



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, October 21, 2019**

Members Present: Diane Brandt - President  
Jarv Osborne – Treasurer  
Charlene Watt - Secretary  
Betty Caldwell  
Bruce Campbell  
Linda Leggett  
Lorne Main  
Delynne Patterson  
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. Regrets from Nieves Guijarro, Vice-President and Lisa Morrison, Village of Burk's Falls Representative.

**Delegation:**

None

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

Acceptance and adoption of the September 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes as amended:  
**Moved by Bruce Campbell, Seconded by Lorne Main. Carried**



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

Treasurer's / Financial Report presented by Jarv Osborne. Main bank account balance was \$3,567.70 on September 30, 2019. Expenses to date in October include \$56.44 for Net Spectrum and \$61.83 for special events hosting. **Motion to accept the Treasurer's report and pay the monthly invoices: Moved by Linda Leggett, Seconded by Betty Caldwell. Carried**

### **Committee Reports:**

*Membership Committee:* Lorne Main advised that the Historical Society is maintaining 19 paid Memberships for 2019. Betty Caldwell has a membership application for a new member and will provide the information to Lorne.

*Heritage Centres:* Diane informed Members that the Heritage Centres have been closed for the season.

Diane informed Members that she presented the 2020 budget at the last Township of Ryerson's Council Meeting. There was a discussion on the digitization of the newspapers. The Fire Association may make a donation to assist in our cause and Mike Quinton has been contacted to send a donation request letter to the Burk's Fall Fire Chief, Dave McNay.

### **General Business:**

1. *Correspondence:* Members reviewed a Facebook inquiry from Lynn Terry: "My mother was originally from Burk's Falls, the former Bernice Leggett, youngest daughter of Roy and Verna Leggett (nee Jordan). We used to visit extended family in the area each year and one of our stops, was always the trading post on Highway 11, just north of Burk's Falls. It had a pioneer home (as well as a sugar shack) for people to explore while visiting. This pioneer home belonged to my grandmother's family and was known as the Jordan homestead. I noticed the highway has been expanded significantly and it was likely moved to accommodate this construction. I was just wondering if anyone knew where this home ended up? I must also congratulate you on what you have done with my Aunt Pearl's home, the Watt Century Farm. It is wonderful to see the pictures of various events going on and I love to see pictures of the inside as it reminds me of the many times we stayed there. Although my grandparents passed before I was born, I enjoyed getting to know as much as I could about the Jordan and Leggett families and their home was literally just around the corner from the Watt farm and I know my mom had fond memories of growing up with her cousins Dick, Bill and Karen. Any information you may have about the Jordan homestead would be greatly



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appreciated and I do hope that next summer my father and I can travel north again and make a stop to the Watt Century Farm." Members were informed that a response was received via email from Linda Maurer advising that the homestead is still at the old maple sugar house off Hwy 12 at Maple Sugar Lane. As far as Linda was aware, the owners are using it. Charlene Watt will relay the information to Lynn Terry.

2. *Halloween:* The Haunted Halloween Event was held at the Farm House on October 20, 2019 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. We had about 50 children in attendance. Gratitude was expressed to our volunteers for the day, to Valu-Mart for donating all the pumpkins and to the Warriners for loaning us some decorations.
3. *Cookies with Mrs. Claus:* Jarv Osborne informed Members that a resolution was passed by the Village of Burk's Falls at their September Council Meeting agreeing to allow the Historical Society to rent the Arena for the event free of charge. A resolution was not passed supporting the event as a community event. The Historical Society will look into the insurance requirement before committing to the event. Cookie volunteers for the event include Judy and Bruce.
4. *Booklet:* Bruce Campbell addressed Members seeking clarification on creating a booklet on the History of Burk's Falls. Members suggested that Bruce write about the Riverwalk and promote the App, our past and our present. Members also suggested a write up on the history of steamships and the Motor Boat Cavalcade.
5. *Potluck:* The Christmas Potluck will be held on November 18, 2019 at Fell Homes at 6 p.m. Members are welcomed to bring a guest. A list was circulated to Members to sign up for the Christmas Potluck:

Charlene: Dinner Rolls, Butter, Hot Ham Dish and Ginger-ale

Betty: Salad

Jarv: Caesar Salad

Bruce: Pasta Salad

Judy: Macaroni & Cheese

Delynne: Meatballs

Diane: Hash Brown Casserole & Surprise Dessert

Lorne: Dessert – Scotch Shortbread

Linda Leggett: Fruit Tray

Wendy: Brownies



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Diane will bring dinner napkins and Charlene will bring paper dinner plates and plastic utensils.

### **New Business:**

*25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Founding Members Biography:* To recognize our founding Members, Betty Caldwell and Lorne Main will contribute a biography on their life. The information will be shared on our website in the near future. Lorne provided Charlene with a copy of his story: Growing Up in Old East York Township. Charlene will share Lorne's information on our website and facebook page.

*Renovation 2020:* Diane Brandt informed Members that a Request for Quote for window replacements and building envelope improvements for the Farm House has been issued. The building improvements will be completed in 2020. The Township of Armour will include the estimate in their 2020 budget. The new windows will provide ultraviolet protection for the artifacts.

### **Other Business:**

Jarv Osborne informed Members that he called the Ontario Historical Society regarding insurance. We are eligible to participate in the OHS Insurance Program. Member volunteer insurance is required. We cannot insure artifacts, only Members. Diane will reach out to Linda Maurer to discuss our current insurance coverage before we make any changes.

Betty Caldwell informed Members that she was contacted by Neil Love, a cottager from Lake Cecebe and he has donations for Members to consider: saws, blacksmith equipment, grinder and other farm equipment that his grandfather owned. Neil would like the equipment to be on display at the schoolhouse. Betty Caldwell will contact Neil and accept the donations. They will be displayed in the drive shed portion at the Wiseman's Corner Schoolhouse.

### **Adjournment:**

The next meeting will be Monday, November 18, 2019 at the Fell Homes at 7:00 p.m. Potluck Dinner will start at 6:00 p.m. There being no further business, **Delynne Patterson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.**

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Recorded by

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Approved by



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Charlene Watt, Secretary

Diane Brandt, President