



**The 2020 Annual Report
of the
Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands, Inc.**



Table of Contents

A Message from our President	3
Our Framework.....	4
Our Mission.....	4
Our Vision	4
Our Core Values	4
A Special Donor Thank You!	5
Financial Report	6
Historic Preservation.....	8
Membership	12
Strategic Planning	13
2021 Board of Directors	14

A Message from our President

Hello Friends

In a recent discussion with friends, we reminisced where we were just one year ago ... we had heard about a strange virus that was infecting folks in China. Then, just one month later that strange virus had a name; Coronavirus or COVID-19. Toilet paper flew off the shelves (which I still think is quite weird) and we were sent home to work remotely and wait this thing out. One year later, we are still working from home, businesses have closed, folks have lost their jobs, we are wearing masks at the grocery store and we have learned to Zoom.

On the Plum Island, we cancelled all workday, special events and outreach events (Canoecopia, Door County Wooden Boat Festival, Washington Island Fair, Death's Door BBQ, etc.) cancelled. We made the tough decision to cancel the event that many of you looked forward to - the Sunset Cruise.

But COVID has not hampered the work that we are doing on the islands! Once we figured out how to best use Zoom's features and functionality, we began holding our monthly UPDATES and team meetings virtually. We successfully hosted our annual membership meeting via Zoom and were able to 'see' many of you – thank you for attending!

From the comfort of our cozy homes, we have continued to do the necessary planning for restoration projects that your donations so kindly continue to support – **thank you!**

We were asked to submit a grant proposal to the *David L. and Rita E. Nelson Family Fund*, a donor advised fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region and were awarded **\$200,000** for restoration projects on the Plum Island front and rear range lights. Early in the season work will begin to abate the lead paint and repaint the front range light (the little one) and restore the rear range light's watch tower.

Last year we had planned a workshop to learn how to restore the historic windows on the Life Saving Station (and other buildings) by the National Park Service (NPS). Unfortunately, this workshop was cancelled along with the additional funding. However, NPS did offer to do the lead paint abatement, repair, and prime coat the windows. We will have a painting party at the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge in July to finish coat the windows (and you are invited!). Thanks to the kind folks of 'The Foundation' (a local foundation that wishes to remain anonymous), the **\$50,000** that they pledged to this project is still available, so we will begin small and continue to fundraise for window restoration.

Either before the birds return to Pilot Island, or after they have fledged, we will be working with a contractor to add gutters and downspouts to the historic lighthouse. This should significantly reduce the spalling that has been occurring on the Cream City Brick facade. The same contractor will also replace the summer kitchen's metal roof.

We have a busy season to look forward to and hope to host workday and special events on Plum Island. Until we can meet again in person – stay safe, stay close to nature, and stay strong.

Mary Beth Volmer
President – Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands

Our Framework

The Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands has grown and achieved success through the support of our members, donors, and supporters. Our business framework is built upon the foundation of our Mission, Vision and Core Values.

Our Mission

The mission of the Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands is to partner with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to support the preservation, restoration, maintenance, and contemporary use of the historic resources on Plum and Pilot Islands, and to conserve and protect wildlife resources, while providing opportunities for quality wildlife-dependent recreation.

Our Vision

Preserving the memories of those who came before us.

Our Core Values

1. We believe that preserving and restoring the historic maritime structures on Plum and Pilot Islands is important to Door County to preserve this community's culture and heritage.
2. We support US Fish & Wildlife's BIG SIX priority public uses: Hunting, Fishing, Wildlife Photography, Wildlife Observation, Environmental Interpretation and Environmental Education.
3. We believe that volunteering is important to improve community life, to give back, to learn, to get connected to other people, and to enhance the human spirit of giving.
4. We believe it is vital to sustain the unique ecosystem of the island through conservation and educational efforts.
5. We value our members, donors and volunteers and strive to use these resources responsibly.



