum-Matt's report is in the packet. Report accepted.

OPS/GIFT SHOP Report- Rachelle Bendele- Report is in the packet. Report accepted. There was much discussion concerning the cancellation of Volunteers who have concerns of COVID-19. (Will discuss this at a later point in the minutes.)

MAINTENANCE/RESTORATION-Jim H.-Jim's report is in the Packet, basically no work can be done due to COVID-19, and State Park in lock-down mode.

***At this point in the meeting we deviated from the agenda and moved to discussing policies and procedures that we will work under in the coming days and weeks, perhaps months.**

POLICY- 1-We will wear masks-We will follow State guidelines unless medical issues deem them unsafe.

2-Tower is closed to tours.

3-Gift shops will be open / online and at lights. Follow State and City guidelines. BSP only?

4-Towers to open, BSP / LSP. How do we keep them sanitary and healthy, living quarters included?

5-WRLS- Business as usual-one family at a time, social distancing, masks in place.

6-Outside tours w/ Historical interpretation at BSP, LSP.

7-Virtual tours available.

These thoughts brought considerable discussion, 45 minutes' worth. Do we open? How do we enforce Mask usage, how long do the Volunteers have to wear a mask, what about in the living quarters?

Will it be too much trouble to keep the Lights clean? Day by day, week after week, there are a lot of concerns for and by the Volunteers.

FINAL PROPOSAL-

***OPENING DATE?**

1-Will wear masks-Follow State Guidelines

2-Towers closed-No climbing

3-Gift shops open-Volunteers used-Weekends only, No LSP.

4-WRLS -Normal operations

5-Outside Historical Interpretation-

6-Virtual Tours-Using local Community TV programming and Internet.

7-No housing available this year- Look into Motels or local volunteers.

Motion made to adopt this program, Bob Baltzer. Larry S. supported motion. Motion passed.

***BUDGET IMPLICATONS- Budget revision is needed.**

-Ted, Peter, Al, will work on budget before next meeting.

-How do we provide funding to stay solvent?

-We can apply to the Federal Govt., for a 160K grant for funding.

-Is it possible to pull all our funds out of the Muskegon Funding that we have? - We can get 5% normally, but at the present time 9% is accessible.

MAINT. REPORT- Jim shared with us that he has been doing projects at home for the lights, but he cannot do anything at any of the Lights by State Guidelines. No construction, repairs, or improvements unless documented with the State Park Director.

7-COMMITTEE REPORTS-

***Marketing Meeting- Mark / Larry. Comm. Mtg. 10 am. May 29, Zoom mtg.**

***Personnel Comm.- Nothing to report currently.**

8-A-Presidents Report- 1-Lake levels are a big concern, of which we have no control over.

a-Lake levels will be higher this summer, already at 1986 levels.

b-No word on opening the Pier in Ludington. City is supposed to be gating the pier.

c-Seawall repairs-waiting on report from State of Michigan.

d-Placement of boulders in front of seawall to break waves.

e-Capital Campaign- Tower repair issues.

a-Blair Bates Report vs Kendra Thompson inspection.

b-Bates took photos of needed repair items- on file.

c-Kendra Thompson worked on the Manistee Light project; she is an engineer. Her opinion was that the tower at BSP is not as bad as Bates reported.

d-No action taken at this time due to the financial crunch we are facing.

e-Dr. Duke will speak with the staff concerning COVID-19 restart.

2-Peter, Ted, and Al will be working on the revised budget.

3-Gary Peters needs to get us some referrals of possible donors to help get us funds.

B-Vice-Pres-ZOOM Mtg coming up-

C-Secretary- Nothing to report.

9-NEW BUSINESS- **1-COVID-19**, Emergency plan, lots of discussion.

2.Motion was made by Bill Mc Beth and seconded by Larry Stulz to grant funds from BSP Fund on deposit with the Mason County Community foundation to help SPLKA with operations. This amount will be \$12,036.

3-Discussion to borrow more funds- will discuss and act on in June meeting.

10-OPEN DISCUSSION- **1**-Question, what if members or volunteers ask for refunds since they are not working?

2-A letter from the Finance Comm., will answer the refund issues if needed.

11-REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS- **Bob will revise the list and send out the current status.**

1-Virtual tour set up-Education Comm.

2-Video of White River-WMTA, CATV, Chamber of Comm., etc.

3-Personnel Comm. Mtg-June, Ted and other members.

4-Letter to members to explain this year's program.

12-Move to adjourn- Roger, 13:15.

Submitted by Roger Pashby-Secretary

