

New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Meeting
December 4, 2004
St. Rose High School,
Belmar New Jersey

1st Vice President Yvonne Miller opened the meeting at 11:10 am with the pledge of allegiance. She then stated “I did not do the directions. Sorry don’t trust the internet.” Yvonne was referring to the directions in the Beam that were not correct. Yvonne informed the membership that even though Tom was present, she was chairing the meeting because his throat was giving him some problems.

The minutes of the October 2nd meeting in Lewes Delaware were submitted for approval. Betty Smith made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Bill Geilfuss seconded the motion passed.

Treasure’s Report Debbie Megonigal

Total receipts \$13,313.68; total Disbursements \$6,862.63; Checking balance \$35,164.44; Preservation Fund is \$15,574.73; Memorial Fund is \$1,692.20 Money Market \$10,984.11. Sandy Hook Fund total receipts \$6,148.21; total disbursements \$3,788.91; balance \$18,540.14. Al Smith accepted of the Treasurer’s Report, Katie Moser seconded, and the membership approved.

Maine Trip Report Betty Smith

The bus trip to Maine June 18 through June 25 is sold out. There are four people on the wait list. Betty asked that all members going on the trip remember to bring their passport or photo ID, as the trip will be crossing over into Canada.

Presidents Report Tom Laverty

- \$500.00 was donated to each, the Overfalls Lightship and the Delaware River and Bay Lighthouse Society, who were gracious hosts at our last meeting.

Officer and Committee Reports

Vice President Yvonne Miller as Programs Chair

Programs

- March 12, 2005 will be the spring meeting and Photo Contest. This will be held at the North Wildwood Fire House.
- June 25, 2005 picnic meeting and the annual preservation raffle drawing will be held at Kingland Park, Sleepy Hollow, N.Y. The Tarrytown Lighthouse will be opened.
- September 25, 2005 we will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Tincum Lighthouse in Paulsboro, N.J.
- December’s meeting place is not determined yet.

Outreach is finished for the year. Highlights of this past year can be found in the Beam. Yvonne stated she is always looking for volunteers and hopes next year will be as rewarding and fun filled as this year was.

2nd Vice President Bill Volpe

Finance:

- Bill asked that all outstanding bills from members or committees be submitted to Tom for approval and sent on to Debbie now, as this is the end of the fiscal year.

Speakers Bureau

- Bill spoke at 3 events in October
- Elinor and Rich Veit recently spoke to a group in Egg Harbour.
- Bill Geilfuss and Jack Slavin also had speaking events.
- Anyone interested in speaking please see Bill.

Membership- Mary Beth Doherty

- Membership: 317(x2) families 634; 372 single; total 1006. The sign in for today's meeting is 106.
- Membership renewal will be mailed this week.
- If you need a new name tag they can be ordered for \$4.00.

Publicity -Rich and Elinor Veit

- 90 mailings announcing this meeting were sent out.
- 428 mailings went out this year announcing our meetings.
- 410 contacts were sent out for the Challenge.
- Elinor is stepping down from her position as publicity chair. She thanked the members for their help and support that she received.
- At Abescon Lighthouse Sarah Cureton has stepped down as director. Rich and Elinor will assist at the lighthouse until a replacement is found for Sarah.
- The Sleeper Keepers program is working very well at the lighthouse and as always they are looking for volunteers.

Lighthouse Challenge 2004-Doreen Lagattuta

- Challenge 2004 was another success! Again! Barbara Pepe, volunteer coordinator is still in need of volunteers at East Point on Sunday and Sea Girt on Saturday afternoon.
- 1,152 people completed the Challenge. 360 people finished both the New Jersey and Maryland Challenge. Participants came from 27 States and three countries: Canada, Costa Rica and Germany. There were a total of 16,500 visits to all eleven lighthouses.
- Doreen wants to personally thank each and every volunteer for the time they spent and for making the event a positive experience for so many people. Volunteers logged over 2,200 hours during the Challenge weekend, and another 3,000 hours in preparing for the Challenge.
- Lora Portee was introduced as the new Assistant Chairman of the Challenge. Rick Weber is stepping down as Coordinator but will continue as site coordinator at Sandy Hook.
- The commemorative pins sold out. We still have a limited number of T-shirts left; they are for sale at the ways and means table.

- The kick-off meeting for the Challenge Committee and Regional and Site Coordinators will be Saturday February 12, 2005, at the Evesham Library in Marlton.

Photo Contest –Cindy Mitzen

- Cindy has a sign up sheet for volunteers to help with the photo contest.
- Members were reminded of this year’s categories
 - New Jersey lighthouses any size.
 - National/International
 - Lighthouses with flowers
 - New Jersey lighthouse collage
 - Winner’s Circle

Ways and Means-Bob and Marion Hudspeth

- Enough recipes have been collected for the cookbook. It should be available by the March meeting.
- They have more new items. Come back and take a look.

Newsletter-Joe Guchek – Editor of the Beam

- Joe reminded everyone to get their Challenge pictures in.
- The next deadline for the next Beam is January 22 2005.
- E-mail any articles to njhlsbeam@optonline.net or mail to The Beam PO Box 4582 Highland Park, NJ 08904-4582.

Nominating Committee

Dixie Amento read the candidates for office;

- Tom Laverty President
- Yvonne Miller 1st Vice President
- Mary Beth Doherty 2nd Vice President
- Cindy Mitzen Secretary
- Debbie Megonigal Treasurer
- Bill Volpe Director
- Brett Franks Director

Rich Veit, judge of election, reported that the candidates for office were unopposed and there were no write in votes. Rich Veit moved, Dixie Amento seconded, directing the recording secretary to cast one ballot for the slate. Cindy Mitzen did so after the motion was approved and the candidates were duly elected.

Rodney Mulligan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dennis Whelan seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Mitzen,
Recording Secretary

