

The Port Norris Historical Society

General Meeting November 12, 2019

Attending: A. Baum, E. Bernhardt, R. Cobb, F. Hickman, J. Hickman, L. Hoffman, J. Massey, M.L. Lacotte, J. Lacotte, A. Lore, K. Lore, D. Smith, P. Smith, R. Smith.

Meeting was called to order by President, Rachel Cobb.

Review of Meeting Minutes: A correction to the non-profit form mentioned in the minutes should read 501c3. A question was raised to clarify Sam Ricci's notice to no longer attend the Chamber meetings due to his business being sold. A motion was made by Alvina B., seconded by Joyce M., with a unanimous vote to approve the revised minutes as e-mailed.

Treasurer's Report: A thank you to Faye for continuing with the Treasurer's reports during her recent hospitalization and recovery. An itemized treasurer's report of both receipts and disbursements for the month of October was distributed and explained by treasurer, Faye Hickman. She stated there was a problem with the gas bill. We received no bill for this month, but there will be a double bill for next month. Rachel noted the bill for the baseball caps was for 72 caps ordered. Dick S. stated that more than half the amount of the bill received from Mike Vizzard was for materials. He was most generous with his work hours. Several of the disbursements were purchases made for the Legends Awards event. A motion was made by Dick S. and seconded by Eileen B. to accept the treasurer's report; vote was unanimous.

Donations: Donna Bailey sent a gift in memory of her mother. Amazon. Smile sent a donation for the percentage of sales with the PNHS being the organization. Rachel reminded members of listing the PNHS as an Amazon. Smile organization to receive a percentage of any purchases. Pat Cavender gave a donation.

Correspondence: Alvina read the note from Donna Bailey which was included with her donation.

Committee Reports:

Membership: In absence of Ginny, Faye H. reported that Mariea Moore joined as a new member at the Legends Luncheon. Debi and Barney Hollinger paid their memberships as benefactors. Lois Jenkins, formerly of Dividing Creek and now residing in North Carolina, whose grandparents lived in Port Norris, also recently joined as a member.

For several months, Ginny and Rachel have discussed the possibility of adding a new category level to the membership dues. Rachel stated that any changes we wish to make for the new year will need to be voted on next month. With Ginny unable to attend this meeting, Rachel, who will be out of town for the December meeting, explained the new membership dues schedule. General membership would be \$10.00 for individual/ \$15.00 for a family. An added category level would be to change the dues of the Benefactor level to \$30.00 for an individual/ \$35.00 for a family. A change from the current Benefactor category to a newly titled Patron level would be \$50.00 and this member would receive a mug and one soup dinner ticket. A question arose and clarified that members will be able to change the designated level of membership at the time of renewal. Discussion followed regarding what benefits a member of the PNHS should receive. Lifetime memberships were discussed and may be revisited at a later date. All membership dues are tax deductible. Ginny and Rachel will write a proposal with the added category level and the change made to the Benefactor dues will be voted on at the December meeting.

Mary Linda and Joe L. suggested a copy of the approved minutes of the previous month be emailed to the general membership, in an effort to keep all informed of activities, projects and fundraising efforts. It may encourage more active participation with volunteers. Dick S. made a motion to authorize the Assistant Secretary to email the prior month's minutes to all general members. Eileen B. seconded the motion, with a unanimous vote taken.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting: It was suggested we ask Sam to continue to represent the PNHS at the Chamber, although he is no longer a business member.

Writing Committee: Linda R. was absent, no report given.

Welcoming Committee: RoseAnne S. and Pat S. visited two new families, one residing at Main St. and North Avenue, the second family living on High St. and Brown St.

Nominations: Joyce Massey presented the Slate of Officers for 2020 as:

President – Rachel Cobb (2 year term)

Co - Secretary - Alvina Baum (2 year term)

Mary Linda Lacotte, Assistant Secretary (2 year term)

Trustees – Eileen Bernhardt, Ginny Campbell, Gloria Guidera, Joyce Massey,
(all two year terms)

Being no nominations from the floor, Liz H. made a motion to accept the Slate of Officers as read, Dick S. seconded, followed by a unanimous vote to accept the slate. Nominations and elections will take place at the December meeting.

Book Signing: Rachel C. and Mary Linda L. gave an update on the book signing by Andrew Lewis on Sunday, November 17th to be held from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Compton House, 1229 Front Street, headquarters of the Mauricetown Historical Society. The PNHS will supply refreshments, with the following members volunteering: Rachel C. will bring apple cider; RoseAnn S., Joyce M., Kathy, and Mary Linda L. will provide desserts and snacks. A motion was made by Joyce M., seconded by Eileen B. to purchase a copy of *The Drowning of Money Island* for the building. Vote was unanimous, Rachel will purchase the signed copy on Sunday.

