

Unofficial Minutes due to Lack of Quorum – For Information Only

**New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Meeting – September 26, 2009
State University of New York – Maritime
Throggs Neck, NY
<http://www.njlhs.org/>**

Call to Order

First Vice President Brett Franks called the meeting to order at 11:27AM. He explained that President, Mary Beth Doherty had been delayed in California due to airline problems and would not be at the meeting. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a safety review by Jim Cope all members present stood and observed a moment of silence in honor of the passing of long time member and past treasurer, Debbie Magonigal. Brett mentioned that Debbie's family has asked that in lieu of flowers, memorial donations should be made to the New Jersey Lighthouse Society. The Society is in the process of placing a second plaque on the Tuckerton Seaport bench next to Debbie's husband Harry's plaque.

Minutes from June 20, 2009 General Meeting

Bob Gleason submitted the minutes from the June 20th meeting at the Cape May 4H Campgrounds. There being no changes noted, Jim Cope made a motion to accept the minutes. Rich Hospar seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. (It was later noted that only 52 members were present, less than the 65 member quorum required in the by-laws.)

President's Opening Remarks: Brett Franks for Mary Beth: Mary Beth was unexpectedly delayed in California and unable to attend the meeting. Brett Franks provided information that he had received via phone from Mary Beth in California and recognized Mike Boucher for the OUTSTANDING directions provided in THE BEAM and on the Website.

Review of the Day's Agenda: Cindy Mitzen explained that at the conclusion of the business portion of the meeting an excellent lunch would be available in the SUNY Maritime Cafeteria for only \$7.50 per person. Following lunch, SUNY Maritime Professor Eric Johanssen would conduct a walking tour of the college grounds and museum. The tour also enabled the members to view Stepping Stone Lighthouse and examine the Fresnel lens from the steel tower light formerly located on the school's property.

Membership – The Total membership numbers were not available. Attendance at the meeting totaled 52 members.

Newsletter - THE BEAM - Mike Boucher

Mike asked that anyone vacationing or visiting lighthouses please consider writing an article for The BEAM. Please share your vacation photos and/or stories! Please don't be afraid to submit an article!

Website –Howard Wright

The first thirty issues of The BEAM are now on the website for viewing. There are also some new and interesting lighthouse videos on the site. Please visit the site and see for yourself.

Challenge – Doreen Berson

- Please disregard Challenge Volunteer letters received between 9/20-26. Somehow the 2008 letters were re-distributed. The correct letter will arrive in your mailbox about 10 days prior to the Challenge.
- The Society's Board of Directors unanimously decided that there will not be a 2010 Challenge. The decision was made because to-date no one has stepped up to chair a future event. The possibility of future Challenges and/or format changes will be evaluated again next year.
- Volunteers are still needed at many sites. Please see Doreen.
- Seats are still available for the boat trips. See Renard (North) or Mike B. (South) today.
- A 10th Anniversary Challenge Program will be available for a suggested donation of \$5.00 at "selling" sites. The brochure will include a history of the Challenge, pictures of past Challenge souvenirs & memorabilia, as well as a picture & descriptive background on each of the Challenge sites.
- Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders proclaimed October 17-18 as Lighthouse Challenge Weekend and presented the Society with a beautiful plaque.

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- Jim Cope shared feedback which he & Nancy received while attending the Lights Across the Border (Maine/Canada) challenge. The folks running the event repeatedly mentioned how the New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge® has served as a wonderful role model for their international event.

Ways & Means – Marty Hudspeth

- The 2nd Edition of the NJLHS Cookbook is now available at the Ways & Means table for \$9.00 a copy.
- 2010 New Jersey Lighthouse Calendars are also now available.
- There are some older styles of t-shirts and sweatshirts are available at the discount price of \$2.00 each.
- Please consider volunteering for Ways & Means. Marty will be retiring from this responsibility at the end of 2009.

