

The Port Norris Historical Society

May 9, 2017

Attending: Rev E. Barnes, A. Baum, R. Berry, E. Bernhardt, G. Campbell, R. Cobb, G. Guidera, J. Hickman, L. Hoffman, M. LaCotte, J. Massey, S. Ricci, J & C Robbins & P & R Smith.

The meeting was held in the Port Norris United Methodist church beginning in the sanctuary. The beautiful stained glass windows were viewed and the history was reviewed by Liz Hoffman, a longtime member. We moved into the basement for the meeting which was called to order by Rachel Cobb, President.

Review of minutes as e-mailed: No additions or corrections. Motion to approve by Joyce Massey, 2nd by Gloria Guidera. Approved.

Treasurer's report: Distributed and reviewed by Liz Hoffman. Typo corrected in Capital Fund total. Motion to approve by Dick Smith, 2nd by Gloria Guidera. Approved.

Donations: House plaque from the Methodist Parsonage donated by Liz Hoffman.

We received a check for \$500 from Ethalinda Blackman as well as items from the Blackman family, Pitcher and Basin Set, Family portrait, pictures with names. Dr. Sharp's medical bag and a watch that was given to Lucy Blackman when she retired from the Stowman Shipyard. After lunch with Liz and Alvina, Joan Harper donated several family pictures, some pertinent news articles and a small duck carved by Dan Cobb. Liz and Alvina will keep these items until we are back in the building.

Tintype pictures were left just inside the door at the building. Looking for who left them. Rachel will scan in and we will continue to search for donor. Also, Shane Berry worked at Bivalve cleaning out an area and will donate a handcart and hook used for oysters that was left there.

Mary LaCotte donated some things from Lou Dagastine's estate. An original drawing of the memorial that was located on Memorial Ave and is now in the cemetery. A picture taken at that ceremony with unknown participants as well as some calendars.

Correspondence: We received a thank you note from Gloria Guidera for donations in John's memory.

Chamber by the Bay Fireworks: We did not contribute last year and will not contribute this year.

General Business: Mauricetown Social. It was lovely, bountiful buffet in their lovely Compton House. They gave us some pictures and everyone enjoyed themselves. Alvina will send a thank you note.

Road cleanup: Good job everyone! 10 people participated. 15 bags of trash were picked up on Steep Run Road. \$500.00 will be mailed to us. Road crew says we "old people" do better than any group.

Alvina is invited to meet with after school computer club at Haleyville School to talk with them about her childhood in Port Norris.

Joanne Hickman & Pat Smith visited new neighbors with a welcome bag. According to Joanne, they were very nice "got a tour and everything"

Card for Walt Rudolf was passed around for 100th birthday wishes and greetings. Dick will deliver to him for his birthday on May 22. He saw him last week and he was putting a spring in an old watch. He still likes to repair watches.

Membership : Ginny reported three new members, Edna Chance and John & Julie Nardone from Mauricetown.

Grants: Gannett e-mailed their regrets. Alvina is finding that the money is available mostly for programs. Liz has given us information about Masonic grants for historic buildings. Alvina will contact them.

General Business:

Bill from South Jersey Gas: Liz Hoffman reported that although they had settled on \$250/ per month until the balance is paid but this month they still took \$22.00. Dick Smith suggested that we pay the full amount then just pay the monthly bills. Motion made, seconded and approved to do so. There are padlocks on the gas while the heater is disconnected.

Idea for more efficient way to heat the building. Jim Robbins suggests that when we hook the gas heat back up, we have two zones one for the meeting room and one for the back room and bathroom. That would cut down on heating the whole building when no one is here.

DBWM: A bell for the wharf has been purchased. Rachel had captured the sound on audio and showed a picture of the new, bright bell. A Sampson board will be made by an experienced ship carpenter. We are hoping to sign the contract with Deborah Waddington Smith for the first one third of the fee to be paid. There will be another fund raiser open to the public planned for the fall. We feel like it is actually happening.

Bay Day: We are filling out the forms expected of us to be honorees at Bay Day. Meghan Wren will be presenting award about 1:30 pm. Dick Smith will be recognized as Historian. Meghan is now on hiatus for a few months.

We will have a reserved table to set up and sell our wares. Our stuff is in boxes set aside. We will need about five tables. Rachel suggests that visitors to our table sign a book and that we will later place it above the ceiling when it is replaced. We are celebrating 10 years as a Society.

Rachel will be in San Diego from May 20th to June 1st.

Nominations for Legends 2017: Written nominations will be due at our June meeting. Please be sure that they are filled out on our nominations forms.

We will consider the submissions over the summer and vote in August. We need to send invitations to all past Legends and all members to celebrate our 10th year. We have room for 200 at the Ramada.

There will not be a meeting in July, however, we are invited to once again share a picnic social time at the Morie home in Mauricetown on August 19th.

Building: Dick reports that everything is out of the first floor and packed away. Todd Oliver is expected on Thursday to start taking the ceiling down. Dumpster will be on site. When the ceiling is down, should Mike come in and install temporary lighting? It will definitely be needed. CAUTION!! The electric panel is changed around and no one should touch it at all. Need plan for the electrician.

Tables and chairs need to be brought in for the June meeting.

Discussed taking walls down versus trying to keep the original plaster . Table decision until June after we see what is there after the ceiling is down.

Second Friday will be focused on the Mission Church in Bivalve.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Alvina Baum, Recording Secretary

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