

MINUTES
Burk's Falls & District Historical Society
Watt Farmhouse & Heritage Centre, Burk's Falls
Monday, December 7, 2015

Members Present: Linda Maurer – President
Rakel Gray - Treasurer
Diane Brandt
Jerry Brandt
Betty Caldwell
Lorne Maine
Nieves Guijarro
Rosalind Hall
Dona Crawford
Charlene Watt - Secretary

The Members present constituted a quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 p.m.

Linda Maurer in the Chair

Agenda Item:

1. Acceptance and adoption of the November 16, 2015 Minutes as circulated. **Moved by Lorne Main, Seconded by Betty Caldwell. Carried**

2. Treasurer's / Financial Report. Total for November's end account balance will be received mid-December. A total deposit of \$747.00 since the last meeting was made which consisted of calendar sales and donations. Rakel advised that the Burk's Falls Home Hardware will no longer be mailing statements; therefore a receipt will be provided to the purchaser at the store and it must be submitted to Rakel for payment. Betty Caldwell presented \$478.00 to the Treasurer from calendar sales and donations. Nieves Guijarro indicated that she has approximately \$200.00 from the library for calendar sales. Betty Caldwell is owed \$20.25 for the Agricultural Society Craft Sale entry fee, milk and cream. Diane Brandt supplied receipts for fly catchers, mouse bait, etc. The Historical Society will pay these invoices. The invoice for paint will be put through the Township of Armour for payment. Candies purchased from the Bulk Barn will be given to guests on the December 12th Christmas Tea from Santa and will be paid by the Historical Society. **Motion to accept the treasurer's report and pay the monthly invoices: Moved by Linda Maurer, Seconded by Rosalind Hall. Carried**

3. Project Manager's Report. Presented by Diane Brandt and discussed items with Members.

Update on Activities: Painting is ongoing at the Watt Farmhouse, Jerry Brandt is repairing and installing a new light upstairs with a pull chain in the hallway into the bedrooms. Lighting is needed in the upstairs bedrooms.

Wish List: John Theriault, Treasurer of Armour Township authorized the Historical Society to purchase a screen door, microwave and small bar fridge. Diane mentioned that the Historical Society should look into purchasing a display case for a gift shop purpose. Diane indicated that John Theriault also authorized her to contact Net Spectrum regarding wireless internet as well. Charlene Watt indicated that she has a spare full sized refrigerator, she will confirm with Cam Watt that it may be donated to the Watt Farmhouse.

Donations: Nieves Guijarro has moved in some newspapers from the library to the Farmhouse.

Santa Claus Parade: The Historical Society entry into the Santa Claus Parade was discussed with special attention made to the new colourful banner. A second banner is required to display on both sides of the float for next year. Thank you to all of our volunteers at the Santa Claus Parade. Great design by Diane Brandt.

Letterhead: Diane supplied three letterhead samples for the Historical Society and they were circulated about the room throughout discussions.

Letterhead Discussion: **Motion to accept the letterhead samples provided by Diane Brandt and to select option #3 as the letterhead for the Historical Society. Moved by Lorne Main and Seconded by Betty Caldwell. Carried**

Directional Signs: Rick Almont advised Diane Brandt that the directional signs are almost ready for delivery. We will need volunteers to install them. It has been confirmed since the meeting that Keith McCoy, Armour Township Roads Supervisor, will install the signs for Armour Roads.

Karen Jones Consulting: Diane sent an email to Karen Jones on Thursday, December 3, 2015 inquiring if there was anything that she could do, such as business cards, magnets, posters, etc. without a response to date. Diane was directed by Linda Maurer to obtain prices from Vista Print on the items prior to ordering.

4. Christmas Tea is this Saturday, December 12, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. until 2 p.m. Volunteers for the day include: Betty, Nieves, Lois, Diane, Dona and Linda. Jerry will attend as Santa. A reminder was given to drop off the luncheon items as indicated in the last meeting minutes. (Nieves will bring veggies, Lisa – egg salad sandwiches, Betty – dessert, Bruce – cookies, Jerry – Xmas cake, Dona – Tuna sandwiches, Linda – salmon sandwiches & pickles, Rakel – dessert, Judy – cookies, Jarv – sandwiches and Charlene – fruit tray). Cost for the luncheon will be \$5.00. Kelly Elik donated a Santa suit to the Historical Society which is being dry cleaned at this time. Linda is to have the suit delivered to her by December 10th.
5. *Other Business:* Niagara Historical Society Museum sent a letter advising that they are selling a historical book titled: Preparing for Armageddon, a book about the First World War. Cost of the book is \$45 plus shipping. The committee declined.
Karen Jones Consulting: Linda Maurer indicated that a contract was signed with Karen Jones Consulting as adjusted and detailed in the November 16, 2015

meeting minutes. Rosalind Hall asked questions about the November 16, 2015 agenda items and was updated accordingly.

Old Posters: Nieves Guijarro indicated that there are several outdated Historical Society posters on display throughout the town, she was given permission to take down the posters/flyers if they are outdated. Nieves stated that she was willing to assist in posting current posters when they are available.

Facebook: Diane Brandt indicated that the Historical Society still cannot access the Facebook account. Diane is to contact Facebook directly.

Recruiting: Rosalind Hall indicated that Rebecca Zanussi from the Almaguin News would be an asset to the Historical Society if she could attend meetings. Rebecca is a member and indicated previously that she would write articles for us. Monday night meetings conflict with Rebecca's schedule. Diane Brandt indicated that she would check with Rebecca before a formal meeting date change. In changing the meeting date to Thursday, the Historical Society would lose the Township of Armour Representative, Councillor Jerry Brandt as it would create a conflict with other monthly meetings.

Boyd Higginson Books: Diane Brandt indicated that she had received an email regarding an auction with Boyd Higginson books. Betty Caldwell was interested in obtaining a copy of a book with the word "Paradise" in the title, but could not recall the entire title.

Reminder Emails: Rosalind Hall requested that an email reminder be sent out to members for scheduled meetings. Diane Brandt will attempt to co-ordinate the email to accommodate the request.

Newsletter: Lorne Main informed members that he is in process of organizing the Spring Newsletter. The new logo will be used. Lorne will have information on the Oddfellow Lodge and the history of the Burk's Falls Lions Club. Lorne plans to contact Jim Kirk-White regarding the Lions Club.

6. Next Meeting: It was decided as a committee to meet on Thursday, January 7, 2016 at the Fell Homes at 7:00 p.m., in hopes that Rebecca Zanussi from Almaguin News may join us.
7. New Year Plans: Linda Maurer presented a list of items to be addressed in 2016 and in the next meetings. Items included: moving the office into the large bedroom of the Watt Farmhouse, getting the 2016 grants submitted by the end of January, looking into a part-time or mature worker for the summer months, lighting requirements, restoring artifacts, and determining when the next TRI Council meeting is to take place.

School house Heritage Centre: We also need to organize the school house. Books need to be catalogued and organized. They are all in the closet but we are not aware of where the historical books are all located. Betty Caldwell is aware of pictures that also need to be located.

Special Event Weekend: 2016 is the 100th anniversary of the 162nd Battalion, additional discussion will occur regarding the participation with the Strong Agricultural Society for special events.

Calendar Project: Discussion will also need to occur regarding the 2016 calendar project. There is an option to partner with the Strong Township Historical Group.

8. Adjournment: There being no further business, **Lorne Main moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.**

Recorded by
Charlene Watt

Approved by
Linda Maurer, President