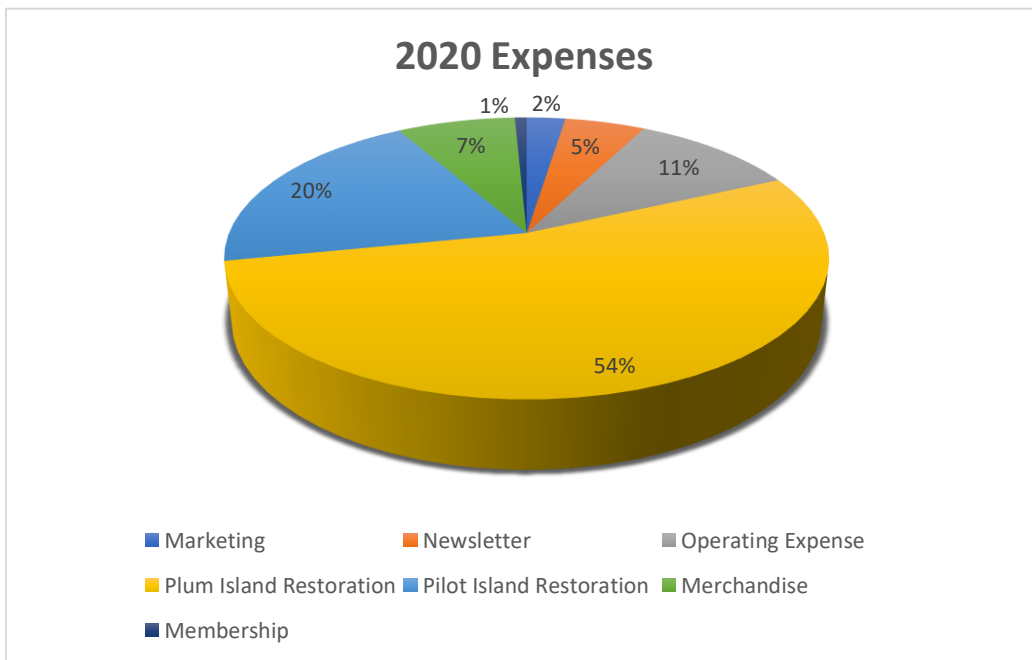
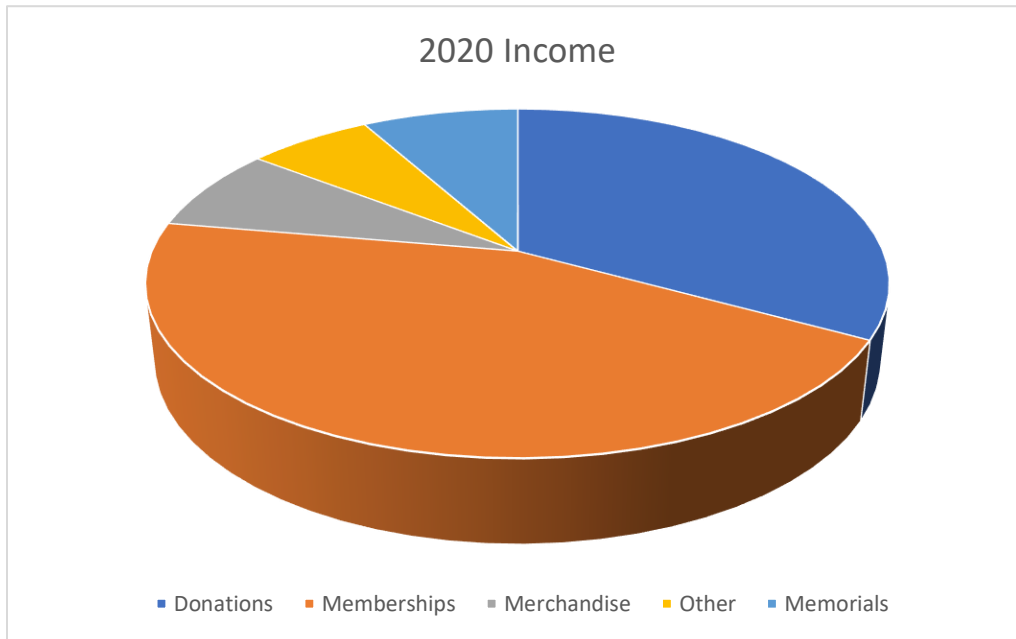
A Special Donor Thank You!

As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization we can only accomplish the things that you will read about in this report through the continued generous support of our Friends members, volunteers, foundations, donors and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). We deeply appreciate the support we receive. Your support directly allows us to achieve our mission of supporting the Green Bay National Wildlife Refuge (GBNWR). This has been a year like no other.

