



P.O. Box 463, Burk's Falls, Ontario P0A 1C0  
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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, August 22, 2022

Members Present: Diane Brandt – President  
Nieves Guijarro – Vice-President  
Charlene Watt – Secretary  
Lorne Main  
Jarv Osborne  
Delynne Patterson  
Judy Ransome  
Jenny Hall  
Mike Quinton

Guest: Herb Sutcliffe

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.

#### **Delegation:**

None

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

Acceptance and adoption of the July 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes as circulated: **Moved by Lorne Main, Seconded by Jenny Hall. Carried**

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

The August 2022 Treasurer's Report was not available for the meeting.



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## **Committee Reports:**

### **Heritage Day Update:**

A classic car display has been suggested for 2023.

### **Watt Century Farm House Update:**

Diane updated Members to advise the Township of Armour has applied for a Trillium Grant for the red building replacement. The stairlift is to be installed on August 26, 2022. In the fall, the kitchen will be painted. The Farm House will be open until Labour Day weekend and then closed for the season.

### **Wiseman's Corner Schoolhouse Update:**

The schoolhouse remains closed at this time. Diane informed Members that the window is not repaired.

## **Correspondence:**

An email was received from Rob Stonehouse regarding the dugout canoe that is at the Schoolhouse. Rob has the oars for the boat.

Herb Sutcliffe discussed an anchor that has recently been discovered in the west side of Pickerel Lake. The anchor is about 300 pounds and approximately 5 feet in length. Members have been asked to present an expression of interest and intent to the people that are in possession of the anchor. Mike Quinton will draft a letter. Lorne Main informed Members that in 1924, the Slight Lumber Company was located on the west side of Pickerel Lake. The mill employed about ten men and produced only rough lumber. In later years, the mill was destroyed by fire. The anchor may have been used by a boat to move their lumber to market.

Members reviewed correspondence from Meghan O'Rourke, Recreation Co-ordinator from the Village of Burk's Falls in regards to a Haunted Highlands program which will include things to do for fall/Halloween in Almaguin. Members discussed how we are unable to host the usual Halloween Party due to lack of space at the Farm House. We have accumulated a lot of artifacts over the last two years. Charlene Watt suggested a new Halloween event and after discussion, it was agreed to host "The Great Farm House Ghost Hunt", a family friendly event. Guests will be invited to come in costumes, to explore the historic house, hunt for friendly ghosts and take home treats. Free refreshments will be offered. It will be held on October 29, 2022 at the Farm House from 1 to 3 pm at a cost of \$5 per family. Jenny will look into the cost of mini pumpkins to hand out as well. Diane will purchase candy from Costco.



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An email was received from Jen Heathfield. A display cabinet with a glass top and manufactured by the Knight Brothers has been offered to the Historical Society. Members accepted the offer and Diane will contact Jen to obtain additional details and arrange delivery of the cabinet.

An email inquiry was received requesting information on how to obtain school records from the Burk's Falls school dating back to the 1930 and 1940s. Mike Quinton will obtain more information and respond.

An email inquiry was received requesting information on a family business from 1902 in the name of Davidson. The business was located in the Village of Burk's Falls. Jarv Osborne will review the municipality's tax rolls and respond. Members discussed the benefits of having access to historical municipal tax rolls.

### **General Business:**

A volunteer recruitment poster was reviewed by Members. Revisions will be made and the poster will be circulated at the fall fair in attempts to recruit volunteers for the schoolhouse for 2023.

The Charitable Status Income will be submitted before the end of this month. Tina's Taxes will file the form. Liberty Tax in Huntsville is not open for business at this time.

The fall fair is September 5, 2022. Display items for the table at the fair will include the mystery box game of artifacts, newsletters, membership forms and volunteer recruitment posters. The donation jar and large banner poster will be picked up from the farm house before the event. Volunteers for the day include Mike, Diane and Jenny.

### **New Business:**

Members have been asked to review the membership page on the website as revising the information on the webpage will be an item for discussion next month.

The Burk's Falls Old Town Theatre will be 75 years old on December 25 this year. The Historical Society will be available to provide a display if the Village wishes to have one at the theatre. Should a movie be played in December, Members most likely would be available to volunteer and promote the event. Members will await additional information from the Village in regards to the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



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**Adjournment:**

The next meeting will be held on September 19, 2022 at Fell Homes. There being no further business, **Jarv Osborne moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.**

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Recorded by  
Charlene Watt, Secretary

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Approved by  
Diane Brandt, President