

The Port Norris Historical Society

Email Meeting May 12, 2020

Member Email Responses: A. Baum, V. Campbell, R. Cobb, G. Guidera, F. Hickman, J. Hickman, L. Hoffman, M.L. Lacotte, J. Lacotte, J. Massey, M. Moore, J. Robbins, D. Smith, P. Smith.

Notice: The passing of Legend Barbara Adams was noted prior to the email meeting.

Round Table - To manage the **Round Table** discussion for the May 12th evening's meeting, members who wished to participate logged on to the Port Norris Historical Society's Facebook page at 7:00 pm. Rachel C. opened the comments by posting an introduction to the Round Table. Several members added posts, photos, and comments throughout the "conversation" regarding how we are keeping busy during this stay-at-home period.

Review of Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the April 2020 meeting, as emailed to the membership, were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: The April 2020 Treasurer's report by Faye H. was emailed to active members. Included in the report was a breakdown of receipts, including donations (\$73.13). Disbursements included monthly utility bills, and Form 990N (\$30.00). The Treasurer's report, as emailed, was approved by the unanimous vote of members.

Donations: Monetary: Two donations were received in April: Receipt of (\$63.13) in royalties from the sale of Tom Hollinger's books; (1) individual membership (\$10.00).

Committee Reports:

Membership: G. Campbell noted a change in the number of paid memberships for the month of April, with a total of 70 members. In May, the membership has increased to 74 members. Rachel's niece

has created a spreadsheet of all currently paid. This spreadsheet is a google document which has the accessibility to share if needed.

Collections – Pat and Rachel met across the long table, with masks on, and discussed all the work completed to date. Rachel's niece is typing all the descriptions so they can be added to the collection pages. Also, Joanne and Irv Hickman shared some papers/clipping from Irv's family history. These will be reviewed in the upcoming months.

General Business:

Race Through Time- June date is canceled. Dates are July 5th, July 19th, and August 2nd, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Rachel will provide additional information at our June meeting.

Legends Nominations – The deadline is now June 1st! With the concerns of these uncertain times, the Board voted to cancel the Awards Luncheon which was scheduled for November of this year. However, we do not want to totally eliminate the Legends program honoring people from our community. For this year only, we will nominate and honor historical Legends from the late 1700's, 1800's and early 1900's. This will be done through our website, using the newsletter and the Legends pages, posting their biographical information and anecdotal memories. The nominations for historical individuals will be extended until June 1st. Any other nominations will be considered for next year, when the process begins again. The Legends List and link can be found at ***<http://historicportnorris.org/legends-list.htm>***

Meetings - The chance of a June meeting is pending as we continue to have concerns with staying safe and well. Members may want to consider a July meeting to catch up with major things like the Legends program and the building, if needed. Until we have

confidence and can gather officially, we will wait and take it one day at a time.

Timeline –Attached is the Timeline list. Rache C. needs help with details. If you have any information to add to anything.... please write it down and send it to Rachel. Anything missing... please send.

August Picnic – Tentatively, our summer picnic will be held at Joe and Mary Linda’s house, with a Saturday date in August to be determined later.

New Bayshore Exhibit - Rachel received a email from a lady named Rita Moonsammy. who is working with Bayshore on a grant they have received for a new project. Quoting from Rita: “Here is the outline. I’m consulting with the Bayshore Center on a project to produce some media and other materials about the history of the African American shuckers and their community. We also want to look at the situation regarding shucking today. I think that I mentioned in my comment on the website that I’d spent a lot of time around Port Norris during the 80s and 90s, and that I wrote my dissertation (“Smart Boats, Able Captains: The Delaware Bay Oyster Schooner as Cultural Metaphor,” University of Pennsylvania) on the relationship between the community and the oyster schooners. So I was quite familiar with a lot of the oystermen and some of the shuckers during that time. But a lot of those people are gone now, and I’d appreciate some help in identifying people who are knowledgeable about the past and who are respected in their communities. Certainly, you are one of those people. Can you suggest others? And could you find some time to talk to me about this?”

Mary Linda Lacotte, Assistant Secretary

