

Port Penn Historical Society Quarterly Meeting

Minutes

Meeting on December 3, 2020 at the Port Penn Interpretive Center – 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Those present: Linda Beck, Guy Harrington, Julie Harrington, Jennifer Naylor, David Orr and Mika Drake and Jake Miller from Parks.

Those absent: Tracy Beck, Carleen Czajowski, John Chaney, Wes Jones, Jesse Laing, Laura Lee, John Ringer and Ruth Smith.

Minutes from September 3, 2020 Meeting: Jennifer emailed Minutes 09/22/20. Motion to approve Minutes by Julie Harrington and seconded by Guy Harrington.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report emailed to Board by Wes Jones and presented by Julie Harrington as of September 30, 2020, Delaware Community Fund as of September 30, 2020.

Note: October/November Statements were not available at time of Treasurer's Report. Received RCD Grant. Purchased Heroes Banners.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by Linda Beck and seconded by David Orr.

On-going PROJECTS:

Waterman Statue: Tracy Beck emailed examples of different covering options for the statue. Suggested joint project with Parks. Statue needs to be protected. John Ringer continues to repair and maintain. Discussed a possible move to the Cannery Lot with a new structure/picnic area or consider a picnic area at museum. Parks will come up with a plan to present to see if there is funding available for project. Discussed replacing statue with a fiberglass/plastic statue. Vandalism concern with picnic area discussed. Could place another external camera on museum facing picnic area.

Stewart Cemetery: Priority Services will continue to care for the cemetery at the same price as 2020, every 2 weeks, \$89.00.

Motion to accept proposal by Linda Beck and seconded by David Orr.

Flags: New flags should be in soon, poles have already been received. There was a problem with the current manufacturer so a switch to a new manufacturer was needed to get our "sleeved" flags. Suggestion to have the flags and the flag poles marked with "Property of PPAHS" as a deterrent to theft. Delaware Humanities Grant paid for 25 flags and 12 poles, totaling \$992.00.

Delaware Humanities CARES Grant: final due by September 30, 2020. Julie Harrington and Linda Beck will work on grant.

Banners: Two new Heroes Banner are up. There is room for one more, possibly two. Discussed the pole at Pat Shaffer's house if tree is trimmed. Winter Banners will go up December through May.

Historic House Plaques in Port Penn: John Chaney will deliver the remaining Plaques to Julie Harrington for distribution.

Storage at Delaware City Library: No update and no payment made for storage.

Augustine Beach Trees: Approximately 12 trees were replaced on November 8th, 2020. All trees were mulched. Mulch donated by Cutting Edge. Will need to reassess in the Spring and clean up area for the Spring Augustine Beach Historic Marker unveiling. Metal stakes are still in the ground from picnic table removal. Have been painted so they are visible.

2021 PROJECTS:

- **Statue:** To be discussed further.
- **Augustine Beach Historic Marker:** Dedication has been moved to Spring 2021, date to be determined.
- **Port Penn Interpretive Center:** Bulb planting.
- **Member's Event/Anniversary Event:** Member's Event moved to Fall due to Covid. Suggested a date in September that will also replace the 09/02/21 meeting. Suggested having a tent outside at the Cleaver House and being able to tour the inside. Jake Miller will check with Cultural Resources, Tom Summers, who took over for Jim Hall. It was determined to use 1983 as the date that the PPAHS was incorporated. Julie Harrington will get exact date. Discussed 40th Anniversary. Will be discussed further.
- **Oral History Project:** Will work on format and come up with questions after Covid.
- **Post Card for Port Penn Residents:** Discussed using original artwork from museum and include a historic tidbit. Also suggested including museum events. Different artwork could be a collectors item.
- **2021 Newsletter:** Linda Beck working on History of Bayview Beach article. Due 01/31/21.

2021 Meeting Dates: March 4th, June 3rd and December 2nd. September meeting will be Member's Event. Date to be determined.

Parks Report: Mika Drake and Jake Miller

- **Muskrat Shack:** Still need to provide information on the Muskrat Shack to the Insurance Adjuster. They need to see the cost comparisons between a rebuild and an acquisition. Jim Hall was the point person on this and has all the information so it will need to be gathered and submitted for review. Seems the rebuild would be the better bet.
- **Interpretive Center:** On 12/07/20 the furnace is being removed and replaced. The flooring where furnace was located will also be replaced. All artifacts will be removed during this time. Museum will be winterized. All work will be done by Spring. There was a meeting with the Parks Exhibits Coordinator. Would like to do a refresh on the Museum displays to try to get visitation up. There was a plan made in 2015. Reorganize not remove. Would also like to bring some artifacts back. Discussed some removal just to get artifacts out of sun but not permanent removal.
- **Floating Cabin:** There is a roof leak that needs to be fixed and the Cabin will need to be repainted. Jim Thomas, the Maintenance Supervisor for Parks is certified in Lead Paint and will be able to deal with this "in house".
- **Historic Marker:** Jake Miller installed the remaining Historic Markers on Park land.
- **Cannery Lot:** Will be evaluating what is growing and invasive species.
- **Marsh Walks:** Breakwater will remain closed which limits Marsh related programs and Wetland Walks. Trying to restore the Marsh like what was done at Bombay Hook.

Miscellaneous:

- Linda Beck and Julie Harrington will provide list of correct spelling and other errors on the Wayside signs to Parks.
- Requests for more t-shirts that were designed for the Wetland Festival. Julie Harrington will see if the company used is still in business and reach out.

Motion to adjourn by Linda Beck and seconded by Guy Harrington.