Carson Mettel • John & Joni Pagel • Tom & Judy Vonck • Frank & Jan Forkert • John & Elizabeth Ward • The Benevity Community Interest Fund • Bill & Jo Guenzel • Paul Schumacher & Deb Logerquist • Elizabeth Kohl • William & Nancy Carpenter • Bonita Swan • Dan & Beth Nilsson • George D. Smith • Bob & Janet Lordahl • Dana & Elaine Hilmer • Kenn Falk • Susie Sundblom • Steven Hintz • William and Cheryl Surbaugh • Door County Community Foundation • Allan D. King • Jeb Scherb • Dustan Hoffmann Friends • Karen Tews • Tom & Judy Vonck • Donald & Nancy Whiteman • Ken Buchholz • Arthur Gibson • Twin Cities United Way • Steve & Laretta Lambert • Thomas Biermann • Frank & Christy Christensen • Gerald F Harris • Paulette Patti • Archie & Kathe Budzak • Jeffery Nordholm • Margaret Klose • The Beaty Family Foundation • Tim Sweet • William Bell • Laurel Braatz & Tim Feist • Sandy and Ed Miller • Merlin & Carol Lang • Deborah and Ryan Wubben • Thrivent Financial • Chris Fleming • Jackson Harbor Soup • William Bell • Mary Beth Volmer • Carl Zapffe • Lynn Passino • Alfred & Grace Ann Carpenter • Ralph & Elaine McRitchie • Washington Island Women's Club • Virginia & Paul Prusik

