

DRAFT
CONGREGATIONAL SUMMER ASSEMBLY
ANNUAL MEETING
August 6, 2016
ASSEMBLY BUILDING

Call to Order: President Larry Iles called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. Fred Edmonds opened in prayer. A quorum was present, and no proxy was filed with the Secretary. Attendance of 51 signed-in as members and 30 signed-in as Associate Members. There were 44 yellow cards and 27 blue cards distributed for voting (lists attached). The adjournment time set for 11:30.

Approval of Minutes: Doug Fuller, on behalf of a committee comprised of Jane Cooper, Marilyn Winter, and himself, announced that they had reviewed the minutes of the Annual Meeting of July 25, 2015 and moved they be approved as written; this was seconded by Jen Daly and the motion carried. Mr. Iles appointed Jane Cooper, Jen Daly, and Gary Dawley to review the minutes of this meeting.

President's Report: (no written report)
President Iles has been here most of the summer and things are running smoothly. Committees are working well, as is the staff. A number of people have come to talk to me, and we took note of concerns raised at the Open Forum.

Managing Director's Report: (no written report)
Mr. Cox noted that the CV is being run well by Fritz and Susan Kraft with a simplified approach to food preparation, beautified the building with a roadside mural painted by Judy Bishop. We are making a few improvements (from the Lauder gift to the Pilgrim Fund) at the Meeting House, starting with the bathrooms. The digital sound board has replaced the old analog system, and we can record right to a thumb/flash drive to archive services. The staff has been excellent, beginning with great leadership on the tennis staff. The woods courts are scheduled to be resurfaced before the start of the 2017 season. The fire extinguishers inspectors come next week, bring your cottage extinguisher for inspection. This is my 16th summer, and I welcome comments and suggestions.

Treasurer's Report: (no written report)
Mr. Dawley noted that total income through Aug 2, \$220K revenue: less CV sales, and fewer fees collected. Total expenses are \$207K, higher than 2015 a timing issue of when these meetings occur year to year. Insurance is also a big expense of \$26-30K per year. Curtis in Frankfort is our insurer, and the board has instructed me to get quotes. Trees' expense is \$17K, as per the increase approved last winter meeting. Capital improvements expenditure is on track. We are well within normal financial expectations. Even though our fees are down, our overall yellow garbage bags are up. We have about XXX in cash, tennis reserve, and main waterline. Thanks to Lou Cennane for his fine work over the years.

Archivist's Report:

Ms. Cooper asked people to read the written report. Early annual meetings in the early 1900's included much discussion re: owners who wanted to build barns on their property. An additional matter of concern re: Pilgrim Place for meetings is about people who have difficulty accessing the main floor, with no parking at the back where the ramp is. Mr. Joel Buzzell will build a new parking spot in the back in the off season. Starting next year we will be advertising that the summer of 2017 will have a History night.

Women's Association Report:

written report

FUND REPORTS

Education "Scholarship" Fund:

Tom Teteak reported that the EF is doing well. Presented 10 for \$20,500. We have had donations of about \$25K each of the last two years, and we maintain a small reserve account. We try to encourage giving for these capable students who are in need (need and citizenship are our first two priorities for awards). We hope to increase our donations because we would like to give out to more students and/or more per student. Please give. Since EF inception, \$441K has been dispersed. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as EF chair for the last 10 years, and as I step down, Ginny Knutson will take over with capable hands.

Pilgrim Fund (written report)

Mr. Pray reported that the PF is in good shape, with \$416K in the fund, and the 2016 growth has been 8%. The BOT would like to thank the Lauder family for its significant gift for rehabilitation of the Meeting House. We aim to be good stewards, but are also willing to spend down when an expense arises. The Sunday offerings and off-season donations averages about \$45K per year. Please consider a gift of any amount, we are grateful to the membership for its support. Typical funding: CSA music and Sunday School programs, Meeting House insurance, help with Common Property tree work, ecology landscaping and education. Next meeting is August 4, 2017, and all are welcome to attend.

Preservation Fund (written report)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Arts Committee: (written report)

Budget Committee: (written report)

see the Treasurer's report

Buildings and Grounds: (written report)

Mr. Joel Buzzell reported that we are taking care of a drainage issue on Standish, and our next project is roadwork. We have an exploratory new fire pit on the Crystal Beach.

This is intended to be a family spot, shared, no alcohol, no fooling around. Please encourage people to use it responsibly so we can keep it for future seasons. Please bring comments and questions to our meetings, you are welcome to attend. Mr. B thanked Mr. Cox

Bylaws: no report

Calendar: (no written report)

Ms. Schopp reported that next meeting is Monday at 11:00 in the lounge. Please give 2017 dates to us immediately.

Citation Committee (written report)

Communications: (written report)

Ms. Freeburg reported that some highlights center around our new intern, Julia Davis, who helps with the web site, the Face Book page, and the email listserv. A weekly email goes out with the next week's schedule, and includes stories from around the CSA. See the picture/link on each email, or go to the CSA web site tab, "stories", and a "Happening Now" banner for timely videos. We are always looking for savvy media and web publishing expertise to join our committee. We also update the CSA web site home page's White Board daily. This year, we began a detailed calendar on the web site. If you don't get the weekly email, please be sure the CSA office has your email address because we use the office list to populate ours. Thanks to Beth Congbalay for management of the Facebook page, we hit 1,000 followers this summer. There is also an unofficial CSA 411 group you can join, and it is useful for finding rides, selling items, and asking about babysitters (to name a few).

