

The Port Norris Historical Society

Monthly Meeting

March 12, 2024

Members Present: E. Bernhardt, D. Berry, R. Berry, V. Campbell, P. Cavender, R. Cobb, S. Damato, J. Donohue, J. Elwell, G. Guidera, B. Hall, F. Hickman, L. Hoffman, J. Lacotte, M. L. Lacotte, J. Lore, J. Maddox, J. Massey, D. Pettit, H. Ricci, S. Ricci, D. Smith, P. Smith, R. Smith.

The regular meeting of the Port Norris Historical Society was held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, commencing at 6:36 p.m., with President, Rachel Cobb, being in the chair and the Secretary present.

March Meeting: The February minutes and the March 2024 meeting agenda were emailed to active members on March 11, 2024.

Round Table: In Memoriam to Dominick Capaldi, members shared memories of Dominick, while growing up in Port Norris and as his time serving as President of the Port Norris Historical Society.

Presentation for Commercial Township 150th Anniversary Celebration: The premiere of the Port Norris Historical Society video created by Rachel Cobb was viewed by members prior to the township dinner on March 16, 2024. The ten minute video met with audience/member approval. Rachel explained the video can be used for other functions as well as when visitors tour the building, played on the newly purchased tv. Rachel announced the video is available to view on You Tube.

The new retractable banner has arrived and will be set up at the Commercial Township event. Rachel also announced post cards depicting the historical society were ordered to be used as hand-outs at events.

A table will be set up with PN Historical Society items for sale at the township dinner. Rachel asked for volunteers attending the dinner to assist at the sale table.

Review of Minutes: Gloria Guidera motioned to approve the emailed minutes of the February 2024 meeting, seconded by Joyce Massey, and unanimously approved by members present.

Treasurer's Report: Eileen Bernhardt made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as emailed to Board of Trustees members on March 11, 2024. Virginia Campbell seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Board of Trustees present. The report will be filed for audit by Treasurer, Joyce Massey.

Taxes: Joyce M. reported the accounting company of Martini & Martini are completing an audit of the Historical Society accounts for the years 2022 and 2023. Additional

taxes should not be owed for the money received from Ethalinda Blackman's estate, as the trust was taxed prior to disbursement of payments.

Speaker: Gloria Guidera noted that Emma Wilkerson-Hackley expressed an interest in returning to speak at the June or September meeting. Rachel C. suggested changing the format of the presentation to a round table discussion.

Membership: Virginia Campbell reported a total of forty-seven (47) paid members.

President's Report: Meeting Time: Consensus of members present was to continue the monthly meetings starting time at 6:30p.m.

Annual Picnic: Judy Moore, President of the Mauricetown Historical Society, invited the members of the Port Norris Historical Society to have a joint picnic at their headquarters in Mauricetown this summer. Discussion points were to consider adding icebreakers activities, possible joint picnic every other year, or to have a picnic of the Port Norris Historical Society only. No specific date was set; discussion will continue with a decision made later.

Rachel Cobb announced she will be away and not able to preside over the April meeting. The Vice-President will conduct the meeting in Rachel's absence.

Collections: Virginia Campbell brought a three piece porcelain china set, including a pitcher, chamber pot, and a talcum powder container donated by Alvina Baum's family. Ethalinda Blackman previously gave the set to Alvina.

Pat Carney Cavender donated a Minstrel show program booklet from her father, Jack Carney. It is believed the booklet was used as a sample to sell ads as the prices of the various sized advertisements were written next to the ads.

Sandra Damato donated a George O. Berry Calendar plate from 1909 and a Kelberg Store Hickory Dickory Dock plate, not dated.

The Riffin family house is being cleaned out and has some items to donate, including a wedding dress and military uniform.

Bonnie Kane contacted Rachel C. through an email regarding books from Clarence and Beryl Kane and advertisement from Schubert Machine Co.

Commercial Township 150th Anniversary Dinner Dance: Tickets are available from Robin Berry, cost \$35.00. Consensus was to place an order for seventy-two (72) additional denim baseball caps, at a cost of \$ 8.49 per cap, with free set-up. Price of baseball caps will be \$15.00; Jersey knit hats were purchased at a cost of \$7.00 /hat with price of \$12.00, \$10.00 for members.

Legends Awards Luncheon: RSVPs have been received for (79) dinners, with (8) free Legends dinners (Legend plus one guest) plus one child's meal. RSVP deadline is March 23rd. There will be a work session on Thursday, April 11th to put together raffle gift bags, and flower centerpieces. Virginia C. reported donations for the auto/home bag and the gourmet food bag are complete; donations for the following bags are needed: Spa, Gardening, Cooking, Beach/Backyard, and

Crafts/Home/Holiday décor. It was suggested to have gift cards as separate raffle items. Copy of the donation letters for tax purposes will be emailed to members.

Building: Dick Smith reported a down payment has been made to DJ Painting for painting the outside of the building, with the work beginning in mid-April. Color of paint will be matched as closely as possible. Dick stated the wooden railings for the front door need to be installed; materials have been purchased. The Commercial Township Road Department employees carried the cedar chest upstairs and moved the large wooden shelving unit to the front room upstairs. The victrola will need to be moved upstairs when assistance is available. Dick asked that when members are working upstairs, remember to set temperature back when leaving the building.

Announcement: Tickets are available for purchase to attend “*The Paradox of Seabrook*” movie premier, scheduled for Saturday, March 16, 2024, at the Levoy theater at 11:00 a.m. Flyers were distributed to those interested; tickets are \$10.00/person.

The Port Norris Fire Department is holding their Ham and Oyster dinner on Sunday, March 24th. A breeding work session is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13th at 5:00p.m. Tickets are available for purchase from members of the Fire department or calling the fire department phone number.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Mary Linda Lacotte,
Recording Secretary