

Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society  
May 7, 2020  
ZOOM Meeting

Attendance: Karen and Chris Rieser, Susan Feiger, Brian Brooks, Marty and Anita Klein, John Scarbrough, Jim Hall, Steve Lewis, Jane Boursaw, Amy and Brad Lyman, Phyllis Cooley, Dave Smith, Judy and Ken Weaver, Nora and Dean Francis, Barbara Berthelsen, Laura Johnson, Mary Morgan, and Ann Swaney.

Call To Order: 6:05 by President John Scarbrough.

### **Business**

1. April 2020 minutes were approved.
2. Treasurer's Report - We are in the process of changing treasurers and have an audit prior to passing on the books.
3. Communications and Announcements: Brian Brooks and the Boy Scouts will be planting trees on the northside of Kroupa and Center Roads over the weekend. Siblings will work on one planting and all will stay six feet apart.

### **Old Business**

1. Hessler Log Cabin: Laura Johnson reported that the Log Home will be closed and shuttered until the Lighthouse opens.  
Marty Klein reported that Henry Hidalgo is preparing a quote to clean the rocks around the cabin, build an eavestrough and drain system, staining and painting, repair window and door sills, repair the ramp, repair porcupine damage, and look at the roof. Pest control has dealt with the carpenter ants. These improvements will be paid for by Peninsula Township.
2. Lighthouse Shutters: The shutters project is on track and will be out for bid shortly.

### **New Business**

1. Steve Lewis was voted in as Vice President.
2. Dean Francis was voted in as Treasurer.
3. They will be installed at the June meeting.
4. Due to COVID-19 we will lose our spring and summer income as our tourist attractions and events are on hold. OMPHS DUES ARE DUE JUNE 1ST. TO CONTINUE OUR WORK MAIL YOUR DUES AND IF YOU CAN ADD A BIT EXTRA AS IT WOULD BE HELPFUL.
5. Mail your your contribution and dues to:

OMPHS

P.O. Box 115  
Old Mission, Michigan  
49673

6. Laura Johnson and Karen Rieser are preparing signage to be placed outside the lighthouse. An initial proposal is almost complete and will be sent to Ginger Schultz, lighthouse manager.
7. Barbara Berthelsen has found a link to research the history of your house:

<https://www.homeadvisor.com/r/a-guide-to-researching-the-history-of-a-house/>

### **Committee Reports**

## **Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society**

### **Committee Reports & Significant Dates**

**May 1, 2020**

### **Executive Committee Report -- John Scarbrough**

**[john.scarbrough123@gmail.com](mailto:john.scarbrough123@gmail.com)**

**Laura and Phyllis have been rewriting the 2016 Log Cabin Agreement between OMPHS and the now-defunct elected Park Board. The final version will be proposed to the Township Board. We have canceled Log Cabin Days, closed the Hessler Cabin as well as the Log Church until this virus passes by us. We will have fundraising losses from the coronavirus (Bowers Harbor Winery up to \$2,000, Log Cabin Days \$700).**

**We are brainstorming virtual fundraisers, everything from "historical" karaoke from the 50's and 60's to virtual historic tours. Please share your ideas with me and other Board members. How can we raise money and keep a sense of OMPH community in this time of isolation?**

**We have Steve Lewis running for Vice-president and Dean Francis running for Treasurer. Both will bring a great deal to these positions.**

We reviewed our finances, and with a new treasurer coming on, asked a CPA to do an independent audit.

Laura, Chris, and I have participated weekly in the Township Lighthouse meetings which is improving our communication with Township officials. They are learning what we do (a lot more than they knew) and we are learning what they do (a lot more than we knew).

We have been roundly criticized for working with the Township by a small but very vocal group (on this and many other things), but clearly, it is much better to work with other people and other groups than to have constant running battles. You've seen the destruction of the elected Park Board, the destruction of the Friends of the Lighthouse and we choose not to go down that path. So, when you hear the same folks stirring the pot, you might ask if there is another side to that story or perhaps a much more accurate reality. Or, at the very least, go to a Board member, including me, and ask what's going on.