Nominating Committee Report – Brett Franks explained that since the number of attendees was below the required quorum, this matter would be handled at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Faith Giamboi

Faith started by repeating the urgent request for volunteers to help fill some of the key vacancies opening up at the end of 2009.

Treasury figures for September 26, 2009 were as follows:

Operating Account	\$18,822.18
Sandy Hook Account	29,326.25
Challenge Account	15,728.60
Preservation Account	18,292.50
Memorial Fund	<u>3,910.74</u>
Society Balance	\$86,080.27

While it sounds like there is a lot of money available, Faith reminded members that most of these funds are already earmarked for things like the Challenge, preservation projects & Sandy Hook merchandise.

1st Vice President's Report – Brett Franks

Preservation

- Helping Hands: Cape May Historical Society wants help cleaning the lens in the Museum and prepping for the Challenge – probably week of October 5th. May help protect the Cape May Range lens and build a case to protect the lens at Fins Point.
- Ludlum must be moved temporarily. Preservation has pledged \$5,000 to help with the move. If you know of anyone with experience moving buildings/structures – please see Brett. Move site is still undetermined.
- 2009 Raffle tickets will be in the mail shortly. Top prize this year will be a Nintendo Wii. All other prizes will be more “lighthouse oriented” items. Raffle will be pulled at the December meeting.

Archives: No update

Historian: No update

Sandy Hook Report - Ken Schumacher (provided to Anthony Albence via BlackBerry)

- Sandy Hook volunteers are down significantly this year (down to 37 from 55). Bridge construction has been a significant factor in the decline.
- Attendance numbers are still strong at the lighthouse; basically unchanged from prior years.

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Recognition Committee – Brett Franks for Tom Laverty

- As part of celebrating NJLHS' 20 year anniversary, the recognition awards for this year will recognize significant Society accomplishments rather than individual accomplishments. Will not be a "formal" awards ceremony this year. Next year's recognition format will go back to recognizing individuals so please keep individual nominees in mind for 2010.
 - The Recognition Committee is always looking for nominees for Carol Ann Cook or Memorial Fund nominees.
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2nd Vice President Report - Cindy Mitzen

Trips – No Update

Community Outreach – Anthony Albence

- Down to the last couple of Outreach events.
- 2009 numbers have been flat year over year. Will be re-evaluating events to determine if 2010 participation makes sense.
- "Thank You!" to Alan and Amy Mertz for coordinating the Society's efforts at the Warren County Farmer's Fair.
- "Thank You!" to Mary Catherine Kennedy for her continued & continuing support at Community Outreach events.
- "Thank You" to Marty & Sheila for their Ways & Means support at so many of the Outreach events.

Education Outreach / Speakers Bureau – Bill Volpe

- 20 years ago NJLHS started stimulating interest in NJ lighthouses – our own Stimulus Plan. Milestones achieved include 236 talks completed with a total of more than 10,000 people in attendance. Bill personally has presented to 5,000 people. Please consider volunteering for the Educational Outreach Coordinator's role since Bill is retiring from the position at the end of 2009. If you have any inclination at all – please see Bill Volpe.
- Bill shared a great story about 8th graders who still clearly remember their 2nd grade trip to Sandy Hook. It is a very satisfying position.
- Bill is working on a children's activity book to help stimulate interest.
- See Bill if you would like to donate a Lighthouse Education Kit to a 4th Grade Class. He has a special \$20 rate thru the December meeting.

Programs: Cindy Mitzen

- The next General Membership Meeting will be on the 1st Saturday in December (Dec 5th) in the Sportsman's Club in Paulsboro, near the Tinicum Rear Range Lighthouse.
- Lunch for today's session is available for \$7 in the school cafeteria. At 1:30pm Professor Johanssen will begin the tour of the museum and school grounds.

There being no further Business, Brett asked for, and Mike Boucher made, a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Marty Hudspeth and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert E. Gleason
Recording Secretary