***STRATHMERE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION***

**Minutes of General Meeting**

**Saturday, August 18, 2018**

The meeting began with the flag salute led by Strathmere’s honor roll students, Brian and CJ Furey and John and Matthew Pond. Including our Board members, fifty-one people attended the 10 a.m. meeting.

Members of the SIA received a raffle ticket for an Ocean City Pops concert, which was won by Mrs. Joan Stroble DeFiore. In addition, everyone who attended the meeting received a stainless steel straw highlighting our campaign of reducing the amount of plastic in the oceans.

**Bergus-Laurence Honor Roll Awards**

Katie and Elizabeth Laurence presented Brian and CJ Furey and John and Matthew Pond with Lady Liberty Silver Dollars and awarded them certificates recognizing them as Strathmere Honor Roll students.

John Pond remarked that he looks “forward to getting this every year.” Matthew Pond thanked everyone “for recognizing our hard work this year.” Brian Furey thanked all “for recognizing what we do in school,” and CJ Furey gave a thank you for “recognizing our academics.”

**Treasurer’s Report**

STRATHMERE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

STRATHMERE, NEW JERSEY

FINANCIAL REPORT

August 18, 2018

Opening Balance July 20, 2018 $ 9,265.20

Income Dues $ 120.00

Donation $ 255.00

Dues and Sale of Strathmere

Items $ 855.00

Total Income $ 1,230.00 $ 10,495.20

Expenses Pictures of Damage Sign $ 8.00

Copiers Plus Tags for Straws

And Hobbie Knife $ 22.99

Copiers Plus for Flyers

And copies $ 87.49

Banner $177.00

Star Party $500.00

Identity Gear / Straws $499.95

Total Expenses $1,295.43 $9,199.77

Bergus/Lawrence Scholarship Fund $825.12

A motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report was made by Diddy Addario and seconded by Lisa Carr. The motion carried.

**Secretary’s Report**

Rosemarie Whelan noted that the minutes of the July 20, 2018 meeting are posted on the SIA website, and that hard copies were available at the meeting.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Lisa Carr and seconded by Mark Bateman. The motion carried.

**Nominating Committee Report and Elections**

Diddy Addario, Chairperson of the Committee, reported that no nominations were received by email. She asked if there were any nominations from the floor, and none were forthcoming. Diddy also remarked that “the current officers agreed to be on the ballot again.”

A motion to close the nominations was made by Butch Vandegrift and seconded by Mark Bateman. The motion carried. The Secretary cast a vote, and the officers remained as follows:

Linda Bateman, President; Janice Connell, Vice-President; Donna Diefenderfer, Treasurer;

Rosemarie Whelan, Recording Secretary; and Janet Mahley, Member-at-Large.

**Star Party**

Linda Bateman noted that the Star Party will be rescheduled, possibly for the Columbus Day weekend, due to the weather. Linda also commented that the Star Party “is the most frequent request from people.”

**Master Plan**

A sub-committee has been formed to re-evaluate the Master Plan. Janice Connell and Tom Rossi are among those who will meet with Paul Dietrich on Thurs., Aug. 23, to discuss the Plan. Ted Kingston and Gary Riordan will be serving on the Planning Board sub-committee as well.

Linda Bateman remarked that the Citizens’ Group is also forming a committee.

She stated that if anyone has any input, please email your concerns to our SIA address. Also, there will be a link on the SIA website to review the scope of the Master Plan.

**Fundraising**

Janet Mahley commented that a few hats are left. Also, sizes remaining on the zippered hoodies are S, XL, and 3XL.

**Open Mic**

George Carmona and George Jones have recorded their stories. Still to be completed are the McCormac sisters and, on wish list, for Sally and Andy at Mildred’s and Gloria Carpenter.

**Fire Safety Day**

This event will be held at the Firehouse on Sunday, August 19, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Participating will be the Strathmere Fire Company, The Coast Guard Auxiliary, Strathmere Lifeguards, the Strathmere Fishing and Environmental Club, and the Strathmere Improvement Association. The SIA will be distributing stainless steel straws, water bottles, goody bags, and fire hats.

**Fire Siren**

Joe Furey, a volunteer with the Strathmere Fire Company spoke about the siren which notifies firemen to respond to fire emergencies. It is intended only for a fire, and is tested every day at noon. Joe also commented that Upper Township pays Ocean City to come to Strathmere and assist our Fire Department. Linda urged everyone to register for Emergency Township Notices (Code Red) on our website or on the Upper Township website.

**Notes for Next Year**

Linda stated that one of the goals we are setting for next year is trying to make a presence at the Township meetings. She also mentioned that over the winter, Debbie Vandegrift has volunteered to help identify houses in Strathmere pictured on a CD from Ken Weaver, for possible walking tours or a welcome brochure.

Linda noted that we have over 500 people on our email list and over 1,200 on our Facebook page. She commented, “As we are setting our goals, we would like to hear from you.”

**Closing Remarks**

Linda thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and supporting the SIA.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Diddy Addario and seconded by Mark Bateman. The motion carried.

Rosemarie Whelan

Recording Secretary

**PROGRAM**

Gary Riordan, owner of Twisties, captivated the audience with its history. Mrs. Joan Stroble DeFiore, who was born on the Twisties’ property, was also there to share her memories. Gary remarked that Twisties looks unchanged since 1929 with the same clock, fish, and 48 coconut heads, which were carved by the Seminole Indians.

For the complete, not to be missed video, visit the SIA website.