

The Port Norris Historical Society
ZOOM Meeting February 9, 2021

Members Participating: A. Baum, V. Campbell, R. Cobb, G. Guidera, F. Hickman, J. Hickman, L. Hoffman, M.L. Lacotte, J. Lacotte, J. Massey, M. Moore, D. Smith, P. Smith.

Passing of Members: Member, Joan Robbins, passed away on January 20, 2021. She will be missed by all. Details of memorials for Joan, discussed during the meeting, are presented in the minutes.

January Meeting: The February agenda, January Secretary's minutes, and Treasurer's report were emailed to active members on February 8, 2021.

Review of Meeting Minutes: Ginny C. made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 2021 email meeting, Gloria G. seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the unanimous vote of members present at the ZOOM meeting.

Treasurer's Report: The February 2021 Treasurer's report for the month of January 2021 was submitted by Treasurer, Sam R., and emailed to active members. Receipts in the amount of \$ 445.07 include \$445.00 in membership dues and donations, with \$.07 interest. Disbursements totaled \$276.39 including monthly utility bills (\$187.33), and maintenance for outside railing materials (\$89.06). A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Joyce M. and seconded by Mariea M. The report was approved by the unanimous vote of members present at the ZOOM meeting.

Donations: The PNHS has received \$450.00 in monetary donations, including memorial donations for Joan Robbins, and \$100.00 donation from The Smithson Family and \$100.00 donation from Rachel C., in memory of her Uncle Ty.

Memorial Donation: A decision was made via email to purchase an oyster plate by the PN Historical Society members to honor Joan

Robbins. Rachel C. ordered a blue oyster plate (choice of the members) from e-bay in the amount of \$165.00 as a memorial gift to be displayed in the building. A plaque with inscription (wording to be determined later) will be purchased and placed with the plate. Members who wish to contribute towards the purchase of the plate should send money to Sam R., earmarked Joan Robbins.

Scholarship – Dick S. suggested if there was surplus money collected for the memorial gift, it be used for the PNHS School Scholarship Fund. He also recommended to rename the scholarship in Joan’s name.

Special Requests: Rachel has received a request which require decisions to be made by the members. Bayshore Center is working on a book about the A.J. Meerwald. They have asked permission to use one of our photos of Ron Howard from the movie, “The Migrants”, in the book.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Ginny C. reported we have 36 members, and 16 honorary members. She has mailed (9) one time gifts of ball caps, cookbooks, post cards and/or key chains to the (4) new members. In addition, (5) members who have upgraded their membership status to benefactor and/or patron status received the one time gift. Another email will be sent to remind all members the 2021 membership fees are due. All membership dues will continue to be received via postal mail due to the COVID restrictions.

Collections: Pat S. We have added a new item to our collections. Joan Robbins wanted the hand sewn flag that flew on the David Robbins, Sr. schooner to go to the PNHS. It is a large 15 ft x 5 ft. flag, hand sewn by Ed Cobb. Due to the logistics of displaying such a large flag, the family has agreed to allow Rachel C. to photograph the flag, and to display the photograph. The actual flag will be folded and properly displayed in a case in the main room of the building. The family will also allow Rachel to photograph other items to include in our collection. We are most appreciative of this donation and wish to thank Joan’s family.

General Business:

Seed Swap: Although it is not possible to host the Seed Swap this year, Rachel has a tub of packaged seeds that cannot be held over for another year. If the weather permits, she would like to do a pop up table at the building in early February to just give out the seeds we have. It would not be an official event. Rachel will notify members once a date is determined.

Legends Awards: Although, at this time, it does not seem feasible to host the awards luncheon this year, we will determine how to continue with the program on a limited scale/version. Rachel has received an application from the Lore family to request the name of Elizabeth Hoffman Lore be added to the nominations for new legends. This application will be placed on file. A decision will be made later this spring as to how to move forward with nominations and legends.

Soup Dinner: Due to the state mandates and guidelines, the March Soup Dinner is postponed. As this is a main source of fundraising income, there was discussion of very preliminary plans to have a take-out only event with pre-order sales in late spring or early fall. The PN Fire Company will allow us to use their facility with all soups cooked at the fire hall. Next step is to begin to organize the event.

Dehumidifier: Ginny C.'s husband is researching information on various humidifier units to consider for purchase which would be energy efficient, yet large enough to suit our needs.

Projects:

Emma Peterson Painting: Peterson family member, Rachel Robbins Mertz, contacted Rachel C. and asked for a copy of the painting so that prints may be made for Rachel M. to give to her children and grandchildren. In exchange, the PNHS will be able to

order additional prints to sell. After discussion, Liz Hoffman made a motion to order (25) prints, Joyce M. seconded the motion. The motion was approved by members attending the ZOOM meeting. These prints will be designated to be used for special gifts.

Rachel C. will also order note cards with the ship printed on them. All costs for print orders will be absorbed by Rachel Robbins Mertz.

Event: Rachel C. presented information regarding “*A Day at the Farm*” at the Pennsville Township Historical Society property, 86 Church Landing Road, Pennsville. The annual event is scheduled to be held on Saturday, June 5th, from 11 am to 3 pm. Plans include rides for the kids, farm animals, historical displays, artisan exhibitions, antique vehicles, firetrucks, re-enactors, Civil War Band, 1850s Victorian farmhouse, an 1800s Fishing Cabin, and a one room schoolhouse display. They were unable to hold the event last year due to the Covid 19 pandemic. They are optimistic about this year’s event, but plans may change due to Covid 19 restrictions. We will need to decide soon.

Mary Linda Lacotte, Assistant Secretary