



P.O. Box 463, Burk's Falls, Ontario P0A 1C0
Phone: 705-571-3308
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Heritage Centres
Watt Century Farm House
827 Chetwynd Road
Armour Township

Wiseman's Corner Schoolhouse
112 Midlothian Road
Ryerson Township

MINUTES Burk's Falls & District Historical Society Fell Homes, Burk's Falls Thursday, May 12, 2016

Members Present:

- Linda Maurer – President
- Betty Caldwell – Vice President
- Rakel Gray – Treasurer
- Charlene Watt – Secretary
- Diane Brandt
- Lorne Main
- Nieves Guijarro
- Judy Ransome
- Wilma Bentley
- David Gray
- Bruce Campbell
- Maureen Lanois
- Rebecca Zanussi
- Dona Crawford
- Brad Crozier - Guest

The Members present constituted a quorum.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 p.m.

Linda Maurer in the Chair.

Welcome:

Linda welcomed Members & Guests. The President welcomed Rakel Gray back from maternity leave.

Delegation:

Heritage River Walk Mapping. Bruce Campbell and Brad Crozier presented to the Members information regarding a new App that uses QR Codes on various signs on the Heritage River Walk Trail and tells the history of the town. There are plans to have the free App available on Google Play and the App Store by the end of May. The information from the QR Codes loads information onto handheld devices and maps the local trails. It



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allows users to navigate the trails and learn local history. Data was collected from insurance maps, Bob Miller (Township of Armour Planner), the Historical Society and local historians. Historical information can be found within many of the trail descriptions and has extended image galleries. Also included is a Now and Then section to see contrast differences between historical pictures to recent images. The Heritage River Walk App is quick and easy to use. Users can select trails, historical details of interest, and locate local businesses. Brad indicated that the App would include promotion of the local heritage centres and the Historical Society.

Approval & Amendments of the Minutes of the Last Meeting:

Acceptance and adoption of the April 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes: **Moved by Diane Brandt, Seconded by Betty Caldwell. Carried**

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's / Financial Report presented by Linda Maurer. On March 1, 2016 the account balance was \$9,283.20, total account balance as of April 30, 2016 was \$10,805.20. Deposits included \$5,000.00 from Armour Township, \$16.00 in calendar sales and \$25.00 in donations. Expenses between March 1 and April 30 totalled \$336.74. A \$500.00 donation for 2016 was received from the Township of Ryerson and Linda Maurer was advised this afternoon that the Village of Burk's Falls will donate \$5,000.00. A re-evaluation of the budget for 2016-2017 is to be discussed due to lack of funding. **Motion to accept the treasurer's report and pay the monthly invoices: Moved by David Gray, Seconded by Diane Brandt. Carried**

Committee Reports:

Heritage Committee Reported.

Special Event Weekend. Plans for the Heritage Day of July 23, 2016 is well underway. Diane Brandt confirmed with Kyle Jenkins that the Fire Department will donate a large tent for the day. Lorne Main indicated that there is to be a busload of "Marching for Veterans" coming from Huntsville for the celebration. Bruce Campbell offered to bring 50-100 chairs from the Burk's Falls Arena for the event. Betty Caldwell requested that additional promotion of the event encourage people to bring their lawn chairs. At 10:00 a.m. on Heritage Day, a wreath will be laid and a prayer said at the Village of Burk's Falls Cenotaph with Veterans present. The wreath will be provided by the legion and the street will not be closed. Betty indicated that formal invitations were sent by Pam Goodwin to Councils, MPP, MP, and local legions. A discussion occurred over the price for the Hammond horse pulled wagon rides for the event. **Motion to accept the Hammond's Wagon Ride expense of \$500 for the Heritage Day Event: Moved by Rakel Gray and Seconded by Judy Ransome.**



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Betty Caldwell updated Members on the status of the heritage newspaper that is being funded through the RED program. The publication will consist of articles on wartime stories, pictures, Now & Then, war bride letter(s) and recipe(s). There will be 4,000 copies of the 20 page publication printed and sold at a cost of \$2.00 each. Historical Societies will be promoted through a full page announcement. Linda Maurer thanked the Committee for their time and dedication to the task stating that the project has been a wonderful partnership with the Strong Agricultural Society.