John

Treasurer Report/ Budget Committee Ellen Kerr  
[ellenkerr1017@gmail.com](mailto:ellenkerr1017@gmail.com)

No Report

Peter Dougherty Society - Chris Rieser [crieser99@icloud.com](mailto:crieser99@icloud.com)

Spring Cleanup has been put on hold for now. Having the Dyer's do a yard cleanup to get the place looking better. Thinking about an interior Spring Cleanup for volunteers later.

Membership Committee – Judith Weaver [weavmusic@aol.com](mailto:weavmusic@aol.com)

No Report

Lighthouse Committee (ad hoc) – Laura Johnson  
[ljohnson@acegroup.cc](mailto:ljohnson@acegroup.cc) & Chris Rieser [crieser99@icloud.com](mailto:crieser99@icloud.com)

Township Lighthouse Committee was formed in order to transition the monetary gift from the dissolved Mission Point Lighthouse Friends that was to be used for the benefit of the lighthouse. The project decided on was to replace the long missing lighthouse shutters. A photographic image showing the design of the historic shutters was generously provided by an OMPHS member, and the design is to be reproduced in the new shutters. The Township is coordinating ongoing restoration and the shutters have been included in the scope of work to be done.

Log Church Committee- Amy Lyman (current Contact)  
[alyman999@gmail.com](mailto:alyman999@gmail.com)

Craig Hadley, executive Director of Dennon Museum, worked with the Log Church Committee and made recommendations on the interior renovation.

Hessler Log Cabin Committee- Phyllis Cooley  
[Phyllis.cooley49@gmail.com](mailto:Phyllis.cooley49@gmail.com) and winter help from Laura Johnson  
[ljohnson@acegroup.cc](mailto:ljohnson@acegroup.cc)

The opening of the Log Cabin viewing area will have to wait until the lighthouse reopens, and due to safety concerns regarding COVID-19, the date is unknown. The lighthouse keepers are responsible for opening and closing the viewing area on a daily basis. The OMPHS will be coordinating with the Township for upkeep and maintenance.

Archives and Newsletter Committee- Ann Swaney [aswaney@nmc.edu](mailto:aswaney@nmc.edu)

No Report

Memorial Committee-Ellen Kerr [ellenkerr1017@gmail.com](mailto:ellenkerr1017@gmail.com)

No Report

Website Committee-Barb Berthelson [bbrthison@gmail.com](mailto:bbrthison@gmail.com)

Trying to use the website to help keep everyone connected to each other and to the history in our area.

Added link for genealogy and research from a children's librarian who has been using our website and research links to teach kids.

**Program Committee- JudyWeaver [weavmusic@aol.com](mailto:weavmusic@aol.com) & AnnSwaney [aswaney@nmc.edu](mailto:aswaney@nmc.edu)**

**No Report**

**Log Cabin Day Committee- Amy Lyman [alyman999@gmail.com](mailto:alyman999@gmail.com)**

**Many thanks to our committee members for participating in the planning process and especially to Ellen Kerr and Judy and Ken Weaver for hosting our get togethers and meals. We had a great time getting to know one another better and though we've had to cancel the June 28, 2020 event, we have new ideas and basic timeline for next year. Stay SAFE!**

**Hospitality Committee – Karen Rieser [Krieser19@att.net](mailto:Krieser19@att.net)**

**No Report**

**Tree Planting Committee-Jim Hall [halljr@aol.com](mailto:halljr@aol.com) and Laura Johnson [ljohnson@acegroup.cc](mailto:ljohnson@acegroup.cc)**

**We have sold five Memorial Trees since the first of the year, plaques will be placed later this month. Trees have been ordered for Spring delivery. It was hoped to have the Scouts involved with planting, but that may not be possible considering safety concerns regarding COVID-19. FYI, we are going to sell mulch with the Scouts on Saturday's May 16 and May 23 from 8-12. So I may be able to get a skeleton crew of scouts for the tree planting. Let me find out when we can get trees and then we can schedule our planting**