

**New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Membership Meeting – September 24, 2016**

www.njlhs.org

Henry Hudson Regional School

1 Grand Tour

Highlands, New Jersey 07732

President's Call to Order

Vice President Doreen Berson called the meeting to order at 11:15 A.M.. She thanked all for coming.

Jim Cope, Sergeant at Arms, reviewed the emergency exits, restrooms and that there are still some covers from Sandy Hooks Anniversary on sale for \$1. Jim then led the attendees in the Salute to the Flag.

Minutes from Prior General Meetings

Karen Owen, recording secretary, submitted the minutes from the June 25, 2016 held at the Uptown School Complex in Atlantic City, NJ. A motion to accept the minutes made by Alan Jacobson and seconded by Bill Volpe, all were in favor.

Financial Updates

Treasurer's Report:

Faith reported:

	as of July 31, 2016
Operating Fund	19,132.23
Memorial Fund	1,765.77
Preservation Fund	32,365.94
Society Balance	\$ 53,263.94
Trip Account	44,017.62
Total Of ALL Accounts	\$97,281.56

Faith reported that a major expense in July was the printing of the Beam. That cost was \$1,429.60.

She went on to say that she could only reconcile to July 31 due to printing problems.

An attendee questioned the Preservation Fund. Faith answered that the money in that fund is used to assist different lights for projects, for National Lighthouse Day, for the New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge, and for other preservation events and activities. We are not a chapter of the US Lighthouse Society, we (the NJLHS) are our own 503. Recent funds were allocated to Tuckerton for their lens and to Sea Girt to aid with \$5,000 for their purchase of a lens from Australia. A current concern is Tinticum Lighthouse which was closed by the U. S. Coast Guard and Finns Point Lighthouse which is being inspected on September 28th to determine the availability for climbing for the Challenge. Jim shared that there is a grant application that lighthouses need to complete for aid. The NJLHS has told all New Jersey Lights to submit an application for their needs and requests. Many applications came in, but it was to compensate workers wages. The answer to those applications were "NO!" Every year the NJ Lights can submit an application for reviewing. Specifications are needed. Unfortunately, no applications are being received. Doreen shared that for National Lighthouse Day, each NJ Light received

\$250. Someone noted that East Point is in their second phase in their renovation process. They might be able to use shelving or other materials for their remodeling.

Another question was about the storage and the value of the items that we are storing. Is it worth the expense of \$2,800? The response from Faith was that we, the Board, are looking at an October date to clean the unit and whittle down giveaways and selling existing items. Ann added that she is looking to get a storage unit closer to her home for Ways and Means items. This unit will be smaller and less costly. Bill Volpe questioned if there was a lighthouse that could store items for us. Maybe they could use the money more than the storage unit owner. Carol shared that since we exited Sandy Hook, we needed a storage unit for items. We are also cooperating with Finns Point where they are storing many t-shirts and other merchandise from Sandy Hook there. We have a deal with Finns Point that they can sell the merchandise and they send us a pre-decided amount for the items which gives us income and allows them to also make money. It was noted that the Board agrees that the storage unit cost is too much but it is not easy to get everyone together at the location and go through it all. If we can itemize everything, there is a possibility that Rutgers University will store and display the material. Ann added that the current storage unit is Extra Space Storage in Bellmawr and she is looking at having the Board meet there on Saturday, October 22 to go through the items. She then invited all members who were interested in assisting to join.

Another question arose. Can we donate items from storage? Faith said that we can give items to lighthouses and they can sell for a profit, such as Finns Point, but she would love to see Finns Point take over for themselves. Carol shared that there are still 7 boxes of Sandy Hook miniatures in storage. Carol reiterated that if anyone can help at the storage unit they should contact her via email.

Faith reminded all members that without written documentation, NO check will be written. Carol shared that it was budgeted to give the Lighthouse Managers Group \$3,000 to use towards a matching grant. Any other money requested was not in the budget and will need to be discussed by the Board. Tinticum and Finns Point will probably need funds to assist in updating their lights.

First Vice President – Doreen Berson

National Lighthouse Day

Doreen reported that National Lighthouse Day was very successful. She turned the floor to Alan Jacobson for his report. Alan thanked all those who graciously gave their time on Sunday, August 7th at the specific lighthouses. Alan asked each light to report as to who was there, but he did not want to forget anyone and just thanked all for those for their time which was greatly appreciated by the committee. Over 186 certificated were issued to young people who participated. It was noted that the number of participants varied by light. Next year the committee would like to work with all the NJ Lights to increase participation. 201 t-shirt raffle entries and over 800 climbers on that day were reported. The committed sited that the needs are to work to target responses for specific lighthouses, work with lighthouse managers one to one to make next year a continued success, and to share the example of Herford making the day great statewide. Doreen than thanked Alan and the other committee members which included Cindy Mitzen, Carol Winkie, and Marilyn Dunning.

New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge

Doreen said that if anyone was interested in volunteering for the NJ Challenge, they should contact the manager for the light they are interested in volunteering at. Contact can be done via email. If assistance is needed, contact Doreen.

Doreen then added that she is resigning from the Board. It has been a pleasure, but she has some personal issues she needs to attend to. She may come back to the Board at a later date.

