

New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Meeting
September 24, 2005
Tinicum Lighthouse, Paulsboro, N.J

President Tom Laverty opened the meeting at 11:10 am with the pledge of allegiance. Tom introduced Mark Kamp who is President of the Tinicum Lighthouse Society. Mark thanked the New Jersey Lighthouse for all the help we have given them since they started nine years ago. He then went on to introduce some distinguished guests, Mayor and Assemblymen John Burzichelli and Assemblymen Doug Fisher. They presented a document from the state senate and the general assembly to the lighthouse for being recognized by the National Historical Register.

Tom then also presented a plaque that proclaimed Tinicum on the National Historic Register to Mark. Resident artist Ray Miller presented the Coast Guard with a painting of the lighthouse from the Tinicum Lighthouse Society.

The minutes of the June 25th meeting in Tarrytown were submitted for approval. Faith Giamboi made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Joe Guckeck seconded, the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report-Debbie Megonigal

Debbie read the treasurer's report. Total Receipts \$10,095.84; Total Disbursements \$17,683.57; Total Operating \$37,320.54; Sandy Hook Fund \$9,262.85; Preservation Fund \$16,154.87; Memorial Fund \$1,715.74 and the Sandy Hook Money Market \$1,007.21. Becky Colesar accepted the Treasurer's Report, Bill Geilfuss seconded, and the membership approved.

Presidents Report Tom Laverty

- The bench in memory of Harry Megonigal is in place at the Tuckerton Seaport.
- October 10th a Coastal Heritage RV tour with the NJ Secretary of State will start up by Sandy Hook. Yvonne Miller has been our representative to the committee that set up this tour. The tour will end at Cape May during the Challenge.
- The Sandy Hook exhibits are moving along slowly because the restoration of the keepers' house is moving along slowly. The exhibits are almost ready for fabrication. Al Smith went on to add that our volunteers have given over 2500 hours and taken over 5000 visitors on tours of the lighthouses and interacted with over 8000 visitors. This was done with a core group of about 50 volunteers. More help is always needed.

Officer and Committee Reports

Vice President Yvonne Miller as Programs Chair

Yvonne thanked Tinicum members for the signs to help drivers find their way to the lighthouse. Lunch can be bought at the snack shack. Our speaker is a river pilot on the Delaware River.

Programs

- The December 3rd meeting will be at Sandy Hook. The meeting will be at the educational center, the social at the History House, tree decorating and lighthouse tours start at the Old Fire House.
- The March meeting will be on Long Beach Island. The annual member's photo contest will be held.

Trips

- The NY Harbor Tour that was held on August 20th was great. Betty Smith is looking for the summer of 2006 to Lake Champlain.

Membership: Mary Beth Doherty 2nd Vice President

- Membership 322 (x2) families 644; 258 single; total 902.
- In attendance 101 members and 4 new members.
- Mary Beth thanked Linda and Bob Gleason along with George and Carol Nail for their help and the membership table.

Web Site

Our new web site will launch at the December meeting. Howard Wright and Greg Fitzgerald have done a lot of work. Howard will be our new web master.

Education – Bill Volpe Director

- 16 speaking engagements, to over 650 people, have been done this year. 3 more engagements are on the calendar. It was pointed out by Al Smith that Bill has contributed 36 hours of volunteer time and gave 455 visitors an opportunity to tour the Sandy Hook light during the week, mostly scouts and school groups.

Recognition Program

- The screening committee will meet the second week of October to go over those recommendations for recognition.

Lighthouse Challenge 2005-Doreen Lagattuta

- Brett Franks, Volunteer Coordinator, has reported that we have enough volunteers for this years Challenge.
- Tee-shirts (\$15) and Pins (\$4) will again be available for purchase at Sandy Hook, Barnegat, Hereford Inlet, Cape May, and Tinicum. Thanks to Marty Hudspeth, Yvonne Miller, and Debbie Megonigal for sorting the shirts for distribution. This year, our souvenirs will be laser engraved wooden nickels. The sketches are being done by Greg DiNapoli. The display card is also designed by Greg. The display will be available for purchase at \$3.00 each.
- There is a mandatory meeting for site coordinators, October 8th at the Evesham Library. The materials for the Challenge will be distributed at this meeting.
- Doreen closed by saying "The best way you can support the Challenge is to participate and purchase a T-shirt, a pin, and a wooden nickel holder. So we hope to see you there! And pray for good weather.

Preservation-Brett Franks

- The raffle tickets should be in the mail around October 1st.
- The first place prize for the preservation raffle will be a 6 1/2 foot Sandy Hook Lighthouse you see on display.
- The raffle will be pulled at the December meeting.
- Preservation is looking to put a calendar together for next year, more details to come

Photo Contest-Cindy Mitzen

- The 2006 categories are National, International, New Jersey, and Lighthouses in the fall, and Masters.

Ways and Means

- Marion reported that ways and means will be on the web site.
- Terry Weber is here to sign and sell her books.

The Beam

- The dead line for articles for the next issue of the Beam is October 15th.

Publicity is still open.

New Business

Nominating Committee

Faith Giamboi chairperson and committee member Cindy Mitzen and Al Smith made the following nominations for a two year term.

- Laura Portee Corresponding secretary
- Doreen Lagattuta Director
- Marion Hudspeth Director
- Jim Cope Director

Steve Martorano made a motion to accept the nominations from committee and to close the nominations, Mary Beth Doherty seconded the motion was accepted.

Ann Solaequi reminded members that the relighting of the lighthouse at Fort Wadsworth on Staten Island tonight at 7pm. Also Mike and Judy Boucher have taken a NJLHS outreach to today events.

Dennis Robbins asked for volunteers to help clean up Conover Beacon on November 12.

Anthony Albence made a motion to adjourn the meeting, David Rosner seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:22pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Mitzen,
Recording Secretary