

New Jersey Lighthouse Society  
General Meeting  
Tuckerton Seaport  
December 7, 2002

**President Tom Laverty** called the meeting to order at 11:10am. Tom introduced Trish Schuster, the educational director of the Seaport. She welcomed the society and thanked them for making the Seaport part of the Challenge. Joel Mott, the curator of the Seaport, also thanked the society for the diorama that was donated. The minutes of the September 21st meeting at the West Cape May Fire Hall were submitted for approval. Becky Colesar made a motion to accept as written. Jim Cope seconded, the motion carried.

#### **Treasure's Report Debbie Megonigal**

Total receipts since September \$10,963.20. Total Disbursements \$11,236.66. Checking's balance \$16,349.94. Preservation Fund is \$10,765.46, Memorial Fund is \$1,814.59. A separate account was set up for Sandy Hook, their total receipts \$799.17. Total disbursements \$197.75 Current Balance \$9330.42 Certificate of Deposit \$7894.13 Working Capital \$46,154.54. Bill Geilfus moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report, Al Smith seconded, the membership approved. Debbie commented that "it sounds like a lot of money, but it's not, not if your running an organization this size." Tom commented that this years dues are not increasing, but the possibility of an increase in the future is being looked at by the board. He made a plea for donations due to a slight short fall in the operating budget. This short fall in part was due to co-mingled funds with Sandy Hook, which was why a Sandy Hook account was created. The Challenge this year also cost \$17,000. Bill Volpe, is chairing a committee that will be looking into alterative means of funding next years Challenge.

#### **President's Report**

Tom reported that work at the National Lighthouse Museum has been slow after 9-11 but is back on track. The museum has acquired the former light vessel Nantucket 112. They are also getting ready to turn one of the smallest buildings into an exhibition. 1.9 million dollars was received from the state of New York and the museum is now looking into pier repair and other site improvements. Tom wished the editor of our newsletter Joe Gucheck a Happy Birthday. Joe announced that the dead line to submit to The Beam has been moved out to 7 weeks because more lead time is needed.

#### **Officer and Committee Reports**

**Yvonne Miller** 1<sup>st</sup> vice president, reported on programs. The next meeting is March 15 and is our annual photo contest. There will be a short presentation by a group from the Battleship New Jersey. The Audubon Park 4<sup>th</sup> of July committee will be selling lunch. The June 21<sup>st</sup> meeting will be at Stony Point Lighthouse on the Hudson River. Because this is out of state the annual raffle will be held in September.

Activites; Carol DiNapoli is working on a bus trip to Nova Scotia in August. More details will be coming soon. Cindy Mitzen and Betty Smith are working on a trip to Rhode Island the weekend of July 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a

cruise on the Narragansett River to view 11 lighthouses. That evening there will be a dinner with a guest speaking. Overnight accommodations are on your own. Sunday we will take the ferry over to Block Island and view both lighthouses, bus transportation on the island will be provided.

**Mary Beth Doherty** –reported membership at 372(x2) families 744, and 440 single, for a total of 1188. The sign in for today’s meeting is 147. If you have not signed in please do so.

**Rich and Elinor Veit** – 83 notices were sent out to newspapers, radio and television, announcing today’s meeting. 67 went out for the September meeting, 51 for June, and 47 for the March meeting. Rich reminded everyone that when summer rolls around, mail back your raffle tickets before you go on vacation. Absecon has gone into its second phase, which is the beginning of getting the grounds back into shape. He thanked all the members who have volunteered their time this past year.

**Rick Weber** – NJLHS Challenge 2002 – This Challenge was the biggest and best ever, with international visitors finishing the Challenge. Over 19,000 visits were generated by the Challenge, and 956 finished the 11 points of light. Rick thanked all those who assisted him this year. Next years Challenge dates are October 18 and 19.

**Al Smith** went in October to a Lighthouse Lens and Restoration Seminar. He also announced that the Chesapeake Chapter is planning a challenge like event for September 13 and 14. The photo contest is all set and Al has a sign up sheet for volunteers to help with the event. Contest rules are in The Beam. Al thanked all the volunteers who help this past year at Sandy Hook.

**Pat Baddock** of Ways and Means thanked everyone for their support. She also thanked Jay and Jayne Swope, Dixie Amento, Trish Wylupek, Connie Miller and a host of others for their assistance this year.

**Ray Vliet** judge of elections reported that the candidates for office were unopposed and there were no write in votes. Ray Vliet moved, Al Smith seconded, directing the recording secretary to cast one ballot for the slate. Cindy Mitzen did so after the motion was approved and the following were duly elected: President Tom Laverty, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Yvonne Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Bill Volpe, Treasure Debby Megonigal, Secretary Cindy Mitzen, Director Mary Beth Doherty, and Director Elinor Veit.

Elinor Veit moved, Mary Beth Doherty seconded adjournment; business meeting ended at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Mitzen, Recording Secretary