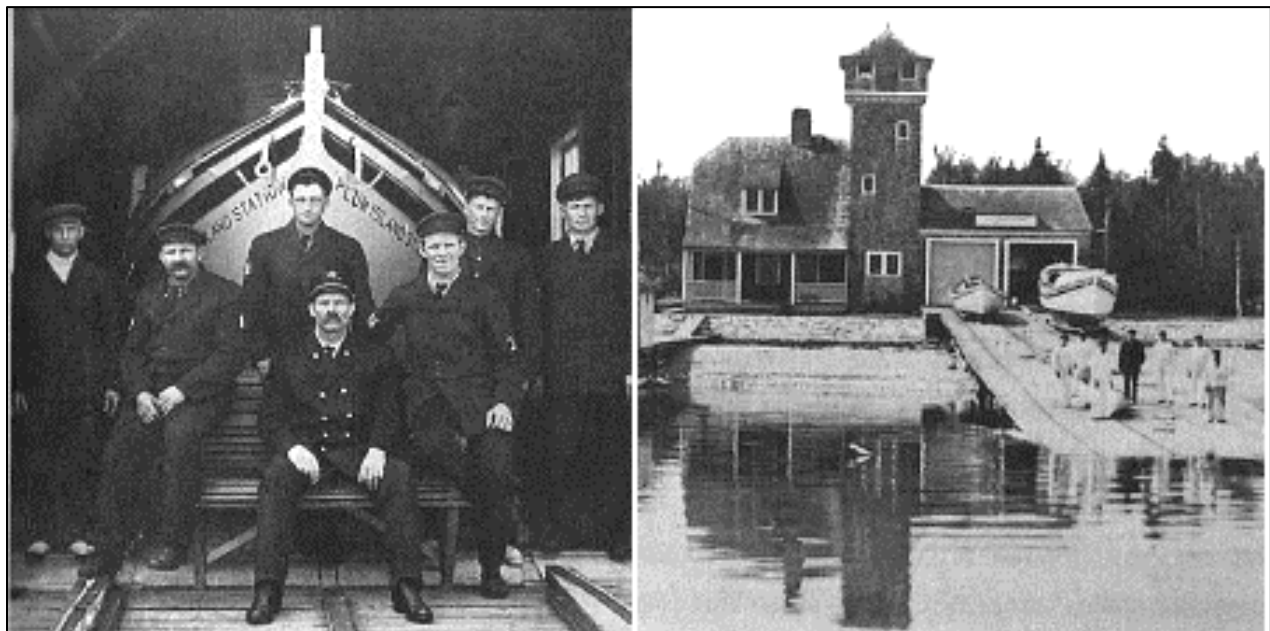


Financial Report



2021 Budget:

		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Total Jan-Dec
	Balance Forward	101,184.95				101,184.95
Income	Contributions	202,029.00	2,029.00	3,179.00	2,929.00	210,166.00
	Memberships	2,000.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	9,500.00
	Merchandise	200.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	1,700.00
	Fundraising	-	-	100.00	-	100.00
	Gross Profit	305,413.95	4,029.00	6,779.00	6,429.00	322,650.95
Expense	Marketing	180.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	480.00
	Merchandise	1,000.00	250.00	-	-	1,250.00
	WiP Expense	-	750.00	-	-	750.00
	Newsletter	325.00	325.00	325.00	325.00	1,300.00
	Insurance	-	-	-	908.00	908.00
	Operating Expense	60.00	60.00	215.00	145.00	480.00
	Restoration	-	58,469.04	212,536.95	-	271,005.99
	Memberships	-	40.00	-	135.00	175.00
	Other Expenses	10.00	-	60.00	-	70.00
	Fees & Charges	250.00	-	-	20.00	270.00
	Total Expense	1,825.00	59,994.04	213,236.95	1,633.00	276,688.99
		303,588.95	(55,965.04)	(206,457.95)	4,796.00	45,961.96



Historic Preservation

One of our strategic planning initiatives is to better align our goals with those of USFWS. We worked together to develop the following workflow to assure that we are all singing from the same hymnal:



In 2020 we were not able to complete any of the projects that we had planned for, but we certainly did a great deal of planning! Following is a list of things for you to look forward to when you visit the refuge in 2021:

- Pilot Island Lighthouse Gutters and Downspouts:
 - The contract has been awarded to **Moore Quality Exteriors** of Sheboygan Wisconsin.
 - Chad and his team have already extruded the gutters and stored them in the Plum Island boathouse for installation. This company worked with in 2019 on the LSS gutters.
 - Installation of the gutters and downspouts will redirect the water running from the roof and prevent future spalling of the Cream City brick.
- Pilot Island Summer Kitchen Roof Restoration:
 - The contract has been awarded to **Moore Quality Exteriors** of Sheboygan Wisconsin

Both projects will be done either before the birds arrive on the island from their winter migration or after they have fledged, depending on weather conditions. The funding for both of these projects comes from private donations.

- Plum Island Boathouse Boat Bay Doors Restoration:
 - The high lake-level produced ice shoves that damaged the boat bay doors. USFWS boarded up the broken doors and placed barriers to protect over the 2020-2021 winter. So far, the Washington Island Ferry crew have not sited additional damage.
 - We worked with a local master carpenter to get the door sections re-manufactured.
 - Two of the doors have been completed and the outside facing has been painted; volunteers will paint the inside this summer
 - The carpenter is awaiting lumber availability to complete the third door.
 - The funding for this project comes from private donations.
- Plum Island Fog Signal Building Roof:
 - The contract has been awarded to **Chewy and Teo Roofing and Siding** of Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin.
 - Chewy and Teo have worked with us to re-roof the Lighthouse Keepers Dwelling (LKD) and have done considerable maintenance work on the LKD and LSS shingles to account for the adverse weather conditions on the island.
 - We are currently sourcing funding for this project.
- Plum Island Front and Rear Range Lights:
 - We were awarded a \$200,000 grant from the *David L. and Rita E. Nelson Family Fund*, a donor advised fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region.
 - This grant provides us the needed funding to:
 - Perform lead paint abatement and painting of the Front Range Light
 - Restoration of the Lantern Room on the Rear Range Light (interior and exterior painting plus new glass)
 - Restoration of the Watch Deck/Watch Room level (interior and exterior painting)
 - The contract for this work was awarded to **Mihm Enterprises** of Hamilton, Michigan, a Great Lakes renown lighthouse restoration firm.
 - Work is planned to begin in May.
- Historic Windows:
 - Due to the COVID shutdown, we were not able to hold our restoration workshop with the National Park Service (NPS) and lost the USFWS additional funding.
 - However, NPS worked with us to lead abate and restore the windows that we sent to them: North – 19, East – 14, South – 16, West – 12
 - The windows will be shipped to the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge in July. A volunteer crew will finish painting them in a socially distanced setting.
 - We have decided to begin with the watch tower windows first, as these will be the most difficult to reach. We are working on statement of work documentation to present to potential contractors in May for bidding.
 - Funding for this project comes for the \$50,000 grant awarded to us by a local philanthropic organization that wished their name to remain anonymous.



