

**Town of La Pointe
Community Awards Committee
March 3, 2016**

Members present: Elizabeth Ellis, Chair; Glenn Carlson, Suellen Soucek and Gary Rieman by speaker phone.

Members absent:

Town Staff present:

Public present:

1. Call to order.

The Community Awards Committee meeting called to order by Elizabeth Ellis, Chair at 4:01pm on March 3, 2016 at the Town Hall. A quorum of the committee is present as reflected in the members listed above.

2. Public Comment.

No comment.

3. Minutes of the following meetings to be considered for approval:

A. November 30, 2015

Motion by Glenn to approve the November 30, 2016 Community Awards Committee minutes as presented. Second, Suellen. All in favor, all aye, motion carried.

4. December 2015 Awards Reception.

The award reception went very well. Lots of pictures taken. The timing was off as the Town meeting ended early so people had to wait until some of the recipients showed up at the agreed time of 6:00pm. Next year it might be better to have everyone here at 5:30pm.

Having the cake/coffee in the office area and the presentation in the Town Board meeting room worked very well. If the table in the meeting room could have been moved that would have allowed for more space, but it worked.

Everyone loved the carrot cake, the flower and plaques. Very nice presentation. About 35-40 people attended, some from the mainland. There was a special boat at 7:30 which worked well. All in all, it was great!

5. March Gazette article.

Elizabeth will write a Gazette article about how the awards process works, where to find the application and the application criteria. The awards presentation was front page in the Gazette and the article also appeared in The Ashland Daily Press.

6. Community Awards Committee By-Laws Review.

Now that the committee has gone through the process agreement by all that the by-laws need to be simplified.

Suellen and Elizabeth's terms will be ending the end of May. According to the by-laws Elizabeth will not be able to serve as chair again. To be noted the committee is to be composed of seven members so recruitment needs to be included in the article in the Gazette. Committee members will also think of people who would be interested in serving on this committee.

Glenn will simplify the bylaws. Committee members will email their suggestions to Glenn in the next two weeks. The Chair requirement needs to be removed. Agreement to have the simplified by-laws ready to go before the Town Board for approval this May.

7. How can we recognize people for important first steps to offer exemplary community service.

Gary said when he read about the Town presenting community awards the purpose was to foster more people to become involved as volunteers in the life of the community. To that end Gary thinks it would be helpful if, from time to time, people were recognized for things they do right now. There is such a program in Tucson called Ben's Bells in honor of a child by the name of Ben who was killed in an unfortunate accident. The family set up small fund to honor people who did things in the community such as saving a life in an unusual circumstance. The people were presented with a bell that could be hung on a Christmas tree or otherwise displayed. People on the Island who are making a contribution, if not for the first time but for a contribution early in their life on Madeline Island could be the recipient of such awards. These awards would be added to the present Community Appreciation and Hall of Fame awards. Gary will email Elizabeth the Tucson application so the committee can discuss.

Glenn said the thought was the Community Appreciation Award was for the past year and the Hall of Fame Award was a lifetime achievement award. If the committee is discussing changing the by-laws we can refine or add a new category. Suellen said we could let everyone know about this new category which would be awards for people who saved a dog, kept kids from drowning, community recognition for good deeds of any kind. Elizabeth said this would be like acts of kindness. Thank you Gary!

7. Independence Day Ceremony.

Glenn will start on getting the plaques and/or letters from elected officials and see if the elected officials could present the plaques at the Fourth of July ceremony. Glenn will also talk to the Chamber about the 4th of July and getting the recipients on the program. Will also see if elected officials could present the plaques. Suellen suggested that the recipients of the good deed awards could be present as a group and recognized at the next year's Fourth of July award ceremony. Gary suggested that those receiving the Roll of Honor should be recognized at the 4th of July ceremony rather than at the winter presentation as most would be off-Island. Suellen suggested that their names be read after the Star Spangled Banner. Glenn will talk to the Chamber about honoring the military.

8. Set Next Meeting Date and Agenda.

The next meeting will be held early April.

9. Adjourn.

Motion by Glenn to adjourn, second, Suellen, all in favor, all aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:30pm.

Minutes taken from recorder and respectfully submitted by Kathy Erickson, Clerical Assistant
Minutes approved as presented April 21, 2016