2017 Calendars. Diane Brandt presented the selected photographs for the 2017 Historical Society Calendars which celebrates Canada's 150th Anniversary and a war hero theme. There will be 400 copies printed of the 2017 calendar and sold at a cost of \$10 each.

Constitution Committee Reported.

A Committee was created with volunteers Diane Brandt, Rebecca Zanussi and Betty Caldwell. A draft constitution was presented and revisions were approved by the Members. A quorum is now defined in the document as: "All members are eligible to vote at any meeting. A minimum of five (5) voting members shall constitute a quorum. All members who attend a meeting shall have the right to vote."

Article 2 – changed the word district to area

Article 3 – deleted the sentence regarding life membership

Article 4 – changed meeting date to be the 2nd Thursday of each month and start time of 7:00 p.m. Defined a quorum.

Article 5 – Election meetings are now held in the month of March each year and deleted the sentence regarding the first general meeting thereafter.

Article 8 – Deleted the sentence stating that the Vice-President is to chair all *Executive* Committee Meetings.

Article 9 – Amended secretary duties to record the minutes and circulate copies to all members.

Article 10 – Remove the word "Executive" from sentences within this article. Amended the sentence within the article to read: "All cheques must be signed by at least any two (2) signatures which can be either the President, Vice-President or Treasurer in any combination, thereof.

Deleted the sentence that the treasurer must be bonded.



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Deleted the word "*Executive*" from the sixth sentence. The sixth sentence now reads: It is his or her responsibility to have proper accounts drawn up in some financial institution in Canada, named by the committee and that all monies, with the exception of petty cash, be deposited therein.

Amended the sentence regarding cheques to state that all accounts exceeding (\$20.00) twenty dollars are to be paid by cheque. (amended from \$5.00).

Second Paragraph – Deleted the words *Executive* and the sentence: he or she may accept or reject any or all pending clarification from the committee.

Third Paragraph – Revised the paragraph to read "He or she shall advise the committee of the monthly finances on the operation of the Society."

Last Paragraph – Delete the word *Executive*.

Article 11 – Delete the words *registration fees and* – so that the raising of funds shall read: Funds for all purposes of the Society shall be obtained by subscription from members by way of annual dues, from various forms of entertainment, by draws, municipal contributions, corporate sponsorships and /or in any other manner which the Society shall determine.

Article 12 – New paragraph was added with revisions to references to an Executive Committee. Sentence revision included "The Auditors shall examine all accounts of the Society and shall verify the financial records and prepare a statement to be presented at the next regular scheduled meeting of the Society."

Article 13 – Order of Business

1. Call to Order
2. Introduction/Welcome
3. Delegation
4. Approval/Amendments of the minutes of the last meeting
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Committee Reports
7. Nomination and Election of Officers (Annually)
8. General Business
9. Adjournment

Article 14 – Amend spelling error and remove the word *executive* from the clause.

Motion to accept the constitution committee recommendations and to incorporate a new constitution: Moved by Linda Maurer, Seconded by Lorne Main. Carried



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General Business:

