

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

### **Minutes**

**Meeting on December 2, 2021 at the Port Penn Interpretive Center – 6:30pm to 7:30pm**

Those present: Linda Beck, John Chaney, Carleen Czajowski, Nancy Cornish, Julie Harrington, Wes Jones, Jennifer Naylor, Jeff Reed and Jake Miller and Mark Wise from Parks.

Those absent: Tracy Beck, Guy Harrington, Jesse Laing, Laura Lee, David Orr and John Ringer.

**Minutes from September 2, 2021 Meeting:** Jennifer emailed Minutes September 10<sup>th</sup>. Motion to approve Minutes by Jeff Reed and seconded by Linda Beck.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's Report emailed to Board by Wes Jones as of September 30, 2021, Delaware Community Fund as of September 30, 2021.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by John Chaney and seconded by Jeff Reed.

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

**Flags:** Thank you to John Chaney for hanging the flags in 2021. 2022 Flag Dates will be addressed at next meeting.

**Banners:** Winter Banners will go up in December.

**Port Penn Entrance Signs:** Jeff Reed replaced all roping on the three entrance signs. Thank you Jeff!

**Storage at Delaware City Library:** All items have been removed from the Delaware City Library. Items are being stored at Linda Beck's until a new solution/decision can be made and are secure. Storage needs to be mostly climate controlled to prevent mold. Need 10x10 space. Parks is moving from Grassdale so that is not an option. 03/01/21 is Parks last day at Grassdale with a move in at new location of 04/01/21. At this time there isn't available space for storage, but this may change once the new location is move in ready. Items currently stored at Grassdale fall under Cultural Resources and not Parks. They are also working on a new storage solution. Any items belonging to PPAHS will be moved with Parks. Will reopen storage discussion once Parks move is complete. Laura Lee has been in contact with Jeff Randol from Fort DuPont Redevelopment & Preservation Corporation about possible use of a historic building there. The building is NOT ready for occupants. Senator Poore's secretary reached out to Linda Beck for a meeting. Linda Beck, Wes Jones and Julie Harrington will be meeting with Senator Poore on Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Due to the redistricting, she will be the new Senator for this area next November. They will express our concerns about non-profits in the area. There are four non-profits in the area.

**Scanning and Archiving of PPAHS Materials:** Thank you to Linda Beck and Nancy Cornish for scanning. Items moved and stored at Linda Beck's will need to be gone through and scanned. Documents will be stored on Google Docs and login information will be provided to Board Members.

**Augustine Beach Trees:** Will assess the trees and mulch in the Spring. Outhouses have been secured and surrounded by a chain link fence.

**Recycled Plastic Picnic Tables for Augustine Beach:** Tables have been ordered but take a long time to build. Julie Harrington will follow up on timing. Once finished they will be delivered to Eric Ludwig of Fish & Wildlife for installation.

**PPAHS T-Shirts:** Wes Jones needs modeled photos of the t-shirts for the website. Will also add photos to Social Media. Order form will be available to purchase shirts.

## **2022 PROJECTS:**

- **Waterman Statue:** Statue is in bad shape. Will need to consider other options. Suggested Metal Silhouette. Linda Beck contacted Blacksmith Kerry Rhoades of Forged Creations in Delaware City to discuss options. Reaching out to local school art departments and wood shops was also discussed.
- **Oral History Project:** Still needs to be pursued. David Orr will have a list of questions after the Holiday. This project needs to get moving.

**2022 Meeting Dates:** March 3<sup>rd</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup>. 2022 Member's Event to be held in the Fall. Stewart House was suggested as a location.

**2022 PPAHS Newsletter:** Articles due 01/31/22. Wes Jones suggested an article about the Stewart House and an article about the Racetrack that used to be at Augustine Beach. Julie Harrington will reach out to Laura Lee about writing an article. Wes Jones will provide arial photos of the area where you can still see where the track was located. Suggested reaching out to Bill Marshall for more information.

**Christmas Open House:** Parks will host a Christmas Open House at the Interpretive Center on December 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. Linda Beck will provide wreaths for the doors and a treat, Julie Harrington will provide cider, Carleen Czajowski will provide cookies and Jennifer Naylor will provide water and candy canes.

**Parks Report:** Mark Wise and Jake Miller

- **Cannery Lot:** On December 1<sup>st</sup> the Parks crew from Alapocas, State Arborist Jim Charney and Volunteers from the Vet Corps cut down hundreds of invasive trees growing on the lot. Still need to grind down the stumps. Will revisit in the Spring and determine what will be needed for a Fall planting.
- **Cleaver House:** Missing vents replaced. Pleased to find the basement dry after the flooding Port Penn sustained with a recent storm.
- **Muskrat Shack:** Mark Wise brings this issue up every other week on a call with his Manager but still no resolution. There is insurance money. Discussed moving the Muskrat Shack to a more visible location if rebuilt. Cannery Lot was suggested as a new location. Viable arguments for moving and leaving in current location.
- **Port Penn Season:** Discussed creating a “season” for Port Penn to promote to visitors. Suggested starting in September and going through Spring. Can purchase A-Frame signs to promote Port Penn and place them at the Fort Delaware ticket office so people will know and see they can make a short trip to Port Penn. Also suggested placing Roadside signs for the trails and the Muskrat Shack that are visible from the road.
- **Wayside Signs:** The Stewart Cemetery and Stewart House signs have been replaced and installed.
- **Bike Station:** Still need the exact location this will be placed before final approval. Will have this all resolved before the next meeting.

**Motion to adjourn by Wes Jones and seconded by Linda Beck at 7:36pm.**