

Light Station Committee Minutes

September 24, 2026

Members Present: Ed Bacon, Doug Carmichael, Ken Smith, Ashley Rossiter, Rachel Rolerson-Smith

Members Absent: Yvette Reid, Michael Clayton, Catherine Demchur-Merry

Chairman Ed Bacon opened the meeting at 4:05 and determined a quorum was present. The minutes of the August 27, 2026 were unanimously approved.

Clayton Builders will install the much needed new screen door on the museum. Michael Clayton has been talking to Brothers in Arms (James Nelson) about repairs to the deteriorating cement/rebar Annex wall which was cited by the MMA Risk Management representative as a safety hazard.

Ed Bacon gifted two GPLS slates to Franklin Beard and his son.

Gift Shop: In the month of September, 2026 we lost \$643 in sales, due to the town's Finance Director's decision disallowing the use of Square (credit cards).

Non-Profit: The committee voted unanimously to continue pursuing non-profit status under 501-C3. Doug Carmichael offered to serve on the non-profit committee. Federal law requires members of a non-profit 501-C3 to be different from members of the GPLS Committee. "Friends of GPLS" will be the name of the non-profit.

Museum Guests

Coral Brewer and the Otter Tree home schooled group from Belfast will visit the museum and grounds on October 7th. Ashley will provide a tour of the Light Station.

Two well known schools, Columbia University and the University of Pennsylvania will be conducting a joint research project along with the American Lighthouse Foundation, Maine Preservation and World Monument Fund. They will examine how climate impacts are adversely affecting Maine's sixty-six historic light stations from both macro and micro perspectives. Leading the academic side of the collaboration are Dr. Erica Avram and Dr. Randy Mason, professors of historic preservation, urban planning, and landscape architecture. The University of Pennsylvania graduate students led by Dr. Mason will visit Grindle Point Light Station on October 5th and Columbia University's students on October 16th. A final report will be published in 2027. Ed, Ken, Ashley, Catherine, and Rachel will be available to answer questions and provide guided tours.

A special thank you to Bob and Annmarie Trapani from the American Lighthouse Foundation for keeping light stations in the public eye.

The appeal letter will be discussed at the next meeting on October 22, 2026 at 4:00 pm at the Town Office conference room.

Submitted by
Rachel Rolerson-Smith,
Secretary pro tem