

**New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Meeting – June 26, 2010
Jersey Central Railroad Terminal – Blue Comet Room
Liberty State Park
Jersey City, NJ 07305
<http://www.njlhs.org/>**

Call to Order

President Mary Beth Doherty called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM and led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. The fire safety briefing was provided by a member of the Liberty State Park staff.

Minutes from March 20, 2010 General Meeting

Bob Gleason submitted the minutes from the March 20th meeting at Tuckerton Seaport. There being no changes noted, Tom Laverty made a motion to accept the minutes. Mike Boucher seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

President's Opening Remarks: Mary Beth acknowledged new member Jaelyn Jablow and her father, Ray and thanked them for their generous donation of some coffee, donuts & bagels for today's meeting.

Review of the Day's Agenda: Cindy Mitzen explained the schedule for the day's events. Following the business meeting, the attendees will split into two groups. One group will accompany the State Park Guide and tour the train terminal while the second group will remain in the Blue Comet Room and watch the Liberty State Park video history. After thirty minutes the two groups will exchange roles. At noon, the group will break for lunch. Cindy encouraged anyone who did not bring their own lunch to please patronize the State Park's concession stand. By 12:45 PM everyone should be in the screening line for the Liberty Island ferry which has a 1:15 PM departure. Members were reminded to pick up their ferry tickets at the membership table.

Membership – Membership totals for June were 196 Single, 238 Family for a total of 672 Members. These numbers reflect only individuals who have paid their 2010 membership dues. George Nail announced that attendance at the meeting totaled 75 including five guests and one new member.

Newsletter - THE BEAM - Mike Boucher

Mike described some of the challenges he has faced over the past month – including working on the final steps while in the hospital emergency room. Fortunately he is doing much better now. He has also received a number of articles for the September and even the December BEAM. Mary Beth led the assembly in a round of applause in appreciation of Mike's work.

Website –Howard Wright

Old editions of The BEAM, up thru 2002, are posted on the website for viewing. There is also information on the 2010 Lighthouse Challenge of NJ and a link to that website.

The 2010 Lighthouse Challenge of NJ – Doreen Berson

Doreen described the 2010 rack-card produced for the Lighthouse Challenge. The Challenge is being held on the third weekend in October, 10/16-17 and this year includes the Tatham Lifesaving Station in Stone Harbor, NJ. For more detailed information and directions the rack-cards direct people to the Challenge website (www.lighthousechallengenj.org). There will be a Delaware Bay boat trip offered on Friday October 15th. Anyone wishing to become a Challenge volunteer should contact the Lighthouse Manager or their representative. Contact numbers & e-mail addresses are listed in the Directions section of the website.

Ways & Means – (Mary Beth for Carol Winkie)

The selling of Ways & Means items was prohibited on State Park property. If anyone wishes to purchase merchandise please give Carol a call and she will ship it to you. We are hoping to resume selling at the Delaware meeting in September.

Committee Participation – Mary Beth Doherty

- **Nominating Committee:** Betty Smith has agreed to chair the 2011 Nominating Committee. Also participating on the committee are Jean Burgess and Joan Stumpf. A number of positions are up for consideration including
- **Audit Committee:** Anthony Albence has volunteered to lead the Audit Committee. Mary Beth is currently awaiting confirmation from Finance Committee Chair Jim Cope regarding the requirement that the committee be chaired by an Officer on the Board. Still looking for volunteers from the membership to serve on this committee.

Treasurer's Report: Faith Giamboi

Treasury figures for June 26, 2010 are as follows:

Operating Accounts		
Operating Account	\$8,393.78	
Memorial Fund	<u>4,316.73</u>	
Total Operating & Memorial Accounts		12,710.51
Sandy Hook Account		29,819.51
Challenge Account		3,505.63
Preservation Account		18,292.50
Preservation Account		<u>28,038.03</u>
Society Balance		\$74,073.68

Faith asked that anyone submitting forms refrain from submitting two different months on the same form since it makes reconciling the monthly bank statements very difficult. Anyone making a deposit should request that the bank teller validate all three deposit forms which will help minimize confusion.

1st Vice President's Report – Mary Beth for Brett Franks who was at-sea on the nation's newest aircraft carrier; USS GEORGE H. W. BUSH (CVN-77)**Preservation**

- Raffle tickets will be mailed out shortly. This year's prizes are lighthouse centric and most of the items are from Lennox.
- The wine glasses will be at the next meeting and for sale.
- Congratulations to Absecon Lighthouse! The City and Governing Body have approved a \$5,000,000 investment to create Lighthouse Park around the light and heading north to the inlet.
- At Ludlum Beach things are looking very dire. The city has backed out on everything. The Ludlum Beach Group is soliciting other towns and Cold Springs about taking the light but nothing is looking good. Money is the issue and September is now the deadline since the current lighthouse owner has finally received his clearance to build a new residence on the property.

Sandy Hook Report – Tom Lavery for Al Smith

- Sandy Hook needs volunteers
- Traffic seems to be much better coming off the Hook. Not as bad as in 2009
- Still negotiating the Memorandum of Understanding to formalize the relationship between NJLHS and NPS.

2nd Vice President Report - Cindy Mitzen

Programs: Cindy Mitzen

- September 25 – Meeting will be in Lewes, DE at the Presbyterian Fellowship Hall. Hospitality will be available at 10am, General Meeting at 11am followed by guest speaker, Wayne Kirkland author of Lightships of the Mid-Atlantic. Following the meeting we will tour the lightship, OVERFALLS.

Special Recognition for Mike Boucher – As NJLHS representative to the NJ League of Historic Societies, Cindy presented Mike, as editor of THE BEAM, with the League’s FIRST PRIZE Award for Distinguished Journal. All in attendance stood and gave Mike a warm round of applause.

Trips – Apryl Roach

- Aug 7-8 Lighthouse Lovers Getaway Weekend is a go. The actual ferry trip to the lighthouse will run from 6-10pm on Saturday, August 7th.
- Oct 2 – Long Island Sound, Western Connecticut Lighthouse Cruise is still tentative pending more people signing up.
- Oct 23-31 Southern East Coast Lighthouse Tour (NC, SC, and GA) is about 50% subscribed so the cut-off date for deposits has been extended to July 30th. If the required minimum number is not reached, this tour will be rescheduled for 2011.

Community Outreach & Publicity – No Report since Anthony Albence was delayed by traffic. Mary Beth asked everyone to “Friend” and “Tweet” NJLHS in Facebook and Twitter.

Education Outreach / Speakers Bureau – Bob Gleason

- There were five different 2nd Quarter speaking activities bringing the total number of attendees up to 246 YTD (169 students, 77 adults).
- Highlights included:
 - Faith Giamboi & Bob Gleason’s meeting with 120 second graders at Cedar Creek Elementary School in Lacy Township. The entire grade level had completed very accurate lighthouse projects made from recycled materials.
 - Bill Volpe’s presenting to Our Lady of Lourdes 4th graders in Milltown. Bill received a priceless thank-you note from one of the students. “The stories about famous lighthouse women were good. They showed the boys that women were just as good as men.”
- Any members interested in sharing their love of lighthouses through the Speaker’s Bureau should contact Bob Gleason.

Mary Beth asked for any additional business and Rich Viet shared additional details on the Lighthouse Park near Absecon Lighthouse and money for the new Keepers House Front Porch. There was also discussion about trying to find a way to help Ludlum but no clear means of assisting was identified.

There being no further Business Mary Beth asked for, and Bill Schneider made, a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mike Boucher and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM so that members could tour the train terminal and prepare for the ferry to Liberty Island.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert E. Gleason
Recording Secretary