Plum Island Life-Saving Station
Crew Quarters Window Survey, June 2019

- Based on historic window opening location in wall, historical window
- Historic window
- Replace with new, fabricated window



Plum Island Life-Saving Station
Crew Quarters Window Survey, June 2019

- Based on historic window opening location in wall, historical window
- Historic window
- Replace with new, fabricated window (includes IIC)



Plum Island Life-Saving Station
Crew Quarters Window Survey, June 2019

- Restore window
- Replace with new, fabricated window

5



Plum Island Life-Saving Station
Crew Quarters Window Survey, June 2019

- Restore window
- Replace with new, fabricated window (includes IIC)

We have worked with USFWS to develop a 5-year plan for Historic Preservation for planning and scheduling purposes. The plan is subject to revisions based upon money and approvals.

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Plum	Repair sidewalk around LSS Crew Quarters (U)			Design for LSS Sidewalks/Vault Toilet/Water (U)	Construct LSS Vault Toilet /Sidewalks/ Water (U)
	Engineering for Breakwater and Catwalk (U)	Restore Breakwater and Catwalk (U)			
Fog Signal	New Roof/Cupola (F)		Paint/Repair Brick Exterior (Lead Paint?) (F)		
Keepers House	Finish Trim, Shingles (F)	Exterior Masonry (U)	Windows/Doors (U & F)		Contamination Clean-up, Interior (U)
Rear RL	Paint/Repair (Lead Paint) (F)	Paint/Repair Substructure (F)			
Front RL	Paint/Repair (Lead Paint) (F)	Clean up contaminated soil underneath (U)			
LSS Crew Quarters	Finish Shingle issues (F)	Historic Furnishings Report (U & F), Fundraising Agreement (U & F), Capital Campaign? (F)	Capital Campaign continued (F), 100 % Interior renovation plans (F), O&M Plan (U)	Restore Interior, Day Use (F), Cooperative Agreement for O&M Plan (U)	FOPPI operates Plum Island buildings under O&M Plan?? (F)
	Windows, Doors and Porches, Part I (U & F)	Windows, Doors and Porches, Part II (U & F)			
Paint House					
Boathouse	Protect and Repair Boat Doors (F)	Repair/Paint Interior and Exterior (F)	Windows/Doors (U & F)	New Roof and Footings (U)	
Pilot	Dock Fix?				
Fog Signal	salvage bricks	salvage bricks			
Lighthouse	Temp. Gutters/ Kitchen Roof replace (F)	Exterior Masonry/ Wood Repair/Period Gutters (F)	Windows/Doors/ Porches (F)	Roof Replace?	

(F) = FOPPI (U) = USFWS (C) = Coast Guard

Membership

What does it mean to be a Friend of Plum and Pilot Islands (FOPPI)? Individual members and supporters of FOPPI are the very foundation on which our organization is built upon to pursue FOPPI’s mission, “to partner with the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) to support the preservation, restoration maintenance and contemporary use of the historic resource on Plum and Pilot Islands, and to conserve and protect wildlife resources, while providing opportunities for quality wildlife-dependent recreation.”

In 2020, our members contributed 2,123 volunteer hours (\$15,400.00 at the current Wisconsin minimum wage) to help meet the goals of FOPPI and USFWS; amazing, considering it was an ‘off island’ season! Grants were written, newsletters produced, blogs were posted to our website, donations made, memberships renewed, restoration plans, and contracts created, a virtual picnic held, and the board advanced its efforts to strengthen our *Pillars of Success* strategic planning process. Before the ‘on island’ workdays were cancelled, every volunteer spot for the entire season was filled. **FOPPI has great Friends indeed!**

Our membership stands at 227, with various membership categories:

Category	Number	Category	Number
Individual	73	Family	72
Keeper	47	Lifetime	47
Patron	3	Honorary	3

This chart shows the year that our existing members joined and have continued to renew their memberships	
Year	Number of Members
2007	1 (Washington Island Ferry Line)
2008	12
2009	26
2010	18
2011	13
2012	9
2013	11
2014	10
2015	9
2016	21
2017	19
2018	16
2019	22
2020	19
No year recorded (honorary members)	3
No year recorded (lifetime members)	18

As always, we look to grow our Friends membership in 2021 and provide a memorable experience for our members. If there are ideas that would enhance your experience as a friend, let us know!

