

## **Port Penn Historical Society Quarterly Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**Meeting on September 5, 2019 at the Port Penn Interpretive Center – 6:30pm to 7:30pm**

Those present: Linda Beck, Tracy Beck, Carleen Czajkowski, Guy Harrington, Julie Harrington, Wes Jones, Jesse Laing, Jennifer Naylor, Ken Spicer and Mike Hitch from Parks.

Those Absent: John Chaney, Dr. David Orr, John Ringer and Ruth Smith

**Minutes from June 6, 2019 Meeting:** Jennifer emailed minutes. Minutes accepted by Wes Jones and seconded by Linda Beck.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's Report presented as of July 31, 2019, Delaware Community Fund as of June 30, 2019. Purchases included Interpretive Center planting and pamphlet holders for the Stewart Cemetery. Received a \$1000 Grant from the Bailey Foundation. Still discussing online banking and moving money from Artisans into a higher yield Money Market account. Most online banking is for individuals and not business/non-profit as they have to be guaranteed by a check signer. Wes will continue to research and Mike Hitch will get information on what the Fort Delaware Society recently did. Wes Jones presented the 2019 Budget.

Linda Beck accepted Treasurer's Report and the 2019 Budget, Carleen Czajkowski seconded.

### **On-going PROJECTS:**

**Waterman Statue:** No update on the work. Emailed John Ringer for an update and he said he should have work completed in November/December. Instructed that it must be done by 12/31/19. Needs to dig out, fill and seal. Discussed encapsulating the base with fiberglass cloth. More discussion of the statue being under cover while displayed. Carleen Czajkowski suggested sail type canvases to cover. Would give a nautical look. Carleen will look up photos and costs. Discussed moving closer to the building.

**Stewart Cemetery:** Pamphlet holders need to be installed – Guy Harrington.

**Banners:** Received new banners. 10 Possibilities.

### **2019 PROJECTS:**

- **Flags:** Flags will remain up through September 11, 2019. There are 6 new flags and 2 new poles. One of the brackets needs to be replaced. Flags will go back up on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2019 – Wes Jones.
- **Historic Plaques - Residences:** Project needs to be completed by February 1, 2020. Currently have 29 signed contracts, 50 needed for discount. Suggested ordering all signs even if signed contract has not been received. Jennifer Naylor will gather remaining contracts. Julie Harrington will start the process of gathering the text and providing to Insta-Signs.

**175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Daniel's Church:** Provided the church with the pictures. Waiting for date.

**Storage at Delaware City Library:** We have been renting space from the Delaware City Library for storage and have recently been told we can't use the space. Letter of intent sent to Danielle Metcalfe on 06/10/19 with no response. Recently found out she is no longer the Town Manager. Chief Baylor is acting Town Manager through the end of the year. Linda Beck and Julie Harrington will follow up with Chief Baylor.

**By-Laws:** Revisions to Article V:C:6 and Article VII:A:4 to our By-Laws have been made. Motion to approve by Wes Jones and seconded by Carleen Czajkowski.

**Hospitality:** Carleen Czajkowski has volunteered to handle sending out sympathy cards as needed. Will keep cards on hand.

**Website:** Agreed to post our Minutes without Budget information. Will also post meeting information. Wes Jones will work on Stewart Cemetery information on the website. Stewart Cemetery pamphlets point to the website.

**Port Penn Firehouse:** Still waiting to hear from Frank regarding the fire and Historic House Plaques. The court case was in July. The arsonist is now 18 and has joined the Marines. Mike Hitch will check to see who the President is. Letter to be sent to the President. No more information regarding replacing the Skinning Shack. Julie Harrington will follow up.

**Augustine Beach Trees:** Members will keep an eye out for good tree deals in the Fall (\$25). Need to replace some trees. Lost evergreens, sweet magnolia and cypress. Julie Harrington will provide a list of trees that will work in the space. Julie will also check with Shawn from a Cutting Edge regarding trees. Will reassess in the Spring.

**Audit of the Books:** Audit will be held at Linda Beck's home. Patsy Schaeffer will assist. Linda Beck left messages for Ruth Marie, Mary Lou Reynolds and Sam Eaton to see if they would help. Dr. David Orr volunteered to assist as well. Need to schedule.

**2019 Meeting Dates:** Our next meeting is December 5<sup>th</sup>.

**2020 Meeting Dates:** Spring Fling will be held on the March meeting date. Will figure out meeting dates by the December 5, 2019 meeting.

**2020 Newsletter:** Wes Jones will write up a timeline of the 4 generations of David Stewarts of Port Penn. Wes will also do a write up on the Stewart Cemetery. Articles due 01/31/20.

**2020 Projects:** More plantings at the Interpretive Center. Need full sun, drought resistant plants. Watering on weekends can be done by Parks. Parks will provide a list of plants good for the conditions at the Interpretive Center.

**Cleaver House Report:** A resident of Augustine Beach is interested in the Curatorship at the Cleaver House. Residence on top and shop on the bottom. Port Penn Area Historic Society would be interested in office space so there would be a physical address. Architectural Plans were done on the house in 2007 with the help from Senator Vaughn. Cost \$100,000.00.

**Augustine Inn:** Open for business – good reviews so far.

## **Parks Report: Mike Hitch**

- Christmas at the Interpretive Center. Mike Hitch will reach out to Jake for the date. Most likely the first or second week of December. Will check his schedule. Suggestion for a public source Christmas movie to play for the kids.
- Mike Hitch has reached out to the main office for a budget on the repairs needed at the Interpretive Center. There is rotten wood, and the museum needs to be painted. Hoping for next year.
- There is a new Park Ranger at the Academy who will likely reside in the Hobbs House.
- The RV Park is still a go at Grassdale. Plans to open this Fall. 400+spaces.
- Parks will be moving to the Barracks at Fort DuPont. The building will become a DNREC building. Probably a year out for the move. Plans to add on for an ongoing exhibit in the building.
- The artifacts will be moved to the Repository at Fort DuPont. The building will be redone and climate controlled.
- The Parks maintenance shop will be moving to a Pole Building at Fort DuPont.
- 6 houses sold at Fort DuPont development. Will be building townhouses.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Wes Jones and seconded by Linda Beck.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.**