

## **Skyspace Committee**

### **Report to Monthly Meeting, September 2018**

Approaching our 5th anniversary of opening the James Turrell Skyspace, our committee has hosted over 12,000 visitors to enjoy the Skyspace experience. We have a strong and dedicated committee whose members regularly volunteer to open the roof and welcome visitors from all over the world. We mourn the loss of our dedicated volunteer Peter Borowiec and are working with the meeting to hold an appropriate way to memorialize his contributions to the Skyspace and to the larger CHFMeeting community.

We started 2018 with a well-attended winter lecture and slideshow by Diane Burko whose flights with James Turrell over Arizona early in both of their careers influenced her art work. Her subsequent paintings chronicle glacier melts and other evidence of climate change around the world.

The year was marked by continual bad weather that meant showing the closed loop instead of opening the roof. However, at times we were able to open, we have enjoyed robust attendance.

We have also hosted several musical performances in the space by groups which are attracted by the acoustics and the relationship with Turrell's artwork. Half of the donations we receive from our visitors go to the meeting's general budget. The other half go to an endowment fund to cover Skyspace maintenance and repairs.

Behind the scenes, we are scheduling a fall maintenance visit from Lipart, the company which installed the retractable roof. James Turrell recommends we do that annually and more often when we have had deep freezing weather.

We are still waiting for a "Gray Book" which is the operating manual from James Turrell for the piece. We expect that later this fall.

Earlier this summer James Turrell suffered a severe heart attack. He has improved enough to start traveling again. We ask that the meeting approve sending him a card from CHF on the fifth anniversary of the Skyspace opening thanking him for giving us the design for Skyspace and wishing him good health in the years to come.

Our dedicated volunteers are: Phil Jones, Bill McCall, Alison Marzuoli, Martha Rose, Heidi Heller, Jessika Romolona, George Benz, Bob Reynolds, Betsy Robertson, Vera Krymskaya and Mark Kempner.

Signe Wilkinson, clerk