

S.P.L.K.A. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 19, 2021

The Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers Association met August 19 for their regularly scheduled meeting. The following is a report of the meeting activities and results The Board of Directors and staff met at the office in Ludington, and via ZOOM.

1-Meeting called to order by President Al Coconni at 09:30 hours. Attendance was taken and a quorum was in attendance. **Staff members** included **Executive Director** Peter Manting, **Assistant to the Director**-Cherie Hockenberger, **Curator**-Matt Varnum, **Restoration/Maintenance Supervisor**- Jim Hardie. Rachel was working at the State Park setting up for bus day, Carol was absent.

Board members in attendance were the following, **President**-Al Coconni, **V-President**-Mark Hallenbeck, **Secretary**-Roger Pashby, **members** Susan Land, Sara Hook (zoom) Larry Stulz (zoom). **Treasurer** Ted Robinson was absent.

2-Pledge of allegiance was given, led by Al C.

3Audience comments and correspondence was given. We had one guest, Bob Baltzer, and three pieces of correspondence. Two pieces were thank you notes and a check to cover tower tours when the family had no cash. Another was a thank you note and money for membership to SPLKA from a family of Indian descent. Welcome to SPLKA.

4-Consent agenda-

a-Approval of minutes from June 17th meeting, 2021. Motion made to accept as published by Susan / Mark. Motion passed.

b-Treasurer's Report- Accepted as published. In absence of Ted, Peter answered any questions that came up and reported that we are doing very well even though COVID set us back last year.

c-Staff Reports-Written reports were reviewed and accepted.

1-Peter's report was accepted as published, along with additional commentary on meetings and programs he attended. He reported on a group from "**Answers in Genesis**" from Covington, KY., that visited and did some videography at BSP and interviewed both Peter and Jim about the lights. Peter also attended a meeting with the **Seekers** and received a check for \$500 for the activity books. Thank you very much.

2-The Curator's report was read and accepted, Matt made comments that he has had some very good days with tours and sales lately. To get volunteers to work a weekend at the WRLS, lodging must be made available, and must be affordable. After some discussion, it was agreed we need to investigate a solution later.

3-Operation/Gift shop-Rachel's report was read and accepted, very encouraging. She is having issues with merchandise coming in, suppliers are having difficulty getting product as well.

4-The Maintenance report was read and accepted. Jim commented on the invasion of mice at BSP and gave Al some baits to take out to the quarters. "Hughes Net" is being installed on Friday the 20th; Frontier no longer is our provider.

D-Officer reports-

***President-Al** gave a verbal report highlighting his thoughts concerning our reactions to the purpose and actions we as members should hold. **First**, we should look at the Lighthouses as an "adventure / something wonderful" to experience. **Second**, he then expressed his excitement with the documentary being done by the group from "Answers in Genesis", from Covington, Ky. **Thirdly**, he wants us to expand our portfolio and enlist more members. **Fourth**, he wants us to be ready to GROW, and take on more exciting days! **Fifth**, Stay Focused! Keep our eyes on the goals, and step forward to it!

***V-Pres-Mark H.**, had no comments at this time, was saving them for the Education Committee report.

***Secretary-Roger.** No comments. Time is winding down, and my eighth year will soon be over.

E-Committee Reports-

***Goal Committee #1-Finance and Fund Raising-** See written report in packet.

***Goal Committee #2- Restoration / Maintenance-** There is no written report for the past month. The Committee did meet via Zoom and discussed several goals that need to be addressed. Specifications were sent out to the committee concerning costs and actions for repairs to BSP. They will be addressed at a later meeting. Repairs to windows at White River Light Station were addressed, a recommendation will be presented later in this meeting. An action list will be created and presented to the Board at the end of this meeting. There was discussion concerning the need of a new auto-start generator to be moved to the BSP site to run the whole facility, not just certain circuits. It was recommended that Jim explore the cost and load that should be covered. He will report back to the committee at next month's meeting.

***Goal Committee #3-Education Committee-Mark, Sara, Susan, Larry.**

A written report was filed from the June 28th meeting. Mark found himself getting involved in the investigation of shipwrecks and other experiences at the lights. The committee is working hard to accumulate all educational material available.

***Goal Committee #4-Social Media Committee-Sara and Larry.** Nothing to report at the meeting.

5-Unfinished Business-

1-Staff and board workday- Following today's meeting we will join at the State Park and assist with the Bus Day program, 12:00-17:00 hrs.

2-Annual Dinner-September 18, 2021. The Committee will work out the details for the dinner, later. It will be held at the United Methodist Church in Ludington, at 18:00 hours. Dinner invitations have been sent out, and table sponsors are being sought after to make the dinner purely a fund-raising event rather than an added expenditure. The special speaker will be Ms. Valerie van Heest. A motion was made by Roger and supported by Susan that the board sponsor a table. Motion passed.

6-New Business-

1-There will be an election of new or continuing members at the annual meeting- Candidates will be the following, Mr. Robert Venses, Mr. Al Coconni, Mr. Mark Hallenbeck.

2-The Shining Light Award was discussed, and it was decided to grant two awards, first for 2020, and second for 2021. Nominees were mentioned, and the two choices were Mrs. Mary James for 2020, and the Patterson's for 2021.

3-A recommendation was brought to the board to go ahead with the window repair project at WRLS. The cost of \$1500 will fall on the Association, with the balance coming from the grants and donations from Whitehall and Fruitland Twp. Total cost estimate is \$7500.

Motion made to accept the recommendation, by Susan and Mark. Motion passed.

4-Discussion on how to increase membership was tabled due to time constraints, will be brought up at next meeting.

7-There was no open discussion from the board.

8-Motion to adjourn to the Bus Day was made by Susan. (11:25 hrs.)

9-Next Board meeting is scheduled for **September 18, 2021**, at **09:30** in Ludington. It will be followed by the **Annual meeting at 18:00 hours at the Methodist Church.**