



**Lakeshore Keepers
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda**

June 19, 2025 9:30am

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

1. Call to Order/Establish a Quorum (Susan)

- a. Present: Susan Land, Rob Vensas, Erika Nielsen, Bobbi Rymer, Larry Stultz, Nic Amicone, Jack Greve, Carol Cooper**
- b. Absent: Dean Collingwood, Kathleen Guilder**

2. Pledge of Allegiance (Susan)

3. Audience Comments/Correspondence (Jack)

Ludington State Park is opening early. Camping will begin on June 26. We are prepped and ready to open at BSP Light. We utilized volunteers to get some painting and other work done prior to opening.

4. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of meeting minutes - May 2025 (Susan)

**Nic moved to approve the May 2025 minutes and Rob seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously.**

b. Treasurers Report (Kathleen)

Our investments are up compared to last year by about \$20,000, which is good growth.

Expenses are less than budgeted.

We had a \$29,000 donation from Manistee North Pier Light. Kathleen wondered about how it should be recorded. We are starting to use the money now, and since it wasn't in the budget for this year, it should be a wash. It is skewing the numbers a little.

A page has been added to the budget showing account details for the Safe Harbor CU account.

We are doing well with the budget.

**The motion to accept the report was made by Rob and seconded by Larry.
Motion carried unanimously.**

c. Staff Reports: (Jack)

-Executive Director

Tour climbs have increased this year. Being open on Monday is helping.

Working on preparation for Manistee. He has approvals for solar panels and battery backup. Has approval for handrails. He is looking into the paint for the site.

Work continues on the cameras. The camera a BSP is operational and will be launched to the public on July 1.

He will be leaving on July 18 for the Chicago to Mackinaw Race.

Camera access spikes when the Badger comes and goes. It is useful for tracking conditions at the Breakwater.

-Marketing

We receive funds from Google ad space about \$10,000 monthly.

Total followers on Facebook has increased by over 800 followers.

-Operations

We are still recruiting day keepers.

Planning for nights at the lights.

-Maintenance

Painting at BSP and trex boards are out.

Preparing to work on the front stairs of the office.

Paint purchased for LNBL. There is a water leak in that facility that is being worked on.

The transition to StarLink is complete.

We are having moisture issues at the LSP residence. They are working on the problem and trying to bring the humidity level down.

Working on WRLS prepping for the celebration.

Scheduling with the electrician for lighting.

-Site Manager

Prepping for kids' programs and working on the 150th celebration at WRLS.

b. Officer Reports: (optional)

- President

Susan had the opportunity to attend the camera launch for LNBL and commended the staff for planning and putting together a nice event. There were unique auction items. The event was nice and had good attendance.

- VP

She urged that there be more cleaning done at LNBL. She felt it needed to be cleaner based on her recent volunteer time there.

5. Committee Reports: commentary and questions (led by committee people)

a. Finance – Form 8868 Extension Filed

We are in the process of financial review

b. Education – June 13th Meeting Update

We have a volunteer, Cynthia, who is joining the committee.

The committee is working on the historical marker and is working on the text.

They are working on an article for Manistee North Pier Light

They are supporting Sara as she develops kids' programs and working on school programs.

c. Archive – No Updates

Jack found images for WRLS and wants to train volunteers to scan high resolution images during the off season.

d. Personnel –

Erika congratulated the team on a good start with so many new staff members.

e. Outreach – 150th Raffle Items

A raffle will be held at the WRLS celebration. Tickets will be sold through 5:30 and individuals do not have to be present to win.

Business cards are available at the lighthouses to be distributed by volunteers.

f. Restoration – Need to Schedule Meeting

Jack will reach out to Dean and Nic to schedule a meeting.

6. Unfinished Business:

a. SPLKA Rebranding Launch (Update)

Overall, the launch was very positive. Jack received one negative email as they felt it was generic. Jack responded. The community seems to be supportive of the rebrand. The roll out is on schedule. There are a lot of signs that need to be redone and that work has begun. Chris is beginning the work on the individual logos. Susan complimented Jack on his roll out letter and shared that only receiving one letter of criticism is phenomenal. Jack feels that volunteers are understanding the rationale. Rob agreed that it was a job well done. Nic acknowledged that it's growing on him.

b. WRLS 150th (Update)

Weather appears to be dry and warm. It is supposed to be very windy, and they are preparing a strategy to hold tents down. Shuttle service is in place and parking is arranged. Food and liquor licenses are all taken care of. They are currently working on the small, final details. State Representative Curt VanderWall will be at the event. There are three tributes for the event. Karen (Fiona) McDonnell will be at the event to speak.

c. Live-Feed Cameras (Update)

LNBL is doing well and lens on the web cam need to be cleaned regularly.

BSP launch is on target.

Jack noted that our web traffic has increased and will increase further. The DNR has expressed interest in linking with us through their site.

7. New Business:

a. Purchase of Solar/Battery for MNPL – WSB Reimbursement Needed

Items have been purchased. We are missing on component which is being shipped. We are using the same system as at LNBL.

A proposal was sent to SHPPO about installation of panels on the catwalk. Jack would like them to be installed prior to July 18.

Jack is considering a light show for Manistee's 100th anniversary. Consequently, he is "over juicing" the site.

Jack asked for approval to transfer an amount not to exceed \$8000 from Safe Harbor to West Shore Bank. These funds would allow us to get Manistee operational. Nic moved and Erika seconded. Passed unanimously.

The battery cells at MNPL are being moved. We need to begin painting.

b. Meeting with Jeffris Family Foundation – June 17

The meeting with Nancy Finegood went well. Tom Jeffris really likes this project and considered this a modest ask. Jack says that we can reapply later if we are successful with this one. Three of our locations are eligible for their funding.

Jack sent a drafted application to them for their feedback. The final will come to the board before submission. Robb McKay would like to be involved. If the grant is received, work will begin in 2029.

Susan asked for a copy of the draft to review.

Rob asked if we would be asking for state support. The DNR is considering what they might be able to contribute.

We can apply for additional grants from other sources to meet our end of the obligation.

c. Little Sable Lens Cleaning

Robb McKay and the DNR will fund the cleaning of the Fresnel lens at LSP. We will pay initially and then reimbursed. There is one person who does that in Michigan. It will cost roughly \$1000 and will show in our budget until reimbursement.

8. Executive Session

No Executive session

9. Open discussion

Bobbi had some difficulty with her email. Jack suggested she check her personal settings since the association email has changed. Susan also had some difficulty.

Jack filed for the approved name for Lakeshore Keepers.

Susan expressed appreciation for the job that the staff has done thus far this season.

10. Motion to adjourn

Next scheduled Board Meeting July 17, 2025, at 9:30 am, Zoom and in the office.