



Board Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2025

Present: Roger Amborn, Susan Halvorson, Cindy Hnatek, Lydia Jordahl, Eric Kaiser, Rick Liljegren, Al Makynen, Skip Van Kessel

Absent: Mary Jackson, Cindy Richey

1. March, 2025 minutes were approved; motion by Eric, second by Skip, and approval from all members.
2. Treasurer report (Al)
 - a. "Cash" balances include \$16,851.12 in the checking account, a CD due 10/12/25, valued at approximately \$10,000+. The checking account balance includes community donations and DECC volunteer contributions since the beginning of the year. Contributions include sponsorships, church donations and green envelopes. YTD Revenue is \$6337, YTD Expenses are \$3124. It was estimated that there is inventory of approximately \$500 of supplies at this time.
 - b. Al distributed copies of the SLRE Corporate Banking Resolution and explained its purpose of formal approval of access to SLRE accounts. Motion by Eric to adopt this resolution, second by Skip and approval by all members
 - c. Treasurer report was approved; motion by Skip, second by Eric, and approval from all members.
3. Sponsorship/fund raising
 - a. Progress to date (Al and Roger). Continue to await donations from sponsoring organizations. Roger noted that WLSSD is rebranding and has a new CEO. Ryan Ihrke stated that, as a result, SLRE will not be receiving support from WLSSD this year. It was agreed to keep lines of communication open with WLSSD related to SLRE's educational mission potentially matching future WLSSD goals. Benedictine has not provided a sponsorship as yet.
4. Boat (Roger)
 - a. Boat will be removed from storage on 4/26/25, transported to Roger's, where it will be prepared for transport to Snowbird Willie's for vinyl roof replacement (cost estimate \$3000). After the boat is launched at Pier B, Roger will determine size and cost of replacement trailer tires needed. The board will review tire purchase at that time.
 - b. After the roof and trailer tire work is complete, the boat will be in excellent shape, with spare props for both motors, updated safety equipment, 4 new life jackets and other supplies already in place.
5. 2025 season
 - a. Susan provided Trip Tracker 2025 spreadsheet with 20 trips for sponsoring organizations already scheduled. Non-sponsoring organizations continue to submit trip requests before the May 1 start date. It was agreed that all non-sponsoring organizations be asked to resubmit their trip requests on, or after May 1.
 - b. Roger will obtain a supply of small water bottles; Al will obtain the raspberry cookie supply.
 - c. Mike at Pier B has requested help staining the docks before the end of April with short notice provided. Skip will coordinate 6-8 people to participate. Pier B also requests help with dock installation 1-2 weeks after staining is complete (early May). Again, on short notice. Roger and Skip will coordinate 5 people

to work together.

- d. Tall Ships are scheduled for July 10-12. Much discussion about plans to provide up to 15 tour slots outside of the regular SLRE schedule (special trips) on those days. Roger and Eric to coordinate volunteers, passengers, and Pier B parking. There was general agreement on the high value of these special trips for enjoyment, program promotion and marketing.
- e. Roger and Rick will meet with the Coast Guard to generally touch base, and discuss plans for the Tall Ships event.

6. Volunteers

- a. Details for the April 22 “All Hands On Deck” event at Good Shepard Church are finalized. The schedule will be: 3:45 pm, setup; 4:30 pm, social and heavy appetizers; and 5:30 presentation/meeting. Eric and his wife, Amy, will obtain Erbert and Gerbert subs, veggies, chips, cookies and paper plates, and prepare coffee at the church; Roger will purchase water and pop. Cost was estimated to be under \$500. Approximately 60 people are expected to attend. Susan and Lydia will greet attendees. Eric and Roger are preparing the presentation, with historical program photos cycling on the TV in the gathering area. Handouts will include the 2024 annual report and Tips for Volunteers. Invitations and reminders have been sent to existing volunteers and prospects.
- b. Eric confirmed that attendees at the event will be invited to move to Lake Superior Brewing after the church event to continue socializing. It will be Dutch, with anyone who attends paying their own bill.
- c. Promotion of the event: Eric appeared on Channel 10 am show on 4/17; the Y, UMD and MN Power and have been successfully utilized for flyers and posters.
- d. Several board members reported difficulty locating the event sign up on the SLRE website.
- e. Motion by Susan to approve expense of under \$500 for the event; approval by all members.

7. Marketing

- a. Roger reported on outerwear (\$30-45 each) and SLRE logo patches available from Advantage Embroidery and Screen Printing. The logo can be embossed on outerwear purchased at Advantage for no extra cost. The separate logo patch can also be self-applied to any black outerwear belonging to volunteers. Roger will have a table at “All Hands On Deck” with pictures of jacket/windbreaker options and logo patches. The plan is to determine volunteer interest in purchasing outerwear. Roger will coordinate any ordering from Advantage. Discussion about SLRE purchasing logo patches.
- b. Roger: there are 25 white logo hats available for new volunteers and additional yellow T-shirts may be needed at \$10 each.
- c. Motion by Rick, second by Eric to purchase #50 three-inch logo patches (black and blue design) @ \$3.55 each (total approx. \$180.00) and make them available to volunteers for self-application; approval by all members.

8. Misc

- a. Motion by Susan, second by Skip, to approve final, previously agreed upon Bylaw changes now completed by Eric. Approval by all members.
- b. Motion to adjourn from Skip, second by Lydia, and approval by all members.

Submit any agenda items for the next meeting to Roger or Mary the week of May 5.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 15, 2025 – 5 p.m. Central Daylight Time – Theater Room (second floor), Duluth Heights Lodge, 724 Maple Grove Road 55811

2025 meetings

May 15, 2025
June 19, 2025
July 17, 2025
August 21, 2025

September 18, 2025
October 16, 2025
November 20, 2025 (tentative)
December 18, 2025 (tentative)

Submitted by Susan Halvorson (in absence of Mary Jackson, Secretary.)