Legends Review: Mary Linda L. reported a successful dinner on November 2, at the NJ Motorsports Park, with 109 guests attending, 1 absent and 2 take-out dinners, totaling 112 paid dinners. Breakdown of attendees: Legend George Garrison, 18 guests; Irene Green, 35 guests; Luther Jeffries, 11 guests; Marshall Joseph (Bud) Lore, 21 guests; PNHS members and friends, including past Legends, 25 guests. Faye distributed an itemized statement of both receipts and disbursements for the Legends Luncheon 2019. She noted the amount of money for the Silent and Chinese auction as well as PNHS sale items totaled \$1090.00. After all expenses, we realized a total profit of \$1,741.22. The report was added to the Treasurer's report and filed for audit. Report is included in Secretary's filing of minutes. All positive feedback, having themed baskets for the Chinese Auction was a definite improvement with much more appeal to ticket holders. It was suggested a self-serve beverage station, with both hot and cold drinks, be set-up for next year's luncheon. Discussion followed regarding any conflicts with other organizations events; it was decided to keep the date as the first Saturday in November. It was decided to reserve the date for the Legends Awards 2020. Mary Linda will contact Robin at the Motorsports Park and book the date of November 7th, 2020, with a \$250.00 deposit to be sent to reserve the date. The additional \$250.00 will be sent in early 2020. Rachel C. stated the website has been updated with pictures of the new Legends and the event.

Seed Swap: Rachel C. stated she had contacted Baker Creek Seed, an heirloom seed company asking for donations. They have agreed to send free catalogs and some seed packets. Rachel explained the purpose of a seed swap is a get together of people who have vegetable and flower gardens and are interested in exchanging seeds. "Bring a seed – Take a seed". If a person does not have seeds to exchange, he/she can purchase a ticket for one dollar in order to participate in the exchange. Master Gardeners of Cumberland County have been invited to set-up an exhibit. The date of Saturday,

February 1st was set for the event, with a rain date of Saturday February 8th. It is important to reach out to the community and publicize in the guides for awareness.

Soup Dinner: Dick stated the Soup Dinner is planned for Saturday, March 7th, 2020. Tickets will be distributed to members at the January meeting. Tickets are \$12.00/ person. Rachel will print 250 tickets. Dick reported we had nine sponsors last year at a donation of \$250.00 per sponsor. In the past, two tickets were given to each sponsor as a thank-you for making the donation.

General Business:

Building: Dick S. informed the members the PNHS is now in possession of the baseball shirt which had been at the Bayshore Center. For preservation purposes, we need to have metal frames for the uniforms to be displayed. We need to begin to bring items down and put in the display cases. Ted Smith of Ted's Metal Crafts may be able to make a metal frame for the clothing. He may be able to customize the frames; the metal is more archival friendly than other materials.

Decorating? Holidays? Rachel will decorate outside doors with wreaths. It was decided to wait until the building is cleaned before decorating the room. Rachel will ask Ginny if she would like to assist with the front windows decorations. A holiday social will be held after the business meeting on December 10th, with wine cookies and a slide-show of Joe and Mary Linda's trip to Calabria in southern Italy. Snacks are welcome from the members attending the meeting. Voting for elections and membership will also take place next month.

Collections Committee: Pat S., Rachel C. and Robin will meet to coordinate the items documented. The committee should meet, with the intent to begin looking at a group of items to make decisions regarding the worth of each item to the PNHS, and whether or not to keep the item

Other Comments and Concerns:

Scarecrows: Rachel C. announced Commercial Township employees took down the scarecrows and Rachel has all put away.

Alvin and Kathy Lore presented a check in the amount of \$100.00 as a donation in memory of Joseph and Elizabeth Lore for honoring his grandfather.

Joe Lacotte – asked about information on the NJ State Trooper barracks in Port Norris. He presented a few facts about the formation of the State Police in New Jersey. He stated a friend and former trooper, John Montana, would like to see the displays once

the room is set-up for displays. Joe presented a brief history of the NJ State Police taken from their website. Dick informed the members the first police barracks was at Tommy Reeve's house, right behind the Palomino. It was possibly a rental. Joyce M. said the barracks next to her home growing up was permanent. Eileen thought the horses were kept at a barn in town.

Meeting was adjourned by Rachel C.

Mary Linda Lacotte, Assistant Secretary