

**Meeting of the All Star One Governing Council  
On Star Island – Marshman Building  
June 29, 2014**

Present: Henry Powsner, Tom Coleman, Ben Soule, Louise Williams, Holly Hunnicutt, Jim Prochaska, Jan Prochaska, Pam Pierce, Phil Pierce, Annie Lenox, Jim Sersich, Sally Easter Sr., George Easter, Carla Osgood, Allie Walton, Deb Walton, Tom Walton, Steve Parr, Connie Lentz, Sally Easter Jr., Stan Corfman, Kim Corfman, Jane Trudeau, Dick Case, Bob Jorgenson, Bobby Jorgenson, Dennis O’Keefe, Barb Hallows, Ray Hallows, Judy O’Keefe, Steve Skrovan, Shelly Powsner, Kemp Harris, Elissa Best, Mary Trudeau, Bart Bouricius, Joe Fredericks, Bill Tibbs, David Epstein, David Yermack, Tom Griffiths, Betsy Fredericks, David Cook, Adam Osgood, David Osgood, Larry Yermack, Elizabeth Yermack, Cheryl Anne Sturken, Wanda Wood, Michele Cohen, Tricia Coleman, Suzanne Cook, Karen Mills, John Best, Estelle Best, Elee Bernd, Charlie Close, Roy Cook, Marion Cook, Annie Stewart, Scotty Stewart, Deb Weiner Soule.

**Scotty Stewart convened the meeting.** He called on Tom Coleman offered **opening words**. He reflected on the Abenaki people of New Hampshire, who visited Star Island and “Joined us in celebration and we built a wigwam. That has been a humbling experience for me because I was with our friends when we harvested the wood and the bark, packaged it, brought it out, unpacked it, built it. It was a deliberative process, involving prayers and a true desire of wholeness and good faith. When it was built they told me that there was a tradition in the First Nations that, when there was conflict, there is a place they go to and there is a wigwam there. And while one is there, there is no war, no hatred, no conflict. There is only love while one is there, and no matter what you brought to that place, it does not exist there, unless you choose to recreate it when you leave.” Tom continued, “The world is a big place; this is a small island. We choose to be a family here, to be here. Please, let us take forward from this place, not only each other and what it means to other people, and the spirit and heart of people like Dana Powsner. Let it guide our deliberations for this week, and let us carry this feeling forward until we meet again.”

**Star Island CEO Joe Watts** was invited to offer a brief report. Joe noted that the conference center had been in operation for six full weeks already and is doing well financially. They have had “success with grants. The money we are receiving is going into the infrastructure to make sure we are here for a long time. We are doing well...there seems to be a positive feeling and a sense of community and purpose, not only in this conference but across conferences. As you have seen, part of our work was to fix the dining hall. Some of the sound proofing is up and more is ordered. This is a good test week for this...I have heard some feedback about this and that it is not up to where it should be. We have more panels on order, more testing will be involved. I know you will be considering whether you want to help fund this, and I appreciate your consideration. We have not yet done this on the Snack Bar side, and there is more to be done in the alcove.

“Another big thing is our work, for years, on the solar solution for Star. We are in the midst of launching this. Over half of our power will be provided in this way. I urge you to come to the 4 PM Sustainability

Walk with Jack Farrell who will explain more. I want to recognize Dick Case, who has been a full time consultant on this project on a volunteer basis, and I recognize his work.” Joe then took questions regarding how the solar panels are being installed and the preservation of historic spaces during the installation process. Joe noted that, regarding impact on natural habitats for the solar installation, an expert speaker last week on the island, who studies bird habitats, has observed that the disruption of habitats will be minimal.

Joe was thanked for his work and his time with the conference leadership.

**MILESTONES:**

Bill Gimpel’s illness was noted; we send our best wishes to him. Tricia noted that there is a note from Bill on the bulletin board. Will Fielding’s serious illness was also noted with concern. We recognized Steve Skrovan and Shelley Powsner, new members of the GC, and welcomed Dave and Suzanne Cook, who were not able to come to the fall meeting.

**CONFERENCE UPDATE:**

Holly Hunnicutt, reporting on behalf of the Chairs, said that she felt like things were going well; she urged those with concerns to please come to her; there is a lot going on but it all seemed to be going well.

**NOMINATIONS FOR 2016 CHAIR:**

Four suggestions were made regarding possible chairs for 2016. Qualifications for nominees were shared with others at the meeting.

People suggested that we might reconsider our requirement that those to be nominated for Chairs be approached in advance. It was noted that one individual mentioned as a single was a very capable candidate for chair, but needed partnership with someone else. After discussion about other processes that might be followed, Ben Soule suggested that we were getting off track and making up rules and we seemed to be doing this now, in our discussions about chairs. Carla Osgood suggested that at the off-island meeting, the group might consider a process that Kim Corfman mentioned in the meeting: that part of the process of identifying future leadership should be putting the names of people up who have been nominated, and another part should be mentioning those who, down the road, might be considered for nomination.

