

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

ST. PETERS HARBOUR LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY

AUGUST 25, 2022

Rossiter Park Morell, PE

Present: Linda Anderson, Mel Anderson(Board member at-large), Robert Baker, Suzanne Baker, Jane Clute-Pridham, John Flinn, Syd Freiman, Donna Glass,Chris Hutt(Treasurer), Karen Jay, Kurt Kroeson, Scott MacEwen(Vice-President), Sidney MacEwen(Board member at-large), Don Macintosh, Dave Matthes, Diane Matthes, Barney Michalchuk, Debbie Barton-Moore, Jesse Moore, Bill Morton(President), JoAnne Morton, Craig Ono(Secretary), Jackie Playter, Gail Rice(Past President), Mary Richardson, Katie Sheahan, Alison Talbot, Arlene Van Diepen.

Regrets: Judith Bree - Board member representing the OSPHHA

Immediately prior to the AGM, SPHLS President Bill Morton gave a brief overview of the storyboard project that the Society has been working on over the past year. The project will encompass a fixed installation of an interpretive storyboard depicting the SPH Lighthouse in its original setting to be located near the parking lot of the Lighthouse. The storyboard will be complete with a QR code embedded in the work so that visitors can connect directly with the SPHLS website and tap into a wealth of historical documentation, photos and more. The QR code will also provide visitors with the capacity to make secure, on-line financial contributions to the Society in real-time. The initiative will cost approximately \$3000 with an annual cost of \$400 for the maintenance of the QR code. Provincial funding is available to support a good portion of this investment and this will be pursued by the Board in the year ahead.

Welcome and Introductions:

In view of the fact that the AGM was held in-person for the first time since 2019, a round of introductions of each sitting Board member, along with the positions they hold, was conducted by Bill Morton and a warm welcome back was extended to all in attendance.

President's Report:

Bill Morton reported that the Steering Committee of the SPHLS, which supported the work of the Society during the 2020-2022 period, as well as the Board of Directors met several times over the 2021-22 year - mostly via Zoom but also on three occasions in person. During that time, roles and responsibilities were reviewed, a review of our fixed costs was conducted, and decisions were undertaken to support the hosting of an Illumination Party on July 10th, having a presence in the Morell River Run Festival Parade on July 15th, and conducting the 2022 SPHLS AGM in-person on August 25th. The Lighthouse structure itself is in excellent physical condition. No infestations have occurred, no major repairs have been warranted and the lighting system is working well. This year, all the red components of the Lighthouse were repainted and the work was very well done.

Projected for the coming year is the repainting of the white shingles of the Lighthouse, the installation of the Heritage plaque on the door of the Lighthouse, and the installation of the completed storyboard project.

Finance Report:

Chris Hutt delivered the report on the Society's finances. As expected, the Society budgeted for and ran a small deficit once again this past year and this is the result of having annual fixed costs of approximately \$4000/year at a time when the pandemic reduced opportunities to do our customary fundraising activities to help offset these costs. The Society also chose not to press members for dues during this period. Nonetheless, the Society has a healthy bank balance and is able to continue to meet all its obligations going forward.

There being no questions, a motion put forward by Chris Hutt, and seconded by Linda Anderson, to approve the financial report was unanimously approved.

Membership & Nominations Report

The Society's membership list has two main components. The first group is made up of those who supported the SPHLS during the Founding Membership Campaign in the years leading up to January 2017 - the year that the Lighthouse was restored. These members contributed a one-time gift and have been recognized on the large plaque that has been installed on the Lighthouse itself. These members continue to receive updates, bulletins, and invitations to Lighthouse activities. This is a group of 45 households and/or dedications.

The second group is composed of both founding members who have remained active as well as new members who have joined the organization over the years and who are

also active members who have regularly paid annual dues or who have become Silver Shingle or Lifetime Members. This membership breaks down as follows:

8 individual memberships,
72 household/family memberships
2 corporate memberships

The Society currently has 35 Silver Shingle members and the 2 corporate memberships mentioned before fall into this category.

During the years 2020 & 2021, the Society gratefully accepted payments of annual dues as well as other contributions but did not press the members for annual dues. Overall, we are pleased to report healthy membership numbers and this support is fundamental to the Society's mission of maintaining the Lighthouse and preserving its heritage.

Board Composition and Nominations

Our by-laws provide for up to 10 positions on the Board of Directors. As per the records of previous AGMs, 8 of these positions are filled as follows:

5 board members are carrying out terms which expire in 2024. They are:

Judith Bree
Bill Morton
Chris Hutt
Craig Ono
Gail Rice

2 board members are carrying out terms which expire in 2025. They are:

Sidney MacEwen
Mel Anderson

1 board member is carrying out a term which expires in 2026. That is:

Scott MacEwen

Members are invited to express their interest in volunteering with the Society through our various communications during the year. This year the SPHLS received an expression of interest from long-standing Society member, Dana Dineen. On a motion by Katie Sheahan, seconded by Syd Freiman, the nomination of Dana Dineen to the Board of Directors for a five-year term ending in 2027 was approved.

Comments/Q&A

Jackie Playter opened this dialogue with an expression of thanks to the Board for the work they have done on behalf of the membership

Arlene Van Diepen asked whether or not the video about the Lighthouse and its environment that was recently posted on Facebook had been noticed and asked also if it would be going up on our website and FB page? The reply was yes to both questions.

Linda Anderson asked whether the QR code that is planned for the storyboard project will allow visitors to make a donation directly using this access point. The answer to the question was yes.

John Flinn inquired as to whether or not the Tourism PEI video that has been on air for a couple of years now had generated any additional interest in the Lighthouse site? There were a few remarks indicating that tourist traffic did not appear to be greater as a direct result of that additional visibility and it was felt that this was thankfully due to the fact that the site was not named.

Linda Anderson inquired as to who is responsible for the road? Sidney MacEwen clarified that the province looks after the road on behalf of the federal government. Work to do additional clearing and roadwork will continue in earnest this fall following the tourist season.

On the matter of directional signage for the road, Robert Baker asked if a speed limit sign might be an option for the road? Jesse Moore inquired as to the viability of a mirror at the bend in the road where cars are likely to suddenly become face to face? Arlene Van Diepen proposed signage indicating 'no turnaround available'.

On the matter of directional signage for walking across the dunes, JoAnne Morton inquired about the possibility of installing additional and more substantial 'stay off the dunes' signage? Bill Morton followed up with a suggestion that we procure signage such as is found at Lakeside Beach. Jesse Moore shared a suggestion that we look into considering the installation of guide-rope railings and posts to strengthen the message that the existing pathways are the routes that visitors should take. Sidney MacEwen will engage the folks at the Department of the Environment to investigate what options might be suitable for the site to enhance the messaging about this being a 'sensitive area'.

Past President Gail Rice shared closing remarks expressing her deep admiration and appreciation for the vision, determination and leadership that Tom Moore dedicated to

the creation of the St. Peters Harbour Lighthouse Society and the restoration of the Lighthouse itself. A warm round of applause was shared in support of these remarks.

Adjournment

In closing, the 2022 SPHLS Annual General Meeting was adjourned on a motion by President, Bill Morton, and seconded by Vice President, Scott MacEwen.