Sincerely,

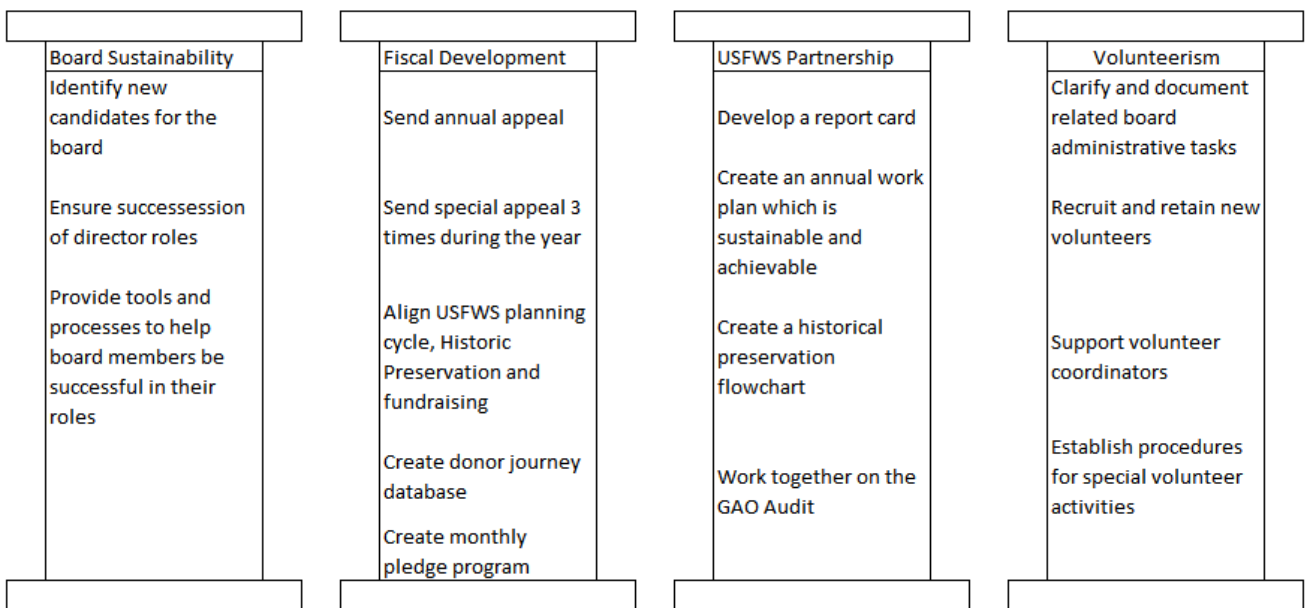
Sally Dery
Membership Team Chair

Strategic Planning

We implemented the *Pillars for Success* strategic planning formula after our 2018-2019 USFWS Mentor program. The *Pillars for Success* provides us with a roadmap that establishes clarity and direction toward the future. The 'pillars' break our plan down into manageable initiatives and

1. Provide us with clear direction so we can reach where we are going
2. Help us prioritize so that we are doing the right things at the right time
3. Help us create a clear plan for the rest of the team

As we were unable to implement any of the objectives that we had set in our 2020 *Pillars for Success* strategic planning program, we continued with the same four pillars in 2021: Board Sustainability, Fiscal Development (aka fundraising), USFWS Partnership and Volunteerism.



We saw great success in 2019 and feel confident that we will see the same success in 2021!

Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands Inc.
2021 Board of Directors

President: Mary Beth Volmer

Treasurer: Amy Lesnjak

Secretary: Karen Ellery

Board of Members:

Mike Brodd

Lew Clarke

Amanda Danforth

Sally Dery

Matt Foss

Steven Hintz

Jude Kuenn

John Sawyer

Paul Schumacher

Jim Schwartz

Gary Wilson

Patti Zarling

Emeritus Directors:

Frank Forkert

Eric Greenfeldt

Hoyt Purinton

Scott Nelson

Tim Sweet

Gordon Vieth



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