

SPLKA Board Meeting-August 12, 2017

The August 12th Board Meeting of Sable Point Lighthouse Keepers Association was held at the Ludington Office on Saturday August 12th.

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 09:30 by Board President Kirk Lindquist. Members present were Kirk L., Ted R., Kim M., Bill M., Roger P., Staff members present were Dir. Peter M., Matt V. Absentees included Jeff D., Sheila M., Cherie H., Rachel B., Jim H. and Carol C. (absentees were all excused absences).

The Pledge of allegiance was led by Kirk.

There was no correspondence to report and no visitors for audience comments.

The Minutes were approved from the July 15, 2017 meeting with one correction made by Matt, concerning a comment about the” artifacts being rotated” within the new workshop space at the White River museum. This will not be the case due to space limitations and access. Minutes were then approved as published. Roger made the motion, 2nded by Bill.

Peter presented a short video that was aired on **RFD TV**, prepared earlier this year by an independent film crew working with **RFD**. “**Dunelight**” was the title, and it included the Silver Lake State Park dune area and the Little Sable Point Light, with an interview with Peter. Very well done.

The President’s Report was given by Kirk, Kirk commented on the efforts over the past month, and made mention of the work on behalf of the Nominating Committee in search of two candidates for the vacant Board positions coming up at the end of the year. So far we have one candidate who has submitted an application, and there are several more possibilities that we would address later on in the meeting.

The discussion of “Honorary Board members” was introduced by Kim at this time, as a means to raise funding for SPLKA, and there was some discussion given but nothing decided upon at this time.

Kirk went on to remind us of the importance of the **Lighthouse Festival**, at the end of this month and how important it is that we as a board participate as much as possible. This is a big honor for Ludington, and SPLKA to have our Lights as the key subjects of the Festival. We were reminded of our volunteer positions during the Fest, and the dinner meeting on Friday evening.

The Annual meeting is coming up in September, we all need to be available for that and need to encourage fellow Association members to attend. It is being held in Ludington, at the conference center at the Holiday Inn Express. Invitations are ready and are going out next week.

Financial Report- Roger reported that we had a great month of July as far as finances are concerned. Compared with income last year at the same time we are doing very well. We had

two great bus days, one on Thursday July 13, and one on Saturday July 29th. Rachel's report reflects the fact that we are selling product in the stores, at all available sites.

Directors Report- Peter submitted his report via e-mail to us; we all have copies, and then added activities that he had been involved in after his publication was written. He is excited about the great summer we are having, noting that the State Park is reporting a decrease in population, we are experiencing an increase. We have had some issues with Frontier Communications, our internet supplier, at Big Sable and the State Park home. It was an issue with service interruption and was taken care of after a couple of days of investigation. Furniture for the new office is being looked at, a budget amount of \$6k has been allotted and so far prices are being investigated. Muskegon Office supply seemed a bit high and the Grand Rapids market will be looked at.

Peter had a conference call with the people from "Over the edge" and the event moving forward with the organization moving ahead with the preliminary issues.

Musical events have been very well attended, even though the weather gave us a challenge at the WRLH event. The Steel-Drum band was a big hit and \$184 dollars was collected in tower climbs that evening. There has been some issue with Pay-Pal and purchase of tickets for the sailboat rides during the Festival. Details are being worked out.

As we were meeting, a tour group from the Chicago area was visiting our lights. They had attempted to visit the Breakwater Light at 08:00 this am, but the waves were over the pier and the pier was closed. They went on out to the Big Sable Light after Peter met with them.

WRLH-Matt V. Matt offered his appreciation to Peter, Kim, and Rachel for their help at the special event they held at White River Light. Threatening skies may have deterred people from attending but a good time was had by all who attended. The beer tent was a big hit; snacks would have been an added plus, do it next year. The last concert is the 18th, should be a good group for that. The intern who has been asset this summer will be returning the 26th to Alma College, she has worked out well. The "Friends Group," held their annual meeting last weekend, and it was well attended. Due to the high humidity and heat of the evening, Matt was able to show off our new AC/HV system and offer some cool air for the meeting attendees. We are enjoying a good relationship with the local governing body in White Lake. A bike tour is coming up next spring, and many visitors are anticipated through this. There is concern for the conditions of the roads in the area, it is being addressed.

Operations and Gift shop-Rachel. Rachel gave us a good report via hand out. Park usage at BSP is down, but tours at the light and gift shop are up. There have been several cancellations at the last minute for keepers due to health and family issues, volunteers have been good at filling in the vacancies. Schools in IN., IL, OH, have started up already and some districts in MI will be starting before Labor Day, so look for a decrease in tours in the coming weeks.

Maintenance Report-Jim Hardie- Jim submitted a written report that we all received, and also sent along some updated info. Some of the new windows at BSP were in need of adjustment, taken care of. Painting on North side of BSP is going on as we meet. Jim has been a busy man this summer.

Strategic Planning Comm.-

There was not a lot to report out of committees; however Kim brought a presentation via PowerPoint showing how the Social Media can be our friend and an asset to getting our message out to the public. Using a photo shoot done by “**J’s Everyday Fashion**”, Kim showed how a fashion shoot at our light (BSP) could enhance the appeal of our lights and bring more visitors to our lights. The husband and wife team came out and shot many photos of “J” in a great summer dress using our lighthouse as a backdrop. It was recommended that Kim work with Cherie and Peter on the logistics of this project.

New Business-Kirk

The **nominating committee** has come up with six possible names to fill two positions on the Board. They are the following: Bill McBeth, Bob Baltzer, Sherie Blair, Sara Hook, Carl Wiegman, and Dick Votburg. Bill is currently serving as a member of the board.

After some discussion, the committee will bring up a name for approval by the end of the month.

Shining light award- There were three nominations submitted for the award this year, Dick Smith, Lenore Janman, and Bruce and Sandy Wiegman. After much discussion it was agreed that Dick Smith be given the award this year, not that the other here are any less deserving. Dick has been a volunteer and spearheaded the program to preserve and save BSP in the early days of the association. The office will care for the award procurement.

By-Laws-Kirk submitted a list of changes that we need to address, but after much discussion we decided we should have a full membership represented in the discussion and decision making process. We will discuss the possible changes at next board meeting.

Annual Business Mtg.-Peter

Peter and his team are working hard on setting up the meeting at the Holiday Inn Express, Sept. 16. Invitations are ready and will go out next week.

Lighthouse Festival-Peter

Sign up for available slots that are listed...

110 sailboat registrations

The suite is open for that weekend-

November meeting –Suite is available.

Resolution-Purchase of Furniture for Office-

Motion was made to allow for purchase of furniture for office and meeting room, by Roger. 2nded by Bill M.

Last comments- We were featured in a tourism book, MICHIGAN BLUE, Published in Traverse City, nothing to do with U of M. Good article, look for it on newsstand, has many interviews with some of our keepers.

Next Mtg.- New SPLKA Office in Ludington Oct. 21st, 09:30.

Adjourned- Ted.

Respectfully submitted by Roger Pashby, for the secretary.