

The Port Norris Historical Society

General Meeting

January 8, 2019

Attending: V. Campbell, R. Cobb, F. Hickman, J. Hickman, L. Hoffman, M.L. Lacotte, J. Lacotte, J. Massey, S. Ricci., P. Smith, R. Smith.

Rachel shared information she just recently learned about her great-grandfather Keller who once lived in Bridgeton and moved to Chicago where he became a well-known photographer. Sam Cobb, Carole Robbins' grandfather, was also a photographer. She now has a connection from the past that relates to her interest in photography.

Meeting called to order by President, Rachel Cobb.

Review of Meeting Minutes: There being no corrections, a motion was made by Liz H., seconded by Ginny C. and approved by a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: Faye reviewed the receipts and disbursements for the month of December, noting the \$500 deposit to the NJ Motorsports Park to reserve the 2019 Legends Awards date. She also did an additional breakdown report for the entire year of 2018. Dick and Rachel thanked Faye for the enormous amount of work. There being no questions, a motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Dick S., with a second by Joyce M. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Donations: In addition to the donations mentioned at the December meeting, a donation of \$200.00 was received from Mary Ella Morie in December. In appreciation of the donations, Ginny C.

will send a PNHS hat to John Lee. A set of Rachel C.'s note cards will be sent to Mary Ella Morie, who will be 99 years old this month.

Websites: Rachel C. reported the hosting fees and webnames for both the HistoricPortNorris.org, and PortNorris.org of \$99.00 will be due in February and the Watermen'smemorial.org for \$14.99 website will be due for payment in January. The PNHS maintains the sites and pays the hosting fees. We have owned the two Port Norris websites for a few years. There is no need for a vote as these are budgeted items.

Correspondence: Alvina – Rachel spoke with Dawn Harpester from Altoona, PA, with regards to information about her grandmother and former Port Norris resident, Becky Meredith. She had posted an inquiry in the “Contact form” on the new website. Dick S. said “Aunt Becky” owned a restaurant down in Bivalve and was related to the Robbins family. He shared a few memories and stories of her. Also, Dawn H. is willing to share a lot of pictures from the snowstorm of 1941. She is allowing us to copy them and then return the photos to her.

Committee Reports:

Collections: Rachel reported that Pat S. has formed a sub-collections committee of Joyce M., Faye H., Ginny C., Rachel C., Mary Linda L., and Rachel D to begin work on organizing and documenting our collections. Robin B. has the “Deed of Gift” book and it was discussed and decided that we need to make a duplicate copy of the book. There is a meeting on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 with Rachel D. to continue work on the PNHS collections.

Membership: Ginny C. stated that membership dues for 2019 will continue to be collected. Rachel suggested that we offer a Lifetime membership option, with the fee to be determined. In addition, we need to clarify the benefits of being a member of the PNHS. A discount on PNHS merchandise/products was discussed. We would like to encourage more members to become benefactors, possibly giving them more initiatives. Another suggestions would be receiving a monetary discount off Soup dinner tickets for benefactor members. Rachel stated we need a more structured outline of benefits for each level of membership.

Welcome Committee: Pat and Faye have not been out after the holidays.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting: Sam reported the Chamber sign has been erected across from the by-pass intersection at the curve near the Port Norris School in Haleyville. The December meeting was a holiday party hosted at Sam's house. The Chamber of Commerce meetings are held at the Surfside offices in Bivalve.

Cookbook: Rachel reported we have 72 pages and the Legends' cookbook is near completion. Gloria is going to proofread the entire book; she is going to be the receiver of all edits. We have four advertisements: Veterinarian, Dr. Bill McAlonan agreed to take the back cover ad. The three additional businesses are Hoffman Funeral Homes, Brewster Monuments and Verna's Flight Line Restaurant. It was decided we should order 200 copies and Rachel will contact the printer to get the new quote. There will be an adjustment in our cost for each cookbook from the original estimate of \$3.50/book for 60 pages. The cookbooks will be available for sale beginning in March. Cookbooks will be sold for \$10.00; \$9.00 for members. Each of the ten Legends' families will

receive a complimentary copy. Rachel would like to compile another Legends cookbook in the next year and a half or two.

General Business:

Legends Dinner – Mary Linda L. reported the 2019 Legends Awards Luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, November 2, 2019 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. at the NJ Motorsports Park. Faye H. sent a deposit in the amount of \$500.00 to secure the venue. Mary Linda will contact Sarah Barker for possible meeting dates in early February so the committee can make preliminary plans.

Veterans' Memorial Park – Dick reported on the progress of construction at the park. All lighting has been completed, the six flag poles erected, the monument is in place and hydroseeding is scheduled. Dennisville Fence Company has donated a three-level split rail fence to separate the parking lot from the memorial area. The boulder has arrived and is in place. Another 140 bricks are coming in. Two TREX composite benches have been ordered (one from PNHS and one from the Commercial Township Environmental Commission. The Mauricetown Historical Society is almost near completion of their collecting. Dick contacted the Port Norris Fire Company and they have agreed to collect plastic bags to attain the goal of four benches at the park. Each bench has a monetary value of \$569.00. A motion to purchase a raised bronze plaque at a cost of approximately \$25.00 - \$30.00 plus shipping to be placed on the PNHS bench was made by Joyce M. and seconded by Sam R. Voting was unanimous.

Building – Dick reported the floor has been installed in the bathroom. There is enough flooring material left over to do the hallway. A motion to install the hallway flooring using materials

already purchased was made by John H. and seconded by Sam R.; a unanimous vote was taken. Mike Vizzard has been working on the electric upstairs. Fire extinguishers were inspected and new tags are attached. Rachel and Gloria purchased the two ceiling fans for the downstairs main room when they were at Lowes for the bathroom flooring. There is still an issue with security in window #8. Although there is a dead bolt on the back door, for safety there needs to be a turn knob in place of a dead bolt key on the inside of the door. John H, and Dick S. will look into this issue. The bathroom is ready for us to purchase a toilet and vanity that are both ADA compliant. Joyce M. and Mary Linda L volunteered to go to Lowe's to select the fixtures.

Year in Review – Rachel suggested we print copies of the 2018 year in review, which is about 8 pages in length. Rachel estimated the cost to be around \$50.00.

Misscellaneous Projects – Rachel C. has received permission from Dino's to place two photos of Port Norris from bygone days in the pizza shop. A discussion followed, with Ginny C. suggesting placing something in the Commercial Township Municipal building so people give awareness as to what our organization does. Another suggestion was to place a storyboard outside in the front of our building (cost averages \$750.00). Consensus was that we need to have more exposure and visibility around the town to make people aware of our existence and what we do. We also need to make the public aware that we are a separate entity from the Bayshore Center, but also continue to work with them. Members discussed the PNHS logo and the possibility of redesigning it in the future.

Meeting was adjourned by Rachel C.

Mary Linda Lacotte, Assistant Secretary