

The Port Norris Historical Society

December 12, 2023

Members Present: E. Bernhardt, R. Berry, V. Campbell, R. Cobb, G. Guidera, B. Hall, F. Hickman, H. Hickman, L. Hoffman, T. Klock, J. Lacotte, M. L. Lacotte, A. Lore, J. Lore, D. Pettit, S. Ricci, D. Smith, P. Smith, R. Smith.

Guest: Robin Quinn

The regular meeting of the Port Norris Historical Society was held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, commencing at 7:05 p.m., in the Society's headquarters building, with President, Rachel Cobb, being in the chair and the Secretary present.

November Meeting: The November minutes and the December 2023 meeting agenda were emailed to active members on December 11, 2023.

Review of Minutes: Gloria Guidera motioned to approve the emailed minutes of the November 2023 meeting, seconded by Pat Smith and unanimously approved by members present.

Treasurer's Report: Virginia Campbell made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as emailed to Board of Trustees members on December 8, 2023. Mary Linda Lacotte seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Board of Trustees present. The report will be filed for audit by Treasurer, Joyce Massey.

New Member Introduction: Virginia Campbell introduced new member Tony Klock, a Port Norris resident, who is active with the Citizens United organization and the Bayshore Center.

President's Report: Rachel Cobb announced the Port Norris Historical Society now has a Wi-Fi account with T-Mobile. The plan has a monthly charge of fifty dollars (\$50.00) with unlimited usage. The Wi-Fi box will be shipped by December 18th to Rachel Cobb. Monthly payments will be made automatically online.

Rachel Cobb also announced a Roku 43" Roku Smart TV was purchased at a cost of one hundred eighty-nine dollars (\$189.00).

The Mauricetown Historical Society Candlelight House Tour is Saturday, Dec. 16th starting at 5:00p.m. Food is available from 3:00p.m. to 6:00p.m; the Millville Woman's Club Chorus will perform a holiday music program at the Mauricetown Methodist Church that evening.

Nominations of PNHS Officers: In the absence of Nomination chairperson, Joyce Massey, the nominations of officers for the December 2023 election of the PN Historical Society Board were read by Faye Hickman, Vice-President.

President: Rachel Cobb
Recording Secretary: Mary Linda Lacotte
Corresponding Secretary: Gloria Guidera
Trustees: Eileen Bernhardt, Virginia Campbell

There being no additional nominations from the floor, Dick Smith made a motion to accept the slate of officers as presented. Alvin Lore seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

By-Law Amendment – The following proposed Amendment to the By-Laws was revised by the By-Laws committee and presented for approval at the December meeting. The amendment was emailed to active members as part of the agenda.

Proposed Amendment

Section 4: Voting Rights of Members

Each single paid membership shall be entitled to one vote.

Each family membership shall be entitled to two votes.

Each corporation or organization shall be entitled to one vote by a representative of said group. Honorary membership shall not be entitled to vote.

Members in good standing must be present to vote and have attended at least three (3) regular monthly meetings within the current calendar year. Proxy voting will not be accepted. The privileges of the various membership levels shall be authorized by the Board of Trustees. Membership shall not be transferrable or assignable.

Faye Hickman made a motion to adopt the By-Laws Amendment, Section 4: Voting Rights of Members. Gloria Guidera seconded the motion, with a unanimous vote to approve the revisions followed. The amendment will be added to the By-Laws with the adopted date, to be effective January 1, 2024.

Legends for 2024: Mary Linda Lacotte, Legend Chairperson, read and clarified the document entitled Criteria for Legends Nominations and the Legends Voting Rights for Members. The document was written by the Legends Committee to provide qualifications for Legends nominees and the establish voting rights of members regarding the Legend nominations. This document was included with the agenda emailed to the active members. Gloria Guidera made a motion to approve the Legends Criteria and the Legends Voting Rights for Members, with a second by Pat Smith. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote and will become effective January 1, 2024. (Full document attached to the minutes)

Voting for Legends 2024 Nominations: The names of Nominations for Legends of 2024 were presented by Legends Chairperson, Mary Linda Lacotte. Prior to voting, Dick Smith gave a brief biography of Historical Figure, Gibson C. Andrews, born in 1848 and died in 1906) who served in the Civil War and was wounded in action. Voting

guidelines were reviewed and individual ballots were distributed. Following the voting process, members of the Legends Committee collected and counted the ballots. Chairperson M.L. Lacotte announced the voting results for the Legends 2024 Awards.

Living Legends: (3) Highest votes were announced as winners (in bold print):

Sharon Porter (17)

Sam Ricci (17)

Edith Selby (15)

John "Bob" Bateman (4)

Past Legends: (1) Highest vote announced as winner (in bold print):

Leslie S. Godown, Sr. (12)

Sheppard "Shep" Lore (4)

Eric "Rick" Bateman (1)

Nominees who were not selected this year will be rolled over to the following year. Acknowledgement letters will be sent to the new Legends honorees. The costs of the meals for the luncheon will not be available until early January 2024.

Collections: Rachel Cobb stated Liz Hoffman donated a quilt made by members of the church with the names of many families of the church. She also donated pencils, a calendar and newspaper articles. Donna Pettit donated a Carnival wheel of chance. Dick Smith's brother, David, and his wife donated a painting by Barbara Adams.

Building: John Hickman purchased a new battery for one of the window sensors. Fire extinguishers were inspected and are good for the next six years. The inspector suggested a light be placed at the top of the stairs with the plate and wiring that still exists. Rachel will look for a period type lighting fixture.

Welcome Committee: Pat Smith reported that she and Faye Hickman suggested discontinuing the dispersing of welcome bags to new families moving into the community. With the number of people moving in and out of the community, their efforts have made no impact regarding participation in historical society meetings and activities.

Coffee Pot Donation: to the Ladies Auxiliary: Faye Hickman suggested the historical society make a donation to the PN Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary to replace their coffee pot which we use at our soup dinners.

Winter Festival: Robin Berry reported the Commercial Township Recreation Committee held the lighting of the Crab Basket Christmas Tree on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, November 26, 2023, with caroling, hay ride, and a holiday laser light show. Special thanks to Virginia Campbell and Rachel Cobb who designed and painted the historical society basket.

National Seed Swap Day: Rachel Cobb announced the historical society will host a Seed Swap in connection with the national day, on Saturday, January 27, 2024, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.. This is a free event open to the public. Volunteers are needed as greeters and helpers to commit to the day's activities.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Mary Linda Lacotte,
Recording Secretary