1. *Blackfly Tea.* Confirmation of event details were made. The event will take place on May 28, 2016 at the Watt Farm house. The event will run from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Vendors have been confirmed. Cathy Still has offered to play the piano for the event. We will serve sandwiches, scones and tea. Pegasus Wellness will sell tea and offer a tea tasting too. Charlene and Cam Watt will provide 6 dozen scones (3 dozen cranberry and 3 dozen caramel). The following items will be made by members: Nieves – cream cheese and cucumber sandwiches, Betty – egg salad sandwiches, Linda – ham sandwiches, Maureen – gooseberry jam and Charlene – fruit tray. Betty Caldwell will provide additional tea cups. Cost for the event is \$5.00 or by donation. Volunteers are to arrive at the Farm House by 9:30 a.m. Fancy tiered trays and cake plates are requested from Members for the day.
2. *Detour Signs.* Betty Caldwell indicated that with the Yonge Street Bridge closure, signs for a detour need to be created and posted. The newly posted directional signs to the Watt Farm House do not coincide with the available route through the Village of Burk's Falls.
3. *Summer Staffing & Municipal Contributions.* Due to lack of financial support, as it currently stands, we cannot have a youth intern. What we are wanting to ask YCW is whether or not they will change their grant to an 8 week project for a summer student. This will then provide us with: Mature Person – 15 hours per week for 25 weeks (maybe more if we can swing it); Summer Student – 30 hours per week at \$13.00 per hour paid for by Canada Summer Jobs 8 weeks; Summer Student – 30 hours per week at \$15.00 per hour paid for by Young Canada Works 8 weeks (not 12 as originally asked for); if they are not willing to amend the project we will accept the grant from Canada Summer jobs for 8 weeks. Only one student applied for the summer position. We may run another advertisement for the student position at an eight week contract. We received three (3) resumes for the mature person position and we do have some money to work with. The Historical Society received \$10,500.00 in municipal funding from the \$12,000.00 request. Interviews for the mature persons are to be scheduled for Thursday, May 19th, 2016 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Watt Farmhouse. Linda Maurer, David Gray and Charlene Watt will interview the candidates. Charlene will schedule the interviews.
4. *Revised 2017 Budget.* A revised 2016-2017 Budget was presented to Members by Linda Maurer. The 2015-2016 Budget of \$46,148.06 has been decreased to \$21,418.28 for 2016-2017. The request for \$12,000.00 in municipal support was



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submitted with \$10,500.00 being received. Of the bank balance we had at year end, we will need to use \$5,000.00 of the \$6,100.00. Linda indicated that she is continuing to work on budgeting with John Theriault, Treasurer for the Township of Armour. Increase in membership is a focus for 2016-2017. We as volunteers will need to volunteer more for the upcoming year in order to keep the Historical Society moving forward. **Motion to accept the revised budget for 2016-2017: Moved by Diane Brandt, Seconded by Dona Crawford. Carried**

5. *Hours of Operation.* Wilma Bentley offered to open the Schoolhouse Heritage Centre in Ryerson the Thursday before Canada Day (June 23, 2016) and will keep the facility open on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
The Watt Farm house will be opened on June 25, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Linda Maurer will volunteer her time that day. We need a volunteer to open the Farm house on July 2, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Farm house will be staffed effective July 5, 2016 to the end of August 2016 from Tuesday to Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please contact Linda Maurer if you are able to volunteer any time to assist in keeping the heritage centres open.
6. *Canada Day.* The Historical Society will share a display table with the library at the Village Green citizen BBQ at the municipal park. Nieves will be attending the event.
7. *Advertising.* Diane Brandt will investigate advertising the heritage centres in a tourist publication titled, "Curious Tourist Guide."
8. *Future Event Idea.* Dona Crawford suggested a make shift antiques roadshow with appraisers for the general public. The event would encourage people to learn more about their treasures, local history and its' worth.
9. *Schoolhouse clean up.* A reminder was given to Members to meet this Sunday, May 15, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. at the Schoolhouse for the heritage centre's spring cleaning. Diane Brandt indicated that measurements are required by Home Depot for the facility painting.
10. *Correspondence from Ryerson.* Judy Kosowan, Clerk for Township of Ryerson, spoke to Bob Edmunds, Roads Supervisor, and he will arrange to take the water cooler up to the schoolhouse and take the storm windows off. The tank under the outhouse is sinking, so the Township is planning to dig it up and fill in the area. A decision to keep the outhouse in service was made by Members and



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not purchase a new one; a new location needs to be selected for the outhouse at the heritage site. The big wooden desk from the Township of Ryerson office will be placed in the school house.

11. Next Meeting: It was decided to meet on Thursday, June 9, 2016 at the Watt Farmhouse at 7:00 p.m. as Lorne Main will be away.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, **Bruce Campbell moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m., Seconded by Wilma Bentley.**

Recorded by
Charlene Watt

Approved by
Linda Maurer, President