

SPLKA ANNUAL DINNER /BUSINESS MTG.

AUGUST 18, 2018

WHITE RIVER LIGHT STATION AND MUSEUM

The members of the Sable Point Lighthouse Keepers Association met at the White River Light Station and Museum on August 18, 2018. There were 50 members and guests in attendance for an “old fashioned picnic” and BBQ. The weather was sunny and warm, and the site looked wonderful. Judging from comments from those in attendance, all had a great time, the food was prepared well, and everyone had more than enough to eat and drink. The Light Station and Museum was open for all to visit and inspect after normal operating hours. The business meeting was held following the dinner, and here is an account of the meeting.

Dinner: 17:00 hours – 18:15.

Invocation: Roger Pashby

Meeting called to order at 18:20. President Bob Baltzer

Opening comments: President Bob Baltzer. The President introduced himself and Executive Director Peter Manting. President Baltzer introduced the active Board of Directors for 2018.

The President in his opening comments took time to thank many who helped to set up and make sure the Dinner came off without a glitch. Those who were mentioned were Jim Hardie, his wife Kim; Matt Varnum, Bill McBeth, the staff of SPLKA, and many volunteers.

President Baltzer read a piece of journalism from Lighthouse Magazine concerning the Governors Award presented to SPLKA, in Lansing earlier this summer. Peter and Jim were on hand to receive the Award in the State Capital, May 1, 2018. We are in great shape as a Lighthouse Association, we need to continue in our endeavors. We have a strong base!

President Baltzer likened our Association to that of a brick in a foundation. We have many bricks, he highlighted three (3) of them.

1-Membership- We are up again this year, and we account it to word of mouth and passionate concern for lighthouses everywhere.

2- Support of Staff-We have a great supportive staff! They are Peter Manting – Exec. Dir.; Cherie-Office manager; Rachel- Volunteer Coordinator / Purchasing Mgr., Jim Hardie- Restoration Dir.; Matt Varnum- Museum Curator, White River Light Keeper.; Carol Cooper- Bookkeeper. Without these people we would not know the success we enjoy. Also, we have had three interns to thank for a great season, Missy, Eric, and Becka.

3- Board of Directors- Ms. Kim McDaniel, Mr. Karl Wiegand, Mr. Ted Robinson, Mr. Bill McBeth, Ms. Lenore Janman, Mr. Roger Pashby., Mr. Bob Baltzer.

President Baltzer went on to tell us that we need to **Grasp the Vision of SPLKA**. Membership needs to become involved in ***Promotion, Support, and Restoration***.

We need ideas for fundraising to support our goals. They are the following:

A-1.7 million for building / operating expenses.

B-Tower repairs at BSP, and LSP lights.

C- File of potential members to serve on the future Board of Directors.

The ANNUAL ELECTION of Board Officers was held. The slate of candidates included **Mr. Al Cocone, Mr. Mark Hallenbeck, and Mr. Roger Pashby** (incumbent). A unanimous ballot was cast, and all were elected without any nominations from the floor.

President Baltzer announced that we will be moving forward with **Multi-Media Communications** with Board Meetings, to enable more officers to participate from their homes or wherever they may be, rather than traveling hundreds of miles for a three-hour meeting.

TREASURERS REPORT- Mr. Ted Robinson.

Our "Credits equal our Debits" was Ted's report to the Association. We are financially strong, and we are forging ahead for a great report for 2018. A full report on our increases and decreases is available for every member to review.

Two of the major restoration projects are funded and cared for. The **Port holes** and the **interior doors** at BSP.

PETER MANTING- Executive Director gave his Annual Report and summarized many of the activities that have been going on. The Top activity was the Governors Award, presented in May, in the Capital Rotunda in Lansing. Our new office is a blessing this year, along with the great staff we have working with him. There have been some notable upgrades to all the Lights this year. The new workshop has been funded by the Friends of White River, Thank you very much. The accessibility for wheelchair users has been completed at WRLH.

Donations helped to procure the following items. New performing deck at LSP, Benches at many lights, New mattresses at LSP, New furniture at BSP, restoration of the Suite at BSP, six (6) bus days again, very successful Nights at the Lights, and a visit by Sen. Gary Peters, on a fact-finding tour of our lights.

NEW BUSINESS- President Baltzer announced and reviewed By-Laws changes that the Board requested.

A- Media attendance

B- Suite usage

C- Attendance requirements

New Officers announcement- Mr. Al Cocone, Mr. Mark Hallenbeck, Mr. Roger Pashby (incumbent).

SHINING LIGHT AWARD- Mr. Jim Hardie presenter.

Jim presented the award to Mr. Ken Reeves, a long-time volunteer and supporter of the lights. He has been a friend to us all and is always available to lend Jim a hand in restoration when Jim needs help. Thank you, Ken, for your willingness to help.

Introduction of Bob Baltzer as Board President- Bob failed to introduce himself as the Board President when he introduced the Board, early in the meeting. Secretary Roger Pashby introduced Bob as a driving force in moving the Association forward into the 21st century. Thank you, Bob, for your willingness to serve.

President Baltzer called for a motion to adjourn and we were adjourned at 19:15 hours.

Entertainment for the evening was Mr. Dan Hall, a well-known vocalist-musician to Michigan. He did a great job singing to us about the many lights of Michigan. The music was written by him and often performed in schools and at Lighthouse celebrations across Michigan.

Respectfully submitted by;

Roger Pashby-Secretary SPLKA.