

**2024 Annual SLI Property Owners' Meeting
July 27, 2024 – Epworth Hall**

Opening Prayer: Tom Kraft

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of Trustees and Audience Members

Kevin Colburn (President), Kris Schultz (Vice President), Jill Knitter (Treasurer - Absent), Peggy Phillips (Secretary), Colleen Christmann, Bob Cook, Julie Hoffer, Brad Huber, Tom Kraft, Jim Kwiatkowski (Absent), Jeanne Owens, Bill Schaefer

Review of 2023 and June 20, 2024 Financial Statements – Kevin Colburn

- Profit & Loss Statements were provided as handouts to attendees
- A copy can be found in the office and the SLI website www.silverlakeinstitute.org
- December 2023 – highlighted revenue of back taxes
- Kevin touched upon the \$112K spent on Epworth's new roof. \$100K grant awarded but not released as it is still caught up in politics.
- Explanation of the raise of taxes in the past few years. Three drivers include general liability insurance, budget for tree removal, and road paving.
- First six months of 2024 included a new French drain. Not yet reimbursed.
- Cash balances:

General	\$100,120.60
SLE	31,818.78
Rental	8,004.77
Reserve	1,162.31
Epworth	<u>51.00</u>
Total	\$141,157.46

Review of Investments – Kevin Colburn

- One of the two investments have been liquidated
- 1.9% increase

***Motion to approve finances: Bill Schaefer
Second: Colleen Christmann • All Approved***

Introduction and Vote of 2024 Trustee Candidates - Julie Hoffner

To be a Trustee of the Silver Lake Institute, one must meet the qualifications that are set forth in the by-laws. This list includes:

- A. Property/Cottage ownership
- B. A willingness to be involved in the activities of the SLI Community and the Board of Trustees
- C. An ability to get involved with other members of the Board, the committees, and the residents
- D. A willingness to represent all members of the SLI Community in decision-making

There are four 3-year terms that are up for election this year. Three of the positions were held by trustees who wish to be considered for another three-year term. For the other position, the committee discussed possible candidates in regard to the qualifications and have chosen our nominee for the position.

The Nominating Committee has prepared the following slate of candidates for your consideration and vote for the Board of Trustees. Nominees are Jeanne Owens, Bill Schaefer, Kris Schultz, Aaron McConnell.

- The four nominees introduced themselves
- No nominations from the floor
- One ballot cast

Motion to approve single ballot: Julie Hoffner

Second: Kris Schultz • All Approved

Silver Lake Experience – Kathy Schaefer

This coming Thursday, Friday, and Saturday will be our 5th Silver Lake Experience. Our first was in 2015. It was a collaboration between SLI and Asbury Retreat Center. For those of you who are new, SLE is a three-day mini Chautauqua. A bit of history – SLI actually started the Chautauqua movement in the late 1800's.

The SLE team consists of a planning committee, volunteer committee, logistics committee, registration committee, publicity committee and a huge, huge group of

volunteers. Almost all of us – 99% are retired. SLE consists of speakers, workshops, field trips, and entertainment.

As we have done in the past, we have made every effort to minimize any intrusion into SLI residents' daily lives. Our workshops will be in our three historic buildings, and sometimes the paddleball court and gazebo. We will also have workshops at Asbury Retreat Center. Our evening concerts here in Epworth will end at 8:30pm and there will also be a few guided tours. We want to thank you for your patience. And I've been told you can still register and/or buy tickets for the concerts – all SLI residents receive a \$5 discount for each day. For those of you registered, we hope you have an enjoyable "experience".

Rules Enforcement – Tom Kraft

- History of rules enforcement
- Brief history of where we came from. Two institutes are chartered in New York State. Rules were enforced by the church. 1950's – divided into residential and camp. Even though the church representatives had half the vote, they wanted out. SLI was reinvented and rediscovered.
- What are the right rules? Three years were spent to review and update rules. Trustees are elected and trustees make the rules. Deed restricted community means to agree to abide by the rules of the community, similar to a municipality. Rules are given to each resident then efforts are made to enforce these rules. Fines are \$25/day to help change attitudes to remain a loving, caring, friendly community.

Grants – Kevin Colburn

- Introduction of grant committee and sharing of several grants that SLI has received and what they have been used for.

Recently we have made incredible progress in securing grant funding at the Institute. As such, I am thrilled to share the fruits of our labor are now approaching nearly half a million dollars in grant revenue. This achievement has enabled us to undertake significant projects that preserve and enhance our historic buildings. Here are the key updates:

These grants represent a massive financial boost, allowing us to carry out essential preservation and improvement projects. Although most of these grants require a 20% match, they have enabled us to leverage our investments to gain a much larger return, ensuring our community spaces are preserved and enhanced

effectively. In fact, in this most recent round, our match was met entirely by volunteer labor, instead of cash. Thank you to all those who offset those costs with sweat equity.

This work would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of the SLI Grants Committee and others, the Board is immensely thankful for their outstanding work. We thank our residents for continued support and patience as we navigate the funding process and work on these projects. We will keep you updated on any further developments.

- Explanation of how most grants work – matching, volunteer hours, etc.

Concerns of Attendees

- Pam Kelly – thank you for all the flowers throughout SLI and around Burt Park
- Thank you to Peggy Phillips for her three-year term and Executive Committee Secretary position
- Jackie Kraft – recognizing Bill & Kathy Schaefer for their contributions. Things need to be done to remain a 501C3 which was applied for – community efforts such as SLE, program events
- Diane Wetjen – thank you Brad Huber for your work on the trellis and stair work in the greenway between Park and Perry - in the process of repurposing an old sign and also for the window workshops done to refurbish the windows in Epworth
- Peggy Phillips – thank you Steve Re who built the horseshoe pits. The pits are covered by mesh for protection. Remove mesh before using. Suggested a possible horseshoe tournament.
- Kathy Schaefer – thank you to Suzanne Bristow, Larry Beeman and Joan Madison for organizing the Celebration of Life
- Tracey Brewster – addressed the feral cat problem. Mary Rice, Steve Re, and Peggy Phillips have been capturing feral cats with Castile SOCKs to “fix” them. This happens in spring through summer, but cats need to be released back into our neighborhood. Jerry Kelly thanked Peggy and Mary Rice who caught most of the cats on the north end of SLI.
- Suzanne Bristow – asked about skunk issue. NYS states that skunk can be trapped and killed. Discussion of weapon discharge ensued.
- Peggy Phillips - Artisan show today from 1:00pm to 5:00pm at Epworth

Motion to adjourn: Kevin Colburn • Second: Kris Schultz • All Approved