

The Port Norris Historical Society

Email Meeting October 13 , 2020

Member Email Responses: A. Baum, V. Campbell, R. Cobb, G. Guidera, F. Hickman, J. Hickman, L. Hoffman, M.L. Lacotte, J. Massey, D. Smith, P. Smith.

November Meeting: We are considering the possibility of holding an in-person meeting at our building for the month of November. Referring to the CDC recommendations and Governor Murphy's mandates, the meeting could be cancelled at the last minute if guidelines change. No one should feel obligated, ONLY if you are comfortable. The meeting would be recorded for those not in attendance.

Review of Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the June email meeting and the in-person September 2020 (as emailed) were approved by the unanimous vote of members who replied by mail.

Treasurer's Report: The September Treasurer's report by Sam R. was emailed to active members. Included in the report was a breakdown of receipts (\$.07). Monthly utility bills (totaling \$46.75) were the only disbursements for the month of September. The Treasurer's report, as emailed, was approved by the unanimous vote of members.

Donations: No donations were received during the month of September.

Committee Reports:

Membership: G. Campbell. Our membership has increased to 78 members.

Collections – Pat S. Many items (books, pictures, uniforms, etc.) have been received over the past months and each item will need to be reviewed by the committee once the building is opened to members.

General Business:

Scarecrows – Rachel C. We will be participating in the Scarecrow Event sponsored by the Commercial Township Recreation Committee. Each business has been asked to display one scarecrow at their business location beginning November 1st. Rachel will gather items and materials needed for the assembly of the scarecrow. One or two volunteers would be appreciated.

Legends Nominations – Mary Linda L. In keeping with the annual tradition of honoring people of Port Norris who have made a contribution to the community, the 2020 Legends Award honorees will be publicly announced in early November. Historic figures recognized this year are Samuel Lake, Samuel Shinn, and Dr. Bradford.

Delaware Watermen’s Memorial – Rachel C. announced the Annual Watermen’s Memorial Ceremony will be held on Sunday, November 1st from 3:00 pm-4:00 pm outside on the docks at the Bayshore Center. Pastor McBride and Rev. Clyde Phillips have confirmed they will participate in the program. Vocal renditions will be sung by Lois Smith and Biggie Whittington. A poem written by Alvina B. will be read during the program. In memory of each watermen who died at sea, the bell will be rung after the reading of each name. If any member is planning to attend the ceremony and/or can help with reading names or the poem, please notify Rachel. A copy of the invitation was attached to the October agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Plowman’s has completed the weatherproofing of the building’s front door. Dick S. has given the doors a fresh coat of paint. The heater has been checked and is ready for the winter season.

We have received (on loan) two bound volumes of the Advertiser Press weekly newspapers from the time period of the 1920’s and 1930’s. Rachel has taken on the task of photographing each page and has completed one year’s bound copies.

Mary Linda Lacotte, Assistant Secretary

NOVEMBER 10 MEETING

Our very first meeting in our building was January 8, 2013.

We had no heat! And the few of us who gathered wore coats and we toasted the new building! Here are a couple of pictures from the first meeting and the beginning of the Minutes from that meeting.

Port Norris Historical Society

Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2013

A Governing Board Meeting was convened at the Law's Building for the purpose of toasting the purchase of the building . Thanks to Rachel Cobb, president elect, sparkling cider and paper cups were provided for this auspicious occasion. It was quite cold in the building and the meeting was soon moved to the Robbinstown Library.

The general meeting was called to order by Rachel Cobb at 7pm

First meeting for 2013 Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes of the November meeting as e-mailed. (There was no meeting in December due to the Legends Dinner.)

Attending: Ed & Kelli Adams, Rev. Barnes, Eileen Bernhardt, Rachel Cobb, Dom Capaldi, Joanne Hickman, Liz Hoffman, Cora & Mondell Matthews*, Cathy Ore, Pat & Richard Smith, Sam Ricci.



Review of August meeting minutes: Mary Linda L.

Attached - Vote required

Treasurer's Report: Sam Ricci

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Membership: Ginny C.

Currently we have 78 Members

COLLECTIONS - Pat S.

We have many new items for review once we are back in the building. Nice paintings from the Peterson Family of the Emma Peterson Schooner. Will share in the next newsletter.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Scarecrow- We have 1 scarecrow outside the building. Drive by and wave at Big Dag! He was from last year and Mary Linda and Joe gave him a new head and cleaned him up a bit. Thank you.

Newsletter: I have some feed back from people enjoying the last newsletter that featured The Oyster that ate Port Norris. Here is one reply that was emailed to me.

Rachel:

I enjoyed the newsletter so much. As soon as it arrived I started reading David Shaw's story about Port Norris and didn't stop until I finished. Today would be my mother's 110th birthday. I keep thinking how much she would have liked reading about it, and I know she would have known so many places mentioned. She always told how beautiful the oyster boats were as they quietly sailed from their moorings on their way out to the bay. She and her family would go to watch them leave and then go again to see them come back at the end of the week.

Just wanted you to know how much your work with the Port Norris Historical Society means to the future, and to those who still remember, if not in person, at least the stories told by the older generation as we sat at their knee soaking in the history they were passing along. If there is ever a time machine, I'll be one of the first to buy a ticket to visit the old Port Norris I have heard so much about and is described so perfectly in the October article.

Best wishes for your continuing success as the Society continues to grow and to educate those who would never know of its rich history by any other means.

Sincerely,

Carol Saul Gromer

Indianapolis, Indiana

DELAWARE BAY WATERMAN'S MEMORIAL FOLLOW UP.

It was a rainy day but the sun came out and it was a lovely event. Again this will be in the next newsletter with pictures. Thank you to everyone able to come.

NOMINATIONS - Joyce M.

Time for our nominations for the board. Officers and Trustees. There were a couple changes over the summer. We thank Faye H. for being our treasurer and now we welcome Sam R. as our new treasurer. So they switch places. And Liz H. will be co treasurer. Thank you so much. Nominations will be read at the meeting in person and then it will be shared by email. We will vote in December in person and or by email.

DEHUMIDIFIER

We need one! The building is too damp. It is not good for the building. We will have a quick discussion in the in person building and report back. They are not expensive and the hardest part will be getting a drain outside.

LEGENDS WILL BE PRESENTED IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS?

The Commercial Township Recreation Committee
will be having a

SCARECROW

SCAVENGER HUNT

November

9th-29th

Starting at the
Forest Lakes
Family Success
Center
November 9th
forms
will be
Available
in the Little Library.

Directions on how to play and enter will be on forms.

