



P.O. Box 463, Burk's Falls, Ontario P0A 1C0  
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[www.burksfallsdistricthistoricalsociety.com](http://www.burksfallsdistricthistoricalsociety.com)  
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Heritage Centres  
Watt Century Farm House  
827 Chetwynd Road  
Armour Township  
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Wiseman's Corner Schoolhouse  
112 Midlothian Road  
Ryerson Township

**MINUTES**  
**Burk's Falls & District Historical Society**  
**Fell Homes, Burk's Falls**  
**Monday, January 21, 2019**

Members Present: Diane Brandt – President  
Nieves Guijarro – Vice President  
Jarv Osborne – Treasurer  
Charlene Watt - Secretary  
Bruce Campbell  
Betty Caldwell  
Lorne Main  
Rosalind Hall  
Jennifer Furtney  
Judy Ransome

The Members present constituted a quorum.

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.  
Diane Brandt in the Chair.

**Welcome:**

Diane welcomed Members. Diane welcomed our new Member, Jennifer Furtney.  
Regrets from Lisa Morrison and Jennifer Talbot.

**Delegation:**

None

**Approval & Amendments of the Minutes of the Last Meeting:**

Acceptance and adoption of the November 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes as circulated:  
**Moved by Bruce Campbell, Seconded by Jarv Osborne. Carried**



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### **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer's / Financial Report presented by Jarv Osborne. Main bank account balance was \$8,826.98 on December 31, 2018. **Motion to accept the Treasurer's report and pay the monthly invoices: Moved by Judy Ransome, Seconded by Betty Caldwell. Carried**

### **Committee Reports:**

*Membership Committee:* Lorne Main reported 18 paid Memberships for 2018. None of the out of town members renewed in 2018. A new member has joined the Historical Society, Teresa Jordan. Welcome, Teresa!

*Archiving Committee:* Diane Brandt reported that she is continuing to sort through the medical artifacts in preparation for Heritage Day 2019.

### *Heritage Centres:*

**Schoolhouse Report:** The Township of Ryerson has applied for the Young Canada Works summer grant. We will await a decision from the government before commitments are made to the allocation of summer staff at heritage sites.

**Farm House Report:** The Township of Armour has applied for the Young Canada Works and Summer Jobs Grant for the 2019 summer student employment. We expect to hear back from the governments sometime in April 2019.

### **General Business:**

1. *Correspondence:* OHS Bulletin was received.
2. *Correspondence:* Multiple emails have been received from the general public inquiring about family history in the area. Members reviewed the correspondence. Diane Brandt has researched and responded to the inquiries accordingly. Jarv Osborne will respond to one of the inquiries as the family's last name is Osborne.
3. *Cookies with Mrs. Claus:* Our Christmas Celebration was held at the Burk's Falls Arena on Sunday, December 9, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Volunteers for the day included Betty, Judy, Bruce, Nieves, Diane, Rosalind, Charlene and Lisa. Our volunteer cookie bakers were Bruce Campbell, Jenn Talbot, Danielle Hall and Judy Ransome. Tim Horton's donated hot chocolate for the event. Members thanked our volunteers for the day. There were 58 people in attendance. Next year we will open the event to children during public



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skating hours and not require parents to accompany children over the age of 5 years. We will try to co-ordinate the event the day after the Lofthouse Christmas Party again next year as the facility was beautifully decorated for the holidays.

### **New Business:**

*Transfer of Watt Farm House:* Northland Power has transferred the ownership of the farm house to the Township of Armour effective January 17, 2019. Northland Power contributed \$15,000 towards building maintenance as part of the transaction. Diane Brandt is in the process of obtaining quotes to install a wheelchair ramp. The Watt family will continue to use the shed to store their tractor as well as the use and restocking of the fuel tank for gassing up the farm equipment. Charlene Watt will inquire about including the rental of a wheelchair accessible port-a-pottie for the Watt Farm House in the Township of Armour's summer park program.

*Donation of Sharpening Stone:* Diane Brandt presented to Members pictures of a sharpening stone that is being offered to the Historical Society. Members gratefully accepted the offer.

*Work Table Stand:* Diane Brandt advised that the donation of the file system from John Fowler requires a stand. Diane located a work table with a butcher block wooden top and steel shelf measuring 36" x 24" with cast wheels at a cost of \$139.99 + HST. **Motion to purchase the work table stand to display and exhibit the donation from John Fowler at a cost of \$139.99 + HST. Moved by Betty Caldwell, Seconded by Jarv Osborne. Carried**

*Laptop:* Diane Brandt presented a verbal quote on a new laptop. The current laptop is not working properly and will only access Microsoft Software if it has access to the internet. The subscription for Microsoft has expired and requires an annual renewal at a cost of over \$100. Diane advised Members that the Township of Armour purchases their laptops for Council from Munisoft and includes all the software including antivirus protection and tech support at a cost of \$2,025.00 + HST. Some Members expressed concern that the cost was excessive. Nieves Guijarro recommended researching Tech Soup, a company that offers discounted prices of software for non-profit organizations. Diane was also asked to obtain a laptop quote from Near North Business and report back to Members at the next meeting.

*Mailbag:* Diane Brandt advised Members that the mail bag on display at the schoolhouse requires proper preservation. The mailbag is dated August 11, 1928 and is from a steamboat. The mailbag is in the process of being framed by the Framing Place and



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Gallery in Huntsville. There is room at the bottom of the frame to place an engraved plaque with an artifact description and to acknowledge the mailbag as being used by the Armour Steamship. Betty Caldwell will create the wording for the plaque and provide to Diane Brandt.

**Other Business:**

None

**Adjournment:**

The next meeting will be Monday, February 18, 2019 (Family Day) at the Fell Homes at 7:00 p.m. There being no further business, **Bruce Campbell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.**

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Recorded by  
Charlene Watt, Secretary

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Approved by  
Diane Brandt - President