

Port Norris Historical Society
March 11, 2014
General Meeting

Attending: Rev. E Barnes, A. Baum, E. Bernhardt, R. Berry, V. Campbell, R. Cobb, Frank Donohue
J. Hickman, S. Ricci and R. Smith,
Meeting was called to order by President Rachel Cobb.

Minutes of the February meeting were accepted as e-mailed. Hard copies to Joanne and Sam. Motion to approve by J. Hickman, Second by G. Campbell.

Treasurer's Report : Read by Rachel as Liz is in Colorado. Shows a balance of \$7612.98 in General Fund with \$3408.02 in the Capital Fund. Complete report is filed with the minutes.

It was noted that we failed to use our tax exempt forms when shopping for the supplies . Copies of that form should be available for anyone who shops for PNHS. Be sure to have a copy of the form when shopping. Once the paint is removed, we will have the file cabinet here with the forms in it.

Correspondence: Letter from SJI (see below), another cell tower letter and another request from Paul Bowen regarding a picture of his Uncle Stultz Rowley. Dick Smith will look to see if he has a picture of Stultz.

Chamber of Commerce: Megan informed Rachel that they are in the process of changing the name to Bayshore Chamber of Commerce. We will join.

Review of meeting with students from a graduate program from the University of Delaware:
Rachel, Dick Smith, Alvina, Rev. Barnes Liz, Robin and Frank made themselves available for an informal meeting with Laura Proctor and Hannah Blad. Both are working on thesis papers for their grad program in Historical Architecture. They were thrilled with the amount of data they were able to glean from Dick's pictures and Rev. Barnes eyewitness accounts. Laura is researching shucker's quarters while Hannah's interest lies in iron fences in the area. The experience was fulfilling for us as well because it was the beginnings of what we want to do as a historical society. Rachel offered to work with them on adding their work to our web-site when it is completed.

Collections Report: Dave Lore has two masts from the "Richard Robbins" which have been offered to us. Dick would like to get them here to let them dry out and put a coat of paint on them. They are about 10 feet long and we have no way to move them. Rachel offered her pole barn but that is not feasible for this item.

Grants: The letter from South Jersey Industries advised us that we have been granted \$1500.00
Toward the roof fund.

1772 Historical Trust- We were able to find the Peterson Co and he came and gave us an estimate.
Lead paint removal will be finished within the month. The cost is \$1825 for all windows on the first floor. We will then submit the final invoices and documentation to close out the paint removal grant and get our final \$150.00

We can still apply for the 2014 Grant and were encouraged to do so. Discussed how much to request. Decided that we can safely ask for \$5000 since we will have nearly that much in the Capital fund. Application to be submitted by April 1st. Alvina is working on the application. Liz will finish the financial page with help from Anna. The on-line application can be e-mailed.

Paint colors: We have a generous offer from John Lore to paint the front of the building. We must choose the paint colors. Alvina brought color chips. Painter says Benjamin Moore Paint is the best. Alvina has paint chips. Chose a light yellow with a muted green door and possibly brown window sills. Colors will be matched when the time comes.

Window Plaques: Everyone approved of the trial plaque that Rachel showed us. Papers were given to each person who has donated a window to be signed and returned if the information is correct. We will return them to Rachel at the April meeting. The plaques will then be ordered for all the windows.

DVDs: Ed Adams has a DVD from Mary Linda Lacotte about the history of the Dagastine Family. She has given it to us with permission to reproduce and sell. Ed has taken it to Steelman's in Millville. The copies will be ready for the soup/chili dinner and we will sell for \$15 each. Rachel has more interview raw tapes in her possession. Tom Hollinger has sent Rachel more "Pickins". These are projects for the future.

Building: The floor has been repaired and the ramp installed. This has been paid but it does not show on this month's treasurer's report. \$250 anonymous donation was included with payment of \$450. The electrical panel has been upgraded and documentation sent to insurance company. This invoice for \$600 has also been paid.

Web-Site: Renewal fee is due for our web-site domain. Rachel proposed a name change. Since it costs only \$12.95/year, we will renew the current name for a year as well the new name - portnorris.org- for a year. Then we will act on the change. Rachel also shared her vision for sharing family genealogies of families that have lived in Port Norris for several generations. She would like to start with the families represented by our board. Please bring back in April your own simple family tree including siblings, parents and grandparents. Not looking to go back very far at this time. Looking for people who lived in this town, worked here and influenced the area. Eventually start sharing stories at the end of the meetings. This could grow into something very interesting and enhance our mission. We agreed that this is a great idea and would possibly get more people involved. Dick has a genealogy book that covers most of Port Norris. Ginny also mentioned the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

Chili Dinner: Rachel brought the ivies that were donated to us. They are beautiful some topiaries and some baskets. We can sell for \$20, \$12, and \$10. Also beautiful hyacinth bulbs 3 for \$2. Rachel would like to designate the money toward paint for the building. Motion that the meeting be adjourned prior to final plans for the dinner.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8th.

Alvina Baum, Recording Secretary

