

2020 SIC Update for the All Star I Governing Council Fall Meeting

- 2020 has been a year of exceptional challenges for the Star Island Corporation, for our conference leadership, for our conferees and for our employees. It was difficult and heartbreaking as we worked through the evolving situation that we encountered in the spring, and the decision to close for the 2020 season was primarily informed by overwhelming concern for the health and safety of our Star Island family. It has been especially gratifying, however, to work with the team of dedicated staff and volunteers who have come forth and contributed their time and skill towards planning and executing our response to these unprecedented circumstances. It has been a time where we have all pulled together, worked together, and been privileged to do the good work to support the Island we love.
- Our original FY2020 budget included 21,000 bed nights, Annual Fund revenue of \$555,000, and projected a net income of \$202,699. In June 2020, the Board approved a revised budget, with 0 bed nights, Annual Fund revenue of \$800,000 and projecting a net income loss of (\$762,878).
- Our FY2020 Capital Budget was revised from the original \$575,540 to \$411,039.
- The devastating loss of income for FY2020 has been tempered through the receipt of loans and grants from several programs, including:
 - \$300,000 loan from the Federal Small Business Association Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). This program was designed to help us keep our employees on payroll throughout this crisis. It is expected that we will be approved to have this loan forgiven.
 - \$547,101 grant from the NH Nonprofit Emergency Relief Fund (NERF). The funding for this program comes from the \$1.25 billion in federal Coronavirus Relief Funds awarded to the State of New Hampshire as part of the CARES Act (of which \$60 million was allocated for NH nonprofits). The program was designed to help reimburse expenditures and losses organizations have suffered due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 - Our current projected net income loss after the receipt of the NERF grant is (\$153,687).
- Our Star Island community has responded to the challenges faced by their Spirit's Home through increases in giving. 559 Shoalers donated a total of \$232,000 in room & board deposits and conference registration fees to the Annual Fund. Returning donors have increased their contributions on average by 33%, and hundreds of new donors have contributed this year. As of August 31, we received gifts from 1,264 different donors, including 300 new donors.
- During the season, a small caretaking and security workforce was in place on the Island, both watching over our Spirit's Home and getting some work done. Strict health & safety protocols were established and observed, with approximately 10 residential workers/employees on the island at any moment and 5 "day employees" (contractors) in May/June. Significant work was accomplished, including work on the Brookfield/Rutledge Marine Lab; new sludge drying beds; finishing up some work on the new wastewater treatment/water reclamation facility; adding a "winter" wastewater solution; replacing roofs; and repairing the chapel steeple with the refurbished wind vane.

- Off island, conference leadership and SIC staff worked to provide innovative online programming, which was enjoyed by many participants throughout the season. This was an exciting new opportunity for Star, as conferees were able to attend programs from both their own and other conferences, and our audience sometimes broadened to those who have never attended a conference. We expect this to be a lasting innovation, in one form or another, that will allow us to extend our programming beyond the Island and beyond the summer season.
- Many of our fellow All Star I family members provide leadership in the greater Star Community. This includes five SIC board members: Mary Trudeau, Jeff Loewer, Louise Williams, Tom Coleman and Patricia Coleman (ISA-UU President ex-officio). Additionally, we provide leadership and technical expertise on numerous staff and operating committees including the following: **Permanent Trust-** David Yermack (chair), Liz Erickson, Jeff Loewer (ex-officio); **Nominating-** Tricia Coleman; **Membership** – Caroline Quijada (chair), Nancy Wood, Marlene Smurzynski, Tom Coleman; **Personnel-** Marc Spisto; **Conference Services** - Mary Trudeau; **Finance** – Jeff Loewer (chair), Bill Peterson; **Committee on Appointments** – Tom Coleman **Strategic Facilities** – Dick Case (chair), Tom Coleman; **Fund Development** – Caroline Stewart; **Rutledge Marine Lab** – Bill Gimpel, Katie Martell, Cyndy Parr; **Island Heritage and Artifacts** – Adam Osgood (chair), Sarah Mills, Lois Williams; **Council of Conferences** – Louise Williams; **Crisis Response Team** – this ad hoc group formed in March 2020 to mobilize the talent in our community to assist staff in addressing the pandemic crisis includes Louise Williams, Tom Coleman, Jeff Loewer, David Yermack (Finance Subgroup), Marlene Smurzynski (Health Subgroup).
- 2021 will likely greet us with even more uncertainty than 2020 did. We face a myriad of challenges as a community, including racial injustice, climate change, political division, and pandemics. Our job in support of the Star Island Corporation is to continue to make reasonable, fact-based decisions, maintain the trust of our fellow Shoalers, and ensure the long-term sustainability of Star. We thank you for your support, the contribution of your time, talent, and treasure, and most of all, for your love of our spirit's home.

Jeff Loewer
Board Treasurer, Star Island Corporation
September 2020