

Port Norris Historical Society
February 12, 2013

Attendance: Rev. E Barnes, Alvina Baum, Eileen Bernhardt, Robin Berry, Ginny Campbell, Rachel Cobb, Joanne Hickman, Liz Hoffman, Cathy Ore, Dick Smith, and Jesse Biggs.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as e-mailed.

Treasurer's Report : Balances: General Fund \$3807.87 Capital \$2797.41

Robin Berry reported \$37.34 from sale of poinsettias. \$400 was paid to Alan Horseman for roof repair. Decision made to take that and other repairs costs from capital fund. Treasurer's report approved.

Budget Committee report: Finance Committee members, Liz, Joanne and Dick Smith met to set up a very preliminary budget. For the year 2013 proposed budget. Projecting what we might spend. Total of \$6100 with profits from fund raisers to be put back into funds.

Web-site expense will be investigated by Rachel. Probably around \$120 per year. After considerable discussion about the budget and the next proposed fund raiser, the proposed budget was approved. Copy of the budget attached to minutes.

Proposed fund raiser of a chili and soup buffet dinner. Dick has a list of people who might contribute food – chili, soup, salads and desserts. Discussed possible problems and solutions. The PN Fire Company will allow us to use the Fire Hall at no charge. They have a certified kitchen. Members agreed to try it. Charge \$12.00. Joanne Hickman will take care of paper products with the help of Ginny Campbell.

We have been invited to participate in 2nd Friday at Discovery Project in April. Could sell tickets there. This also puts us in the public eye. Sell memberships there, scrap books, coffee and mugs. Another suggestion is to make the mock up of our building for donations. Rachel and her Dad will work on. Date for dinner, April 20th if possible. Possible name – Ye Old Soup and Chili Bowl. Members will contact others in town for donations of soup & chili. Robin Berry will make flyers. Discussed various aspects of the dinner. Finalize at the next meeting. (Collect recipes for a recipe book fund raiser in the future.)

Building:

Further roof repair is needed. There is a raised access space that is totally rotted. Alan will repair that for an additional \$100 . Approved to have that taken care of.

Insurance Policy: Cathy Ore discussed the fact that we are only covered for a vacant building. When we start working on the interior, the coverage will need to change and be more costly. The policy has arrived. Cathy gave to Alvina to place in the safety deposit box. Spoke about security for the building but this can be postponed until a later time.

By-laws review was tabled due to the illness of members of that committee.

New Business:

Facebook. Rachel's sister Lisa has taken over as an administrator . We have an increase in Likes. Possibly as many as 100. She would like to post things that we need such as display cases, etc in addition to donations to the building fund. Would like input from membership. This has created interest.

Cathy has a form that can be used to cover liability for volunteers. She will revise for our purposes and give to Dick. He will copy and place in the building when we start using volunteer help. It will be important for every volunteer to sign and there will have to be a way to keep them on file.

Building Update: We have submitted a grant application to South Jersey Industries. We are asking for \$6147 the full price of installing gas heating in the building. We will have an answer in March. Thanks to Dick & Eddie for spearheading this effort. It was noted by a woman from SJI that the application was well done but they have many applicants. First time applicants are considered last.

Guy Chamberlain will install heating system at cost if he has help from the society.

Ginny Campbell will apply for a Gannett Grant. Discussed the fact that they really need to be done on line because no one has a typewriter any more. Rachel has an application for doing that. Dick talked to a grant writer who is not able to help us. We really need to find someone who writes grants.

Dick investigating possibilities for clean up monies both from FEMA after Hurricane Sandy and Clean Communities.

Also on the building update , Dick got all the lights working but one.

Rachel wondered if there are pictures in the files in the school building. There are only some unorganized files in there. They have not started working on the building. Dick may be able to bring that filing cabinet into the Laws building.

We have two new members on Paypal. Robin Berry agreed to take on Membership Chairperson. She is familiar with Facebook. She can reach out to Likes. Add her to Administration Page. We need an e-mail address from new members if possible. Work on hard copy newsletter as an outreach.

Rachel is willing to make a set of cards as a premium for persons who are willing to donate online at a \$25 level. We are very grateful for both her talent and generosity.

Proposed a community bulletin board including Bayshore Discovery Project on our web-site so that we can cover each other's activities. Should benefit both organizations.

Jesse informed us that there is another story telling date set and that it is on the same Saturday as our chili bowl. We changed the time to accommodate and we will promote each other.

Post the Oyster Dinner now. E-mail info to Rachel. Also agreed to put a half page ad in the playbill for the Commercial Township School. Rachel will design the ad for us. Deadline is March fifteen.

Date for Legends Dinner – consider October.

Discussed the plans for the “Come Back to Port Norris Day” We are minimally involved.

Finalized times for Dinner to coincide with Story Time at Bayshore. Tickets to be printed.

Liz Hoffman will be having surgery on her ankle and will need to work with check signers , etc during her extended recovery.

No further business. Meeting adjourned.

Alvina Baum, Recording Secretary