***STRATHMERE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION (SIA)***

**Minutes of General Meeting**

**Friday, August 19, 2016**

The meeting began at 8 p.m. with the flag salute led by Linda Bateman, President. Board members present also included Janice Connell, Donna Diefenderfer, Elaine Holsomback, and Rosemarie Whelan. Including Board members, twenty-five people attended the meeting.

**Bergus-Laurence Scholarship Awards**

Brian and CJ Furey were presented with commemorative silver dollars and awarded certificates recognizing them as Strathmere honor roll students. Both boys thanked the SIA for the awards and each commented that “I will keep trying my hardest.”

The boys had missed the previous presentation of awards due to baseball tournaments. Brian, as a member of the Mid-Atlantic Babe Ruth team, was chosen as a member of the World Series All-Star Team and MVP. The Upper Township All-Star Little League Team, on which CJ played, placed second in the state. CJ was the youngest player on the team.

**Update on “Strathmere Stories” Video Project**

Three video clips were shown to the audience.

Dick Shetler – Remarking that he really likes the mountains, Dick said that he has adapted to the shore. Having lived in Strathmere full time for twenty-six years, and coming here for sixty years, he has no regrets about his choice.

Marilyn Roland – Marilyn mentioned that Katherine Carmona, a teacher from the mainland, was one of her favorite people with whom to talk. Katherine noted that there were no toads on the island after the ’62 storm. Having shared this story with her class at school, Corson, one of her students, gave her a jar filled with toads. Katherine, taking the jar back to the island, made the claim that “every toad on the island is a Corson toad.”

Dave Townsend – Dave related a story about a rescue that happened when he was renting a house on the bay. Answering a knock at the door, Dave was asked by two members of the Coast Guard if he had a boat and radios, as someone was injured on the sandbar. Dave and his physician wife assisted the Coast Guard, a helicopter arrived, and the woman was transported to Atlantic City Hospital. The Coast Guard sent Dave a letter thanking him for his assistance.

**Secretary’s Report** – Rosemarie Whelan

The Secretary remarked that the minutes of the July 15, 2016 meeting have been emailed, and hard copies were available at this meeting. Mark Bateman made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Tom Leonard. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Donna Diefenderfer

Opening Balance – July 16, 2016 $5,987.32

Income

Sale of SIA Items and Dues $390.00

Total Income $390.00 $6,377.32

Expenses

E-Mail Program $59.85

Tripods 81.91

Chrome Book 188.86

Cameras 296.16

Print Flyers 14.98

Total Disbursements $641.76 $5,735.56

Closing Balance $5,735.56

Scholarship Fund $1,028.39

Tom Leonard made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report, which was seconded by Janet Mahley. The report was approved.

Linda Bateman commented that 240 hoodies were sold. However, the insulated totes are still available in red or blue at a cost of $10.00.

**Presentations to Christine Rohrman, Schiavo Library Director; and to Bruce Riordan, Fire Chief, Strathmere Volunteer Fire Company**

Linda Bateman stated that from our profits, we are making the following donations.

A check for $250.00 was presented by Janice Connell to Christine Rohrman, who will purchase a reading bench for the children at the Library. The bench will have an SIA tag affixed to it.

A check for $500.00 was presented by Elaine Holsomback to Bruce Riordan to help pay for new carpeting which was installed at the Strathmere Firehouse.

**Update on Township Happenings**

Town Meeting - A follow-up letter was sent to the Mayor by the CFSWB. Contact Ed Tettemer if you would like to be included on his email list. Check with Linda if you are not sure of his contact information.

Dirt, mold on the water tower - Linda Bateman emailed Mayor Palombo about the mold. The Mayor is waiting for New Jersey Water Company to respond.

List of streets to be repaved – The street that will be repaved is the end of Bayview Drive.

New Jersey Water Co. repaving – On the side streets, there are no plans for resurfacing, just patching or repaving.

Trash Cans – The Public Works Department has replaced trash cans.

**Elections**

Linda Bateman expressed thanks to Janet Mahley for chairing this committee.

Janet asked if there were nominations from the floor for any of the positions, and none were forthcoming. The Secretary cast a note, and the officers remained as follows: Linda Bateman, President; Elaine Holsomback, Vice-President; Donna Diefenderfer, Treasurer;

Rosemarie Whelan, Recording Secretary; and Janice Connell, Member-at-Large.

**Open-Mic Night**

This event, to preserve the history of Strathmere, will take place on Thursday, August 25, from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Schiavo Library. A sign-up sheet was circulated around the room.

This project was funded by a $1,000.00 donation by a Strathmere couple and was matched with a $1,000.00 donation from the SIA.

**Welcoming Committee**

We encourage volunteers to join this committee, which will welcome new folks to town. A brochure, chronicling the history of Strathmere, will be written.

Janice Connell and Elaine Holsomback have volunteered and, after the meeting, Rosalind Garrigle also volunteered.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Bob Roland to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Rosalind Garrigle. Therefore, the meeting was adjourned, and a program presented by the Cape Atlantic Woodturners’ Club followed.

**CAPE ATLANTIC WOODTURNERS’ CLUB PRESENTATION**

Gerald Bruman, President of the Woodturners’ Club, addressed the audience while three other woodturners crafted. Bruman remarked that two of the men working the lathes were in education, while one was a train engineer, and that this is a hobby for them. However, there are professional wood turners.

Results of their talents were exhibited on a table and included various shapes and sizes of bowls, wine bottle stoppers, pens, and a pocket watch holder used as a small clock.

The Cape Atlantic Woodturners’ Club has demonstrated their craft to various groups including the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

The group had also crafted pens and sent them to servicemen overseas.

At the conclusion of the meeting, much to everyone’s delight, all in the audience were treated to a handcrafted creation.

If you would like to “learn how to turn,” there is an adult education class at Cape May County Technical School. Also, if you would like to know more about the Cape Atlantic Woodturners’ Club, meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month, from 7:00 p.m. to 9 p.m., at the Upper Township Library.

Rosemarie Whelan

Recording Secretary