

# The Port Norris Historical Society

February 13, 2024

**Members Present:** E. Bernhardt, D. Berry, R. Berry, V. Campbell, R. Cobb, J. Donohue, J. Elwell, G. Guidera, B. Hall, F. Hickman, L. Hoffman, J. Lacotte, M. L. Lacotte, H. Ricci, S. Ricci, P. Smith, R. Smith, M. Tortorici  
**Guests:** Emma Hackley (Speaker), Jane Marshall, Feini Yin (Fishadelphia)

The regular meeting of the Port Norris Historical Society was held on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, commencing at 6:32 p.m., with President, Rachel Cobb, being in the chair and the Secretary present.

**January Meeting:** The January 2024 minutes and the February 13, 2024, meeting's agenda were emailed to active members on February 12, 2024.

**Introduction of Members/Guests:** PNHS members and guests stated their names and their connection to the organization or the town of Port Norris.

**Recognition of Member:** Rachel Cobb, PNHS President, presented Dick Smith with a Case Collector's pocket knife in recognition of his contributions and dedication to the historical society.

**Review of Minutes:** Gloria Guidera motioned to approve the emailed minutes of the January 9, 2024, meeting, seconded by Eileen Bernhardt, and unanimously approved by members present.

**Treasurer's Report:** Approval of the Treasurer's report, as emailed to Board of Trustees members on February 10, 2024, was tabled until the March 2024 meeting to allow for explanations.

**Members on the Mend:** Sam Ricci is recovering from a serious medical condition. As Rachel was speaking, Sam R. and his wife, Helga R., unexpectedly joined our meeting in person. Sam's appearance was met with applause and members expressed their happiness on seeing Sam at the meeting.

**Building Report:** Dick Smith stated the building had not been painted in seven (7) years, when five members of the historical society completed the task. Dick S. obtained a contract bid from DJ's Painting in the amount of \$3,950 including painting the back door. A discount of \$200.00 will be applied for cash payment, reducing the final total to \$3,750.00. This price includes scraping, sanding, and painting the outside of the building. The quoted contract price is good for thirty days. Although the actual painting will not begin until the temperature is warmer, Dick would like to lock in the price as the contract is in effect for thirty (30) days, with a deposit to be applied

to the balance due. The paint costs \$50.00 per gallon and will take between ten (10) to twelve (12) gallons to paint the entire outside of the building.

**Legends for 2024:** Mary Linda Lacotte announced 181 invitations were mailed on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. Inclusive of Legends, their guests, PNHS members and friends. Breakdown of Legends guests as of the February meeting:

Sharon Porter	27 invitations,	49 guests
*Sam Ricci	16 invitations,	30 guests
Edith Selby	78 invitations,	116 guests
Leslie Godown	25 invitations,	57 guests
Legends, Friends	35 invitations,	48 guests
Totals:	181 invitations,	290 guests

\*Additional names will be included in Sam's guest list.

The total number of guests invited does not reflect our active members. To keep the cost of printing and postage to a minimum, active members of the historical society were asked to get their response cards at the meeting. For those not in attendance, an email will be sent with pertinent information. All responses and monies are due by March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Motorsports Park was notified of the substantial increase in guest numbers. Depending on the final total, the PNHS may be charged for chair rental if the number of guests is over two hundred (two hundred) guests.

The Legends Committee met via Zoom on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The committee decided to continue with the basket fundraiser; the historical society items will be for sale. Individual flower plants will be placed in the baskets on the tables

Ginny Campbell stated there were five gift baskets available at last year's Legends Awards. With the increase in the number of guests at this year's event, discussion was to add two or three themed baskets. In place of baskets, it was suggested to use the PNHS bags to hold the themed items. If there are gift cards donated, they may be used for extra gifts to be won. Ginny will email members with the actual themes prior to the March meeting.

**Wi-Fi:** The building now has access to Wi-Fi; T-Mobile had to reset the codes. The printer will be connected to Wi-Fi soon.

**Commercial Township 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:** It was announced the date of the 150th Anniversary Dinner Dance is scheduled for Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm. Tickets are \$35.00 per person, which includes a buffet and dancing. Robin Berry will have tickets to purchase in the next few days. Presentations will be given by the PN Historical Society, the Mauricetown Historical Society, and the Bayshore Discovery Center. Rachel will need assistance with the visual presentation.

**Comments/Concerns:** Sam Ricci expressed his gratitude for all the well wishes and the support he was given during his medical emergency.

Mary Linda Lacotte announced the premier showing of the film “The Paradox of Seabrook” will be held at the Levoy Theater, Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 am. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and will be available at the door.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Guest Speaker Emma Wilkerson Hackley presented her reflections on growing up and residing in Port Norris. Refreshments were served after the presentation.

Mary Linda Lacotte,  
Recording Secretary