Second Vice President – Carol Winkie

Programs

Carol congratulated Mike Boucher. He was the only member who is a 2017 calendar winner that was not present at the June meeting and not recognized at that time. Carol also has several copies of the first Society Newsletter as well as older copies of the Beam that were available in June if anyone was interested.

Our December meeting will be at Mastoris Diner in Bordentown, same location as last year. The meeting will be on December 10th and the cost this year is \$10. Carol will be collecting money during lunch today.

Today's speaker is Elinor Dewire. She will be presenting on Haunted Lighthouses. Elinor (and John) Dewire have been researching and writing books since 1973. Books will be for sale today during lunch.

Our March 2017 meeting will be at the VFW in Edison. We will have our photo contest. There will be a hot dog lunch available for purchase. If you are planning to attend the March meeting is was requested to let Carol know at the December meeting so food can be purchased.

Treasurer – Faith Giamboi

Trips

Faith reported that the Prince Edward Island trip was GREAT!

Mike reported that was has exhausted. The weather was perfect! All loved the fact that they were able to stay in one hotel for the entire stay. 47 lights were seen and the (second) bus driver was GREAT! For 2017, the trip will be to Lake Havasu in Arizona. There you will find 26 replicas of U. S. lighthouses. There are east coast lights on the eastern side of the lake and west coast lights on the west. Great Lakes lights are on an island in the lake. All replicas are ½ the size of the original and were constructed with donated items. During the trip other locations such as Death Valley, Grand Canyon, Brice Canyon National Park, historic Route 66 in Arizona, a rafting trip on the Colorado River, Antelope Canyon, and the start and completion of the trip will be Las Vegas. All information is in the Beam and members must sign up by January 1st, 2017 if interested. There is a minimum of 30 and a maximum of 43 due to boating issues. We will not be staying in the same hotel each night. For 2018, Mike is looking into Puget Sound in Washington state and Seattle with possible trips to Mount Rainer and Olympia National Park. Mike continued to say that the Fire Island and Huntington Lighthouse, New York trip in May was also a success.

Faith reminded all members that trips ideas are always accepted and appreciated.

Recording Secretary – Karen Owen

Liaison to the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey

The next meeting will be on Saturday, November 5, 2016 in Essex County, New Jersey. The meetings cost \$25 and include a meet and greet continental breakfast, meeting, lunch, and tours of the historical locations in the area. If you are interested in attending the event, please access the website- www.lhsnj.org or join their Facebook account. All New Jersey Lighthouse Society members are members of the league, but only Karen or her designee can vote.

Corresponding Secretary – Kathy Lanzim

Kathy reported that she attended the Beach Plum Festival at Island Beach State Park on the Sunday after Labor Day. There was no charge and a table and chairs were provided under the pavilion. She sold \$222 worth of NJLHS merchandise and gave away several giveaways. It was a successful day and Kathy is looking to go back again next year. She hopes to have other members join her on that day.

Board of Director – Karl Fahringer

Liaison to the Membership and Hospitality Committee

Bob Gleason reported membership for 2016 is 407 members. Today we have 66 members in attendance. He reminded all that 2017 membership reminders will be given out at the December meeting and members can pay at that time.

Door Prize and 50/50

{Congratulations to all of the winners.}

Holiday Auction

Karl thanked all for their donations to the holiday basket raffle. If others are interested, donations are still being accepted. Karl also has a society letter requesting businesses for donations if anyone is interested in asking for donations. He also said that if anyone can bring lottery scratch off tickets (unscratched of course) to put in a basket for raffle it would be appreciated.

Karl also thanked Big City Bagels in Howell for the bagels available for today's meeting.

Board of Director – Winnie McKelvey

Educational Outreach / Speakers Bureau

Winnie reported that 325 people have been reached since January. If you know of any group that would like to hear the speakers, please contact Winnie. Her contact information is in the Beam.

Board of Director – Lauren Ward

The BEAM

Lauren said she has extra copies of the current Beam if needed.

Board of Director – Gene Goch

Finance Committee

Gene shared that the audit committee met today and reviewed the 2015 books. He thanked Karl, Doreen, Winnie and Jim.

Board of Director – Anne Solaequin

Ann has new merchandise and can order any size needed if not available. Calendars are also available for sale today. She then reminded all that help at the storage unit on October 22nd is encouraged.

Old & New Business

A member mentioned that two members of the Delaware Bay Lighthouse Society passed away. Ron Simmons, an active member who worked on the A.J. Meerwald ship and Jim Gardiner, a board member have both passed away.

Nominating Committee

Bill McKelvey presented a slate for voting in December. The floor was opened and slate read. The slate for 2017-2018 is as follows:

President	Brett Franks
1 st Vice President	Carol Winkie
2 nd Vice President	Gene Goch
Treasurer	Faith Giamboi
Recording Secretary	Bob Gleason
Director	Bob Rodgers
Director	Loretta Wilkins

For the Good of the Society

Be sure to check the website and BEAM for updates and information.

Adjournment

The Business Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 P.M. after a motion by Jim Cope, seconded by Bob Gleason, and all were in favor.

Minutes submitted by:

Karen Owen, Recording Secretary, NJLHS

Dates of General Membership Meetings

December 10, 2016 (Mastoris' Diner, Bordentown – members only – holiday social)

March 18, 2017 (VFW Edison – photo contest – lunch available for cost)

June 17, 2017

September 16, 2017

December 9, 2017