



## SPLKA Annual Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2013, 7:45 PM

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

### **Call to Order/Establish a Quorum**

A business meeting of the Sable Point Lighthouse Keepers' Association was held September 21, 2013 at 7:45 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 5810 W. Bryant Road, Ludington, Michigan. The business meeting was preceded by a dinner and silent auction. The President, Lenore Janman, called the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting to order. The following Board members were present: Lenore Janman, Bob Baltzer, Doug Buikema, David Dietrich, and Sheila Meeusen. Absent board members were: John Truxell and Roger Pashby.

Lenore welcomed all members and thanked Brenda Bont and Judy Evans for organizing donations for the silent auction. Lenore also thanked everyone who made a donation and to Carol Buikema for donating the fall centerpieces for the tables. Lenore also offered members who were present to make a donation of \$10 to take home one of these centerpieces. Lenore explained that the United Methodist Church offered their facilities to SPLKA at no charge, but a box was available for those who wished to thank them with a donation. The diners were entertained by “The Road Less Traveled” who played also at no expense to the Association. A tip jar was available for who wished to thank them for their generosity.

Lenore then introduced Peter Manting as our new Executive Director, giving the members some information about his background. Peter started his new position on September 12, 2013. Peter then made a few remarks about his love of maritime history and introduced his wife Carolyn.

### **Approval of Minutes of Annual Meeting of September 22, 2012**

Sheila Meeusen read the Annual Meeting Minutes from September 22, 2012. A motion was made by Carol Ferguson and seconded by David Persel to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Reports:**

- **Treasurer's Report:**—Doug Buikema reported that SPLKA's assets as of September, 2012 were \$272,535.71. and that SPLKA's assets as of September, 2013 were \$275,946.77. Doug reported that SPLKA did have an audit of the books in 2013 and for the next 2 years will have a review, not an audit. A motion was made to accept the report and seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- **Officers' Reports:**--Vice President Bob Baltzer showed the membership a PowerPoint presentation which he is going to use as a fundraising tool to reach out to the community and other organizations. His presentation shows accomplished projects such as a new DVD for Big Sable Point Lighthouse and a fog horn to be installed at BSP in the near future. His presentation also pointed out future expenses in our lighthouses, including needed repairs on the tower and walkways at BSP, plaster damage and support damage under the gallery walkway at LSP, and needed chimney improvements at White River Light Station. The Ludington North Breakwater Lighthouse also needs repairs to plaster and portholes. Bob's presentation also showed the amount of money it is going to take to cover some of these projects.

The membership asked questions about what a Historic Structure Research document is and how it is done. Board members Lenore Janman and Bob Baltzer explained how an HSR looks at the entire span that the light has existed and that an HSR is used as a historical reference when starting a project on a historical building. It was reported that an HSR was started a week ago on Little Sable Point Lighthouse. Bob Baltzer also explained that SPLKA is also restricted by the DNR and must follow certain DNR guidelines before projects can be completed. Lenore Janman talked about what specific repairs are needed at LNB such as repairs to the ceiling and the sealing of the portholes. It was stated that preservation is an ongoing thing at all of our lights and the members will hear more about these projects in the future.

### **Shining Light Award:**

Lenore Janman then explained that SPLKA would be giving the Shining Light Award for the first time this year. This award is given to a volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to our Association. Blair Bates is the recipient of our First Shining Light Award. Lenore explained that Blair propelled down our towers last summer and did an assessment of our towers, he trained volunteers this summer on how to install new windows at BSP, and he helped to research and install the correct brick on the keeper's dwelling at BSP this year. Blair also assisted our maintenance supervisor Derrick Ebidon with repairs at LNB. Blair did all this work at no charge to the Association. Along with the award Blair will be receiving a letter thanking him for his contributions to our Association.

**Election of Officers:**

Lenore Janman read a letter submitted by Sheila Meeusen, who is currently filling the unexpired term of Secretary, for 2013. Sheila is running for the three-year vacant Board position for 2014. A motion was made and seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**Holly Nolan Presentation:**

Lenore Janman then recognized Holly Nolan whose mother was a keeper at the White River Light Station. Holly presented a 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary plate (1875-1975) to Peter Manting. This plate will be kept at the light station. She also presented Peter with a copy of the interview that her mother Frances Marshall had when she became the lighthouse keeper at White River. This interview was also used in the writing of the book "Ladies of the Lights."

**Announcements:**

Lenore Janman announced that our Annual Report will be in our October Newsletter which will be sent via email to the membership.

**Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Business meeting adjourned at 8:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Meeusen, Secretary