Construction Review: (written report)

Mr. Kucera reported that there was one issue reviewed by the committee re: the Randall lot on M22/Standish Rd. The BOT elected to take no action (to not proceed with pre-approval) until a new owner brings more detailed action. The lot has not been sold.

Crystal View: no report

Ecology:

Ms. Campbell shared that the butterfly garden is thriving. The EC pledged to raise \$1150 for this garden, and we raised \$1410. Thank you for your contributions of money, watering and weeding. Please contact Nancy Baglan to help. Thanks to Tim Dennison for securing the bench outside so it won't tip over backwards. The junior E intern program is designed for 12-15 year olds was suspended this year (previous years they've helped restore some land on Common Property). At this time, the EC is evaluating how best to engage this age group. Ecology Fun sessions have been very popular, with programs on pollinators, aquatics, and several sessions by Kevin Kinnan again this year. Our biggest day was 73 children on July 11. With help from WA and PF, we have sponsored three workshops this summer: Pollinators, Raptor Rehabilitation, and Bird Banding. We have also organized invasive species removal forays early in the season.

Fred Lauerman has headed up the Crystal Beach cleanup of invasives. Nancy Baglan has organized a workshop with Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy to learn how to identify invasive species, and the 20 participants have been assigned areas on the CSA grounds to inventory and determine the incidence of IS on the grounds. Thanks to the EC for its hard work.

Forest Care:

no report

Human Resources: (written report)

Legal: (no report)

Membership: (written report)

Nominations: (written report)

Mr. Iles thanked outgoing BOT members for their service. Ms. Gottlieb reported that the committee looks for people who record of working well with others, who have complementary personal/professional skills useful to the CSA, balance of age and gender, and 2/3 of BOT lot owners or adult children of lot owners (as per Bylaws), as well as other off-grounds diversity in geographic location both in the CSA surrounding areas, as well as home addresses across the country. Please send the committee suggestions, in writing, for potential BOT nominees. The incoming “class slate” includes: Jonathan Buntain, Eric Buzzell, Tom Campbell, Christine Somers Decker, and Liz Kucera Griffin. Ms. Daly moved, and Mr. Nahnsen seconded approval of these nominees. APPROVED. Ms. Gottlieb reported that The committee recommends Jonathan Buntain, Eric Buzzell, Tom Campbell, Christine Decker, and Liz Kucera Griffin as the slate of trustees for 2016-2019. XX moved and XX seconded that the slate be approved. The slate was unanimously approved. President Iles noted that these new Trustees should attend the Reorganization Meeting immediately following this meeting in the Lounge of the Assembly Building.

Spiritual Life:

Mr. Edmonds reported that the Gibson lecture series for 2016 ended yesterday. Dr. Todd Weir was well-received, addressing history and worldview, and attendance was solid during the week. We still need a speaker for 2017, please share suggestions with the committee. We attempt to choose a speaker who will, even though addressing a particular constituency, will appeal to several. We have 2 vesper services this summer. Dick Nickel offered one, as a “Layman’s Spiritual Journey”, Carolyn Konnert played cello. Dr. Jack Harnish of the Presbyterian Church in Beulah will offer the second on August 14. He thanked ack Hawley, a committee member is retiring after many, many years.

Tennis:

Mr. Nahnsen reported that staff leadership and staff has been superb. The fastest growing area is adult lessons, which is encouraging. The August tournament is wrapping up today. We have trophies for children, and CV \$5 gift certificates for adult winners. Thanks to Ken Cox, and Eddie for keeping the courts in good shape.

Waterfront: (written report)

Mr. Cooper reported that the waterfront has had a wonderful year, with a full beach and dependable lifeguards. The water is warmer this year, and itch reports are down. Please read the SI article on the CSA web site re: ongoing SI research and control. The BOT approved 2 changes: 1. smoking is now prohibited on the Crystal beach, please help remind smokers of this change; 2. the longstanding prohibition of jet skis has been eliminated as long as these PWC abide by standing watercraft rules and expectations. We have had a significant jump in kayak and paddleboards, many of which are not stickered. They must be registered and stickered. We have been in talks with GameTime re: playground renovations at Michigan Beach, and changes to all swing-sets to bring them into safety compliance., as well as replacing the “jungle gym” structure. Please give the committee suggestions. Ms. Posner asked to consider a rack for kayaks and flagged paths to get the boats to the shore, as an area behind these racks to drag un-stickered boats into this “crime scene” area. Ms. Griffin suggested to see the Cherry Republics’ bike rack amended for boats. Another comment: is there a way to visibly alert SI incidence on a daily basis? A flag, a website notice? Answer: this is difficult, as most reports come in a day or more later. The best defense is to know wind direction (even though this changes frequently on any given day), and slather on the sunscreen. Also, the Michigan playground has significant poison ivy problems.

Youth: (written report, no action)

Fran Rauth move, Jen Daly moved to approve all reports. APPROVED

Old Business:

New Business:

Mark Walton moved that the Board of Trustees and officers of the Assembly be authorized to act on behalf of the membership of the Congregational Summer Assembly in the interim between annual meetings (the “Enabling Act”); seconded by Mr. Dawley and carried without opposition.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Walton, Secretary