



P.O. Box 463, Burk's Falls, Ontario P0A 1C0
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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
Monday, May 15, 2017

Members Present:

Linda Maurer - President
Charlene Watt - Secretary
Diane Brandt
Nieves Guijarro
Lorne Main
Judy Ransome
Wilma Bentley
David Gray
Rosalind Hall
Maureen Lanois
Lisa Morrison

Guests:

Reeve Cathy Still – Village of Burk's Falls
Reeve Glenn Miller – Township of Ryerson
Reeve Bob MacPhail – Township of Armour

The Members present constituted a quorum.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Linda Maurer in the Chair.

Welcome:

Linda welcomed Members. Linda welcomed the Reeves.

Delegation:

None

Approval & Amendments of the Minutes of the Last Meeting:

Acceptance and adoption of the April 17, 2017 Meeting Minutes as circulated: **Moved by Rosalind Hall, Seconded by Lorne Main. Carried**



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Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's / Financial Report presented by Linda Maurer. The bank balance on March 31, 2017 was \$4,966.60. Account reconciliation for April has not been completed to date.

Treasurer's report for this month has been deferred.

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee: Lorne Main provided a list of the 2017 Memberships to date. Charlene Watt will mail out the Spring 2017 newsletter to the two out of area members.

General Business:

1. *Current State of the Historical Society:* Linda Maurer addressed Members and the Reeves that she would be resigning the President Position effective immediately. She will not be attending the June meeting but will participate in the Canada 150 Celebrations. Linda is resigning for personal reasons in preparation for her retirement and out of province move. Linda addressed Members to request someone take over the position.

Volunteers are needed to keep the facilities open. Only one student position was funded this year. The Historical Society has not received a full commitment from all three municipalities for the Heritage Curator position. We will require \$7,590 to just get through for summer staff. Linda indicated that the annual financial contribution requests from the municipalities is always uncertain, she would like to see a format change with a commitment for so many years to ensure continued stability of the Historical Society. The Historical Society has charitable status, we can now go to businesses and promote corporate sponsors. There is an opportunity for funding, we just need someone to dedicate the time.

Based on historical expenses for the facilities, Linda estimates that the Historical Society would need approximately \$10,000 annually to run the two heritage centres. Should the Historical Society dissolve, the donated items to the museums would need to be returned to their owners.

Reeve Miller inquired if the Historical Society attended the volunteer training that was promoted by David Gray, Economic Development Officer. It was confirmed that Historical Society Members were in attendance.

Dave Gray thanked Linda Maurer for her commitment to the Historical Society and the excellent legacy she has built. He indicated that we need to figure out



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the future direction of the Society and need to make a short term plan. There is a great business plan in place, it needs to continue to be implemented.

Reeve MacPhail addressed the Historical Society Members to provide a municipal point of view. Reeve MacPhail would like to keep the farmhouse as a destination attraction in the area and will address the matter with his Council.

Linda indicated that there is year round potential for marketing of the Historical Society. There's opportunity for work to be completed with the Economic Development Officer, fundraising, sponsorship and archiving.

Reeve Cathy Still addressed Members and Reeves stating she will address the Historical Society's concerns with her Council.

Rosalind Hall stated that a lot of repairs are needed to be completed at the schoolhouse. A new outhouse needs to be purchased and applicable permits obtained. Maintenance is required with the roof, the walls and rodent extermination. Ryerson has committed the same funding as last year, they are contributing approximate \$3,500 as goods in kind and contributing \$500 to make a total of \$4,000.

Dave Gray advised members that Rakel Gray will reassume the Treasurer position on a temporary basis. He addressed Members of the room to throw their hats into the ring for remaining open executive positions: Vice President and President.

Nomination for Diane Brandt for President/Acting Chair - the structure will be re-evaluated in September 2017. Nominated by Rosalind Hall and seconded by Lisa Morrison. Diane Brandt accepted the nomination.

Nomination for Nieves Guijarro for Vice-President – the structure will be re-evaluated in September 2017. Nominated by Lisa Morrison and seconded by Rosaline Hall. Nieves Guijarro accepted the nomination.

- Hours of Operation for June 2017:* Wilma Bentley will open the schoolhouse on May 19, 20, 21 and every weekend thereafter until after Thanksgiving for the hours of 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. The farmhouse volunteers will work the following day/hours: June 3 / 11:00 am to 3:00 pm – Maureen Lanois; June 10 / 11:00 am to 3:00 pm – Nieves Guijarro; June 17 / 11:00 am to 3:00 pm – Lorne Main. The farmhouse will be closed on June 24 as it is Ryerson's Canada 150 Celebration and July 1 as it is Burk's Falls Canada 150 Celebration. July 8,



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2017 is the Canada 150 Celebration at the farmhouse. Volunteers are required starting at 8:00 am. Diane Brandt will open the farmhouse on Sundays in June from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

3. *Picnic Table:* Charlene Watt will paint the picnic table in preparation for Brad Crozier to paint artwork. Members will sell raffle tickets throughout the summer and the winner will be announced at the annual fall fair. 500 tickets will be issued at a cost of \$5.00 per ticket. Lottery licence will be obtained from Armour.
4. *Canada 150:* Mulligans will not be participating at the farmhouse with their maple syrup display. We will attempt to obtain maple products from Hubbert's to sell and maple syrup/sap collecting buckets, etc from the Watt's. Ryerson will hold the BBQ at the municipal garage on June 24, not the schoolhouse because of a water requirement in serving pork products. Cake will be served at the schoolhouse. Historical Society will sell bottled water. Coffee will be served. Members are to be at the schoolhouse by 11:00 am. The Canada Day celebration on July 1st in the Village of Burk's Falls will involve the closure of Ontario street from Quik-way to Yonge Street. Diane will contact Candy Shuker from the Village office to obtain details on setting up a Historical Society table.
5. *T-Shirts:* Diane Brandt informed members that the t-shirt order is in.

Other Business:

Adjournment:

It was decided to meet on Monday, June 19, 2017 at the Fell Homes at 7:00 p.m. There being no further business, **Lisa Morrison moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m.**

Recorded by
Charlene Watt, Secretary

Approved by
Linda Maurer, President