

The Port Norris Historical Society
General Meeting January 14, 2020

Attending: A. Baum, E. Bernhardt, R. Berry, V. Campbell, R. Cobb, G. Guidera, F. Hickman, J. Hickman, L. Hoffman, M.L. Lacotte, J. Massey, M. Moore, L. Reeves, S. Ricci, , D. Smith, P. Smith, R. Smith.

Meeting was called to order by President, Rachel Cobb.

Review of Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Joyce M., seconded by Gloria G., with an unanimous vote to approve the minutes as e-mailed.

Treasurer's Report: Faye H. distributed the December 2019 monthly report and noted the voided check was from December 2018 (Family Success Center - Inspira). A new check was issued to The Commercial Township Senior Center with the donated money collected last year. The itemized treasurer's report of both receipts and disbursements included a breakdown of donations and membership monies received. Disbursements included donation to the Vineland Historical Society, utilities payments, and payment to Cumberland Fire Protection.

In addition, she shared/ discussed the 2019 yearly report of both the checking and Capital Fund accounts. Rachel stated that the renewal fee for our website was paid today and the Delaware Bay Watermen's Memorial website fee is due today. A motion was made by Dick S. and seconded by Eileen B. to accept the Treasurer's report as presented; vote was unanimous. A thank-you to Faye for all the efforts.

Donations: Collections - Mariea Moore donated a binder with a collection of photos, information, etc., from the early 1900's of Bivalve.

Correspondence: Alvina read notes from Carol Saul Gromer. A thank you from Cindy Tawles for the money collected and donated to the Commercial Township Senior Center. Mary Linda L. shared a copy of an email which is sent to general members as well as a flyer she emailed to the general membership informing the members of the newly revised adopted PN Historical Society Membership dues fees.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Ginny C. reminded all present of the time to renew membership and is also awaiting dues from the general membership. She discussed the coordination of the new incentives included in the current revised dues fees. It was stated the incentives are

for new members that join our organization. Also, Rachel C. explained the incentives will be issued only once to each member.

Writing Committee – Linda R. noted she continues to work on the story (biography) of the late Nelson W. Laning, former local funeral director.

Welcome Committee: Not aware of any one new moving into the community this month.

Collections – Dick (in Pat's absence): Acquisitions – Dick discussed the glass plate negatives he acquired from Billy Friswell. He passed around copies of the prints, asking anyone to note information on the back of the photos. Rachel showed the original glass negatives and re-photographed the plates and then had copies of the plates printed. Rachel passed around programs of Irving Hickman's father's PN High School senior class plays held upstairs in the K of P Hall donated by Joann Hickman. Liz displayed a plate from the Methodist Parsonage, a glass paperweight from the Baptist Church, and a program journals from Dan Adams. Edgar Friswell photographed the picture of the bank that we have.

General Business:

Insurance Review – Faye introduced the annual cost proposal. A discussion of the changes proposed to our existing policy were discussed. A decision will be made at a later date. Rachel recommended that a Budget committee and the Planning Committee schedule meetings to discuss the insurance proposal, a 5- year plan, and recommendations made to be presented at a meeting by early spring.

Seed Swap: Rachel discussed final details for the Seed Swap to be held on Saturday, February 8, 2020 beginning at 10:30 am ending at 12:30 pm. There will be (4) Master Gardeners to answer questions and provide information. Rachel has emailed (2) additional seed companies; she also has brochures from the Holly Society. She stated there is a lot of interest through Face Book. A table will be set-up for those seed packets from non-organic, non-heirloom, non-treated or unknown sources. Liz and Alvina will be at a table selling historical society items. For those attending but have no seeds, it was suggested to allow for (5) seed packets. If additional seed packets are desired, we will sell (2) seed packets per dollar. Bonus tickets (2) will be given to anyone bringing seeds of their own to swap. After the meeting, the seed packets will be given to the members to divide and repackage in small seed envelopes for the swap. Coffee and hot tea will be provided. Faye will bring extra cash; she also purchased an additional cash box at a yard sale.

Building: Dick S. discussed the location signs for donors of windows, as well as a plaque for Sam and Marie Cobb meeting room. Items for displaying in the room were part of the discussion. Linda R. informed the members of the ledgers she has which were used by Dan Adams and others to register the boats. The back room needs to be painted; the walls will be primed white; however, a decision must be made about the color.

Exhibits: Rachel presented suggestions that were made during an informal meeting with Ginny C., Gloria G., and Mary Linda L. to tentatively explore ideas for designing the exhibits, displaying items and finding the best locations for furniture, large items, and display units. Members in attendance discussed the suggestions. She explained the timeline presentations on the wall, and distributed timeline suggestion sheets of important moments in the town's history for members to take home, complete and return to the next meeting in February. These ideas will be useful in formulating a historical timeline of the Port Norris community to be displayed in the building. Linda R. will compose a statement as an introduction to the timeline. AccuPrint can do blow-ups of photos or images on thick boards to hang on walls. Also discussed were placing vinyl decals of town buildings and the name of the historical society on the inside of the front windows.

Other Comments and Concerns: There being none, the meeting was adjourned by Rachel Cobb, President.

Mary Linda Lacotte, Assistant Secretary