

The Port Norris Historical Society

March 14, 2023

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

The regular meeting of the Port Norris Historical Society was held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, commencing at 7:10p.m., in the Society's headquarters building, with President, Rachel Cobb, being in the chair and the Secretary present.

February Meeting: The February 2023 minutes and the March 2023 meeting agenda were emailed to active members on March 13, 2023. The Treasurer's Report for March 2023 was emailed to Executive officers and Board of Trustees on March 7, 2023.

Review of Minutes: Corrections to February 2023 minutes: Sam Ricci prepared the January Treasurer's report, not Joyce Massey, as stated in the February 2023 minutes. Misspelling of Anna DeFabrites was corrected. Liz Hoffman made a motion to approve the emailed minutes of the February 13, 2023, meeting, as corrected. The motion was seconded by Sandy Damato with unanimous member approval.

Treasurer's Report: Faye Hickman made a motion to approve the February 2023 Treasurer's Report, completed by Joyce Massey, Treasurer, and emailed to PNHS Officers and Board members. The motion, seconded by Gloria Guidera, was approved by unanimous vote to be filed for audit.

Committee Reports

Membership: Virginia C. reported we have seventy-seven (77) members to date, consisting of 59 members and 18 honorary members. The 2023 Living Legends will receive honorary lifetime membership status after the Legends Awards.

Correspondence: Gloria Guidera sent a thank you to Donna Bailey for the donation in memory of her brother, Craig Bailey. Donations in memory of Legend Vertie Kunkle were received from Pat Carney Cavender, Wayne Birmingham and family, Ron and Donna Garrison. PayPal donations from Mike Daggs, also Lauren Walsh, Lynn Moore, and Joyce Massey in memory of Vertie Kunkle.

Collections: No new items received since the last meeting

Welcome Committee: Pat Smith wrote a note to the Commercial Township tax assessor asking to be notified when a new resident moves into the township.

Speakers: Rachel Cobb announced there will be a speaker scheduled for the May meeting. Any suggestions for future speakers should be forwarded to Rachel.

Fundraiser: Soup Dinner – Rachel Cobb, in Dick Smith’s absence, introduced the idea of bringing back the soup dinner held this fall at the Port Norris Fire Hall. Following discussion regarding volunteer workers, cooking the soups, scheduling, etc., it was decided to continue exploring the possibility of holding a soup dinner fundraising event.

Building – A report from Dick Smith stated Guy Chamberlain has laid all the rockwool insulation upstairs, however, there is shortage of approximately 360 square feet of insulation. For economic reasons, the remainder of the insulation will be regular sheets of pre-cut panels. Work will begin on Thursday, March 16, 2023, to repair and paint the drywall. The last window was sold to Guy Chamberlain. There is a broken floor joist that needs to be repaired.

Wi-Fi: Rachel Cobb reported Mauricetown Historical Society has an AT&T cell phone, possibly used as a hotspot, bundled with Wi-Fi and a security system. The cost is \$200. to \$300. per month. In discussion, members suggested one option would be to purchase a cell phone with unlimited data plan and tap into a hotspot for Wi-Fi. Cell phone providers mentioned were Comcast, T-Mobile, and Verizon with access to a hotspot. Another possibility mentioned was to have a phone connection in the building. Further exploration of options available with cost analysis is needed to make an informed decision.

Merchandise: Virginia Campbell stated that with the number of guests expected at the Legends Awards, a PNHS bag filled with historical society merchandise would be added to the five themed baskets. She has taken an inventory of all sale items and it was recommended to reorder WWII history books, puzzles, and small schooner prints. Rachel C. ordered a sample of a lunch cooler, but it hasn’t arrived. A motion was made by Belinda Hall and seconded by Virginia Campbell to order fifty (50) lunch coolers at cost of \$4.15/item pending the quality of the sample. A note of appreciation was extended to all members who have donated items for the baskets. There is an ample supply of cookbooks, totes, mugs, with a sufficient number of caps. It was decided to hold off on the status of the 1883 lithograph painting of Americas Cup, donated by daughter of Ed and Lehma Gibson was .

Legends: In an email attachment, Mary Linda Lacotte updated the members regarding the Legends Awards Luncheon. See below:

PNHS Legends 2023 Update

Work Session: Monday, March 6

11 committee members attended

Invitations were assembled and prepared for mailing

Basket themes were discussed

Invitation Statistics:

Legends Invitations: 124 invitations, 195 guests

Other Invitations: 46 invitations, 76 guests

(Past Legends, Active Members, General Members, Friends)

Totals: 170 invitations, 271 guests

Note: There were a few invitations mailed to family members of Legends

who live a distance away and will not be able to attend. As in the past, this was done as a courtesy to the family.

The NJ Motorsports Park was notified of the increase in numbers of invited guests. They have reserved the entire room for our event. In the event the number of guests is over 200 people, there may be a nominal charge for table and chair rentals.

Reply cards should be arriving, and the totals should be available by the first week in April. Deadline for replies is April 1st.

Baskets: Be thinking about the addition of adding one or two baskets for the fundraiser, possibly one with the PNHS items.

PayPal – Mary Linda Lacotte stated a request to make on-line payments for Legends reservations through a PayPal account was researched by Rachel Cobb. Currently, the PNHS has a PayPal account set up, with payments transferred directly to our checking account. The service fee, approximately 3%, will be added to the cost of the meal, increasing the charge to \$39.00 per meal. Rachel Cobb will update the PNHS website to access a link to pay for reservation through PayPal. Rachel C. suggested the purchase of a PayPal card reader at a one-time purchase cost of \$29.00. The card reader will allow the PNHS to accept purchases using credit cards providing opportunities for use at other functions, outside of the building. A motion was made by Joyce Massey and seconded by Eileen Bernhardt to purchase the credit card reader. The motion was carried by a vote of eighteen (18) yes votes, with one (1) opposed.

A work meeting will be held on Thursday, April 20th at 10:30 am to assemble baskets and flower arrangements. Rachel Cobb mentioned change will be needed for the money box the day of the Legends. Volunteers will be needed to help sell tickets and work at the merchandise table. Donna Pettit volunteered to sell tickets. Rachel C. She will be leaving March 20th for three weeks and will be available to check emails in the evenings.

Comments, Questions, Good of the Order: Rachel Cobb mentioned she will bring a chamber pot matching the pitcher and bowl set in our collection, back from San Diego. In addition, a stained glass terrarium lid made by Herbie Moore will also be brought to Port Norris. She has ordered one hundred (100) copies of the Port Norris Pickings printed at a cost of \$25.00 to have available at the Legends and other events.

The Mauricetown Historical Society has requested to share items from Dr. Sharp's personal collection to display in their building. An agreement will be signed prior to the sharing of items.

Bayshore contacted Rachel Cobb asking the PNHS to become a sponsor of the second (2nd) Friday events in Bivalve at a contribution of \$200.00 for the sponsorship. This would provide opportunities for publicity, on-site tables for displays, etc.

John and Faye Hickman stated they purchased a label maker and John has labeled all remotes for the new heating/air-conditioning units to coordinate with the corresponding unit remote holder. The fans remote controls will be labeled in the future.

Sam Ricci mentioned he has the American Flag and Port Norris Rotary banner used by the PN Rotary Club prior to their disbanding.

Pat Smith reported there are new members Environmental Commission meeting.

April 11, 2023

Rachel adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Mary Linda Lacotte, Recording Secretary

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Date _____