

The Port Norris Historical Society

General Meeting December 10, 2019

Attending: A. Baum, V. Campbell, G. Guidera, F. Hickman, J. Hickman, L. Hoffman, J. Lacotte, M.L. Lacotte, J. Massey, S. Ricci, J. Robbins, D. Smith, P. Smith, R. Smith.

Meeting was called to order by Vice President, Dick Smith, as Rachel C. was working out of state.

Review of Meeting Minutes: A question of the tin frame needed for the baseball uniform was clarified. Details for the proposal of the PNHS 2020 membership dues will be presented during the meeting with additions to the discussion notes as emailed. If any corrections are needed, they will be made. A motion was made by Ginny C., seconded by Gloria G., with a unanimous vote to approve the revised minutes as e-mailed.

Treasurer's Report: Faye stated the money collected by members at the December 2018 and delivered in the form of a check to the Family Success Center (Inspira) was apparently lost by the Inspira group and was never cashed. As the money is still in the PNHS checking account, discussion ensued, and it was decided to donate the money collected to The Commercial Township Senior Center. A motion was made by John H. and seconded by Joyce M; vote was unanimous

Faye H. distributed an itemized treasurer's report of both receipts and disbursements for the month of November, including a breakdown of donations and membership monies received. Disbursements included Legends Awards Luncheon, a deposit to NJ Motorsports Park for the 2020 Legends Awards, printing of PN Pickings, WWII books, post office box annual rental fee. A motion was made by Joan R. and seconded by Joe L. accept the treasurer's report; vote was unanimous.

Regarding insurance policies, Faye reported she received a package from the Mints Insurance Agency, there is no insurance coverage for the contents of the building. The insurance company representative is in the process of compiling figures for the additional coverage, possibly \$20,000.00. The building is insured for \$85,000.00 with a replacement clause in the policy. The insurance representative stated to Faye the building is underinsured and the insurance coverage should be for \$215,000.00, a figure which all in attendance felt was not realistic for a building in Port Norris. Faye will continue to be in contact with the insurance company and report any information to the members at the January meeting. Alvina stated that it is difficult for historical societies to place a value on many items in their collections. Alvina B. commented on the

installation of the pendant light, which was donated by Amy Robbins, as an asset to the building.

Donations: In addition to the donations attached to the Treasurer's report, Faye stated Donna Bailey sent in memory of her father. John Lee sent a check which includes his dues for 2020, with balance going as a donation. The following donations were listed with the November report: Alvin and Kathy Lore in memory of his grandparents, Pat Cavender and Anna DeFabrites. Amazon Smile sent a donation of \$9.56 for the percentage of sales with the PNHS being the organization.

Correspondence: Alvina read cards from Donna Bailey and John Lee which were included with their donations. A thank-you letter was read from the family of Irene Green, expressing their appreciation and gratitude for honoring their mother as a 2019 Legend.

Committee Reports:

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

President - Rachel Cobb (two-year term)

Corresponding Secretary - Alvina Baum (two-year term)

Recording Secretary - Mary Linda Lacotte, Secretary (two-year term)

Trustees - Eileen Bernhardt, Ginny Campbell, Gloria Guidera, Joyce

Massey,

(all two-year terms)

Being no nominations from the floor, Dick S. made a motion to accept the Slate of Officers as read, Joan R. seconded, followed by a unanimous vote to elect the slate for the year 2020 as presented to the membership.

Membership: Membership dues were received with (4) as benefactors and (1) individual. as itemized in the Treasurer's report. Ginny C. reported a total of 78 members to date. Notes mailed to all new Legends with an Honorary Membership to the PNHS.

Ginny distributed the Proposal for PNHS Membership Dues Re-Structure for 2020 as it appears below:

General Membership Level

Individual \$10.00

Family \$15.00

Student \$1.00 (No voting privileges)

Included 10% Merchandise discount, Digital Newsletter, Invitation to all PNHS events

Benefactor Level

Individual \$30.00

Family \$35.00

Includes 10% Merchandise discount, Digital Newsletter, Invitation to all PNHS events
One-time gift at \$5.00 value (i.e. Mug, Postcards, Keychain)

Patron Level

Individual \$50.00

Family \$55.00

Includes 10% Merchandise discount, Digital Newsletter, Invitation to all PNHS events
One-time gift up to \$12.00 value (i.e. Cookbook, PNHS ballcap, March event ticket)

After discussion, a motion was made by Joyce M. to accept the new membership fee proposal effective January 1, 2020, with Liz seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the proposal. The new Dues Fees will be published in the next newsletter.

Collections Committee: Pat would like to meet on Friday, December 13th at the building from 10:00am – 12:00 noon. Items need to be moved from the second floor to the main room, with decisions made as to what items we should display in the cases, etc.

Welcome Committee: No homes were visited this month.

Seed Swap: Rachel continues to plan for the Seed Swap to be held on Saturday, February 8th. The San Diego Seed Company donated seeds from their farm. Also, Baker Creek Seeds, an heirloom seed company, sent approximately 50 packets of seed. It is important that we have some of our collection items displayed.

General Business:

Building: Dick S. stated that the final inspection for the electrical work was completed, although one patch is needed near the electrical panel. Dick will contact Cory Jackson to make the needed repair patch. There are 41 switch plate covers in the upstairs of the building. Mike installed the light in the main room.

Dick reported that he was able to obtain approximately 52 glass plate negatives from Billy Friswell, which were part of his grandfather's Edgar Friswell. Rachel will determine if she is able to make photos of the negatives. A discussion followed to determine where to hang the Belva Prycel painting. The PNHS has a clock that was original to the building when the Post Office was housed there. It fell off the wall, no glass was broken, just a repair to the wooden frame.

The back room needs to be painted; the walls will be primed white; however, a decision must be made about the color.

Other Comments and Concerns:

Book Signing: Mary Linda L. thanked everyone who attended the book, *The Drowning of Money Island*, signing by Andrew Lewis on Sunday, November 17th at the Compton House, headquarters of the Mauricetown Historical Society. Appreciation was expressed to those who provided refreshments for the afternoon's event.

Joe Lacotte stated a friend and former trooper may have access to information about the Port Norris State Police Barracks. Joe shared a book titled, *Jersey Troopers Sacrifice at the Altar of Public Service*, with emphasis on Troopers Joe Perry and Francis O'Brien, who were both stationed in Port Norris and lost their lives while serving in the line of duty. Dick stated two of the glass negatives are of state troopers. He added the troopers badge number is on the hat.

It was announced a holiday social would be held after the business meeting, with wine cookies and a slideshow of Joe and Mary Linda's trip to Calabria in southern Italy. Holiday treats were provided by members attending the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned by Dick Smith.

Mary Linda Lacotte, Assistant Secretary