



## **SPLKA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**May 16, 2024 9:30am**

### **SPLKA In-person & Virtual Meeting**

**"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 (AI)**

- a. Called to order at 9:32 a.m.
- b. Present: AI Cocconi, Susan Land, Larry Stultz, Dean Collingwood, William Gardner, Bobbi Ryman, Carol Cooper, Jack Greve, Mark Hallenbeck, Ericka Nielson, Nic Amicone
- c. Absent: Rob Vensas

#### **2. Pledge of Allegiance (AI)**

- a. AI led pledge of allegiance

#### **3. Audience Comments/Correspondence (Jack)**

- a. Jim Gallie informed Jack that there are no updates updates from the state park
- b. DJ at Styx is interested in volunteering at the Breakwater. We need a letter from the city to allow it. It would be sporadic throughout the season. Jack would like to put a jar out for donations for painting the Breakwater.

#### **4. Consent Agenda**

##### **a. Approval of meeting minutes - March 2024 (AI)**

- i. Motion made by Mark to approve the minutes as amended. Nic second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

##### **b. Treasurers Report (William)**

- i. Repairs and maintenance are higher than last year.
- ii. Bottom line number in the budget is improving. William congratulated the staff on that.
- iii. William is confident with the current financial report and sees no concerns.
- iv. Mark asked about other funds line items. Carol says it was a capital campaign donation made through the community foundation. There was also an AARPA

grant that came in. Nic moved and Dean seconded that a thank you be sent to the person who gave the end-of-life donation. The motion passed unanimously. The Donally Foundation made a \$25,000 donation.

v. Motion made by Nic to accept the treasurer's report. Bobbi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**c. Staff Reports: (Jack)**

**-Executive Director**

i. A DNR stakeholder meeting was held on May 2. It was a large meeting which included not for profit, businesses, etc. Silver Lake State Park was the focus. The access road and parking lot at LSP were a priority for numerous entities. There is concern about a future road collapse at the bend, due to the river undercutting it. That was the most significant meeting Jack had attended in the past month. The community is very concerned about the access road.

ii. Annual dinner preparation – The Hart Historic District is the venue. Ask letters are being sent out. The previous caterer is available for the event. Jack got another quote for a bit nicer meal, but for a lot more money. The committee is concerned about the cost of the second caterer, so Jack will book the caterer we've used in the past. Jack suggested two speakers for the event. Mark suggested a third option – Dusty Cliffman, who is an accomplished underwater explorer in Lake Michigan.

iii. Anniversaries

a. LNBL is proceeding well. It required a special generator, which Jack was able to get donated for the lightshow. Al noted that light poles can generate the needed power, if the generator falls through.

iv. Newsletters are going out soon.

v. First bus day was held last week and generated \$1000

**-Marketing**

i. The first week of the season was 21% higher than the same week last year.

**-Operations**

**-Maintenance**

- i. Greg has a lot of projects. Dean and Larry were thanked for their help.
- ii. Internet and power source at LSP.
  - a. The initial proposal was not accepted. An official write up from an electrician is required. It will not be installed by the opening date, which is disappointing.

**-Site Manager**

- i. Sara is working out well and is helping others as needed.

**b. Officer Reports: (optional)**

**- President**

- i. Al feels things are going well.

**- VP**

- i. Paint for the LNBL. He likes the idea of businesses buying a gallon of paint for the project. He suggested that we open it for individuals, as well. He offered to make calls to solicit those donations.

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

**a. Finance – Blessing of the Boats Timeline/VIP Section (Auction Items)**

**i. Beer Launch on June 1, 2024**

- a. Some items Bobbi has found may be better for this event.
- b. Jack would like to get more items for this event.

**i. Blessing of the Boats Timeline June 8, 2024**

- a. Bobbi is looking for auction items.
- b. Raffle license is approved.
- c. Several auction items have been submitted and Jack feels that they will be great for our fundraising.

d. Jamesport Brewing Co. is sponsoring a VIP section, and all proceeds will go to SPLKA.

e. Al recommended a change to the timeline regarding the live auction. Jack will forward the suggestion to the BOTB committee.

**b. Education – Meeting scheduled for June 14**

i. Met April 25. The May meeting has been rescheduled for June 14.

ii. Discussed the breakwater video and made suggestions for edits. The final copy is currently being used. Mark asked for a link to be sent out. Dean thought the video was great.

iii. Discussed updating field trip information for schools.

iv. Hoping to involve WRLS in historical article for the winter newsletter.

**c. Archive –**

i. Nothing new

**d. Personnel – Leadership Coaching**

i. Ericka and Jack have identified a leadership coaching program for Jack. Ericka found two options. She recommends doing the local vendor for Jack right now. She also recommends a staff training program in the future.

ii. Jack has selected the local option for \$2000. Ericka moved Nic seconded. Approved unanimously.

**e. Outreach –**

i. Bobbi is looking for additional volunteers for distribution of posters and rack cards. She recommends that volunteers take them and distribute them on their way home or in their own communities.

**6. Unfinished Business**

**a. Manistee Lighthouse Update**

i. Jack has received a drafted agreement for the light. He received it early this morning. Ericka suggested that it be opened sooner rather than later. Nic believes that the safety issues make that unwise.

ii. Susan, Dean and Nic don't believe we should open this year. Ericka and Al suggested opening. Jack also thinks we should move more slowly. He suggested that we start doing presentations in that community.

b. Big Sable Point Lighthouse – 95% HSR Completed

- i. No suggested edits have been presented to SHPPO to get it to 100%.

**d. 2023 Financial Audit**

- i. It had to be rescheduled. Carol reached out for a new date. Sara has reached out with possible dates and Carol responded. Still awaiting a response from Sara.

**7. New Business:**

**a. Season Opening!**

- i. Staff is very busy with opening. Staff is putting in a lot of miles right now. There were a few issues brought forward by staff, but those have been resolved.
- ii. Walmart made a contribution which resulted in new vacuums.

**b. DNR Cooperative Agreement**

- i. The draft has not addressed the changes recommended. Jack will reach out for another update. Jack is most concerned about the ADA compliance items in the document. Jim Gallie shares that concern.

**8. Executive Session**

Moved to ES at 11:02 a.m.

Executive Session adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

**9. Open discussion**

Jim Gallie suggested that there may be changes to the park closure schedule. He will know more for next meeting.

Dean suggested that we keep LSP open until end of October and that we place it on the next agenda. Jack will discuss it with staff at his next meeting.

**10. Motion to adjourn**

Motion to adjourn at 11:26 a.m. by Ericka/ N

**Next scheduled Board Meeting June 19, 2024 at 9:30 am, Zoom and in the office.**