Jane Trudeau suggested, in the latter category, that we should hold on to the names of several potential future leader pairs; Louise Williams suggested that we should have a discussion about future prospects after voting. Ranked voting for 2016 chair then proceeded.

**ANNUAL FUND:**

Cory Easter, Annual Fund Representative, joined the meeting. He reported that \$82,244 was raised last year. This was the highest individual SIC conference total for 2013. This was great, but we were down from \$89,257 which was raised in 2012 by our conference (but some of these were capital campaign contributions). In terms of tracking and follow up, he said, “I know that some people like to give just before the year closes. If we could do this earlier, it would really make things easier. Thank you for

those who are strong supporters of the Annual Fund. The goal for Star for the Annual Fund is \$455,000. Twenty percent of that would be \$91,000. That is not completely out of reach if we step up; if we fell a little short, it would still be good. “

Louise Williams then moved that the goal be \$91,000, and it was seconded.

Discussion: What are giving patterns?

Cory: we are at 20 percent of giving right now, but some people are thinking about this for the first time. Pledge envelopes are in the lobby, in the Tucke Monument Annual Fund area, or Cory will accept them.

David Osgood: There are people who come here who haven't pledged anything. Some folks think that \$25 or \$50 isn't much, but getting people to participate is important. Cory: I want everyone to give something. A small percentage give large numbers; we get gifts at all levels.

Cory reminded us that we can give by credit card and make a one-time gift or subscribe and pay a monthly amount.

David Epstein: When the capital campaign occurred, we made three year gifts. Cory: this is the final year for those gifts, and I will be looking to you to renew your giving to the campaign. There was a combined appeal and a capital campaign, but these are all expiring. If you go on the SIC website, you can look up your giving history to check on this.

Jim Prochaska: there are conferences that give 100 percent. We also have other ways of giving: the auction, for example. We have ways for young adults to contribute, like the poker games. I think one of our goals should be to get to 100 percent, and it all counts.

Barb Hallows: What about tax gifts? Cory: Appreciated stock is one way. Barb: My company gives matching gifts, but religious organizations are exempted. It was suggested that Barb propose that we are also an educational organization.

Deb Walton: I would love to speak to younger folks to encourage them. Tom and I use the credit card donation – it's easy.

The motion carried.

Tom Griffiths moved that we encourage 100 percent participation in the Annual Fund. Seconded.

Discussion: Is there a committee to help Cory? Cory: I may ask for help. If you would like to volunteer, let me know. The motion carried.

Phil Quattrochi reported on **501©3 status for the conference**, which he has been working on with Ann Etter. They have drafted bylaws and other documents which would allow this to move forward. The purpose of doing this is so that donations to the conference can be tax deductible to the donors, and to give a little more structure and limited liability to the conference. At present, some individuals could be liable for debts and other matters. This would provide something of a protective shell. The bylaws are going to be circulated, going toward the target of being considered at the fall meeting.

Tricia Coleman: I have the draft to be considered. There will be an electronic vote starting on July 14 and concluding on July 28.

Elizabeth Yermack: To what extent is there insurance involved in this? Phil: “No, there is no insurance

requirement, but you need to review your coverage levels. Others I spoke with asked questions about what kind of insurance coverage you have, etc. That should be revisited as part of this process to make sure that coverage is adequate.”

Ali Walton: Tricia will be sending out information electronically. Not all of you have accepted the right to be on the GC listserve. You may not have noticed that you have an invitation and you will not get information that allows you to vote if you don't accept this. Please do so.

**VOTING FOR CHAIRS (results):**

Ali Walton announced the results. Steve and Cindy Parr were elected

**FALL MEETING:**

Our meeting will occur on Saturday, November 1, 1:30-5:00 PM

People can attend on both Friday night and Saturday night, the cost is \$144/pp/night, or for one night only. Tricia said, “We want you all to come. It's a lovely place (The Guest House, Chester, CT).

Accommodations are available first to the Governance Council and then to the rest of the conference community.”

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Wanda Wood is having a party in Maryland, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, on the Eastern Shore. Everyone is invited. It's a potluck, musicians are welcome, it will go from 10 AM till people are 'done. '

Larry Yermack had two 'public service' announcements: we have sometimes been slack on chapel service attendance; we can accommodate more people in the chapel - so please come. Also: Larry asked for pictures and he has put images in a digital frame. It's loaded with 435 images of All Star One. If you buy a raffle ticket for \$5, you can win that digital frame. If you buy three tickets, you get a chance to get the show in a digital frame, and he'll give you a copy of all the images.

Steve Skrovan will be appearing at the next SIC Starry Night event. Come!

Annie Lenox made glass bracelets which she will make available for a contribution to the Annual Fund. Please buy!

Scotty asked members of the Executive Committee to stand. We are all deeply appreciative of Tricia's leadership and applauded her!

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 PM.

- Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Weiner Soule, Secretary