



P.O. Box 463, Burk's Falls, Ontario P0A 1C0
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www.burksfallsdistricthistoricalsociety.com
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Heritage Centres
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, September 18, 2023

Members Present: Diane Brandt – President
Nieves Guijarro – Vice-President
Charlene Watt – Secretary
Jarv Osborne
Jenny Hall
Peter Hall
Krista Trulsen
Barry Burton

Guest: Colin Love, Magnetawan River Nature Hub

The Members present constituted a quorum.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.
Diane Brandt in the Chair.

Welcome:

Diane welcomed Members and Guest, Colin Love. Regrets from Ryan Baptiste.
Introductions were made.

Approval & Amendments of the Minutes of the Last Meeting:

Acceptance and adoption of the August 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes as circulated: **Moved by Barry Burton, Seconded by Krista Trulsen. Carried**

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's / Financial Report presented by Diane Brandt. Main bank account balance was \$11,207.50 on August 31, 2023. The lottery account has been closed and the balance of \$65.00 has been transferred to the general account, plus the \$25.00 membership fee. Expenses included \$200.00 for yearbook purchases, \$13.50 for book binding from Staples, and \$16.46 for supplies from Home Hardware. Armour Township will be issuing a payment in the amount of \$502.15 for the balance owing from the student wages for the season. Student wages for 2023 were \$4,497.85. **Motion to accept the Treasurer's report and pay the monthly invoices: Moved by Jarv Osborne, Seconded by Krista Trulsen. Carried**



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Delegation:

In follow up to last month's meeting, Colin Love, from the Magnetawan River Nature Hub, presented to Members an overview of the Restoration Festival and the teepee that is to be set up at the Wiseman's Corner Schoolhouse. Questions were asked and answered. The event intends to bridge music, culture, ecological awareness, and local environmental initiatives and includes Indigenous teachings on the importance of connection to land. Tim Watkinson, a local First Nation's resident is co-ordinating the event with Colin. Restoration Festival will be held from Friday, October 13 to Sunday, October 15, 2023. The hours are to be determined and admission will be by donation. The teepee display will host a ceremony on the Sunday and include drummers, Indigenous teachings, a fire and water ceremony and more. The Friday and Saturday events will be held elsewhere. There is hope that the Festival will expand into an ongoing relationship with the Historical Society and local schools in Almaguin. Colin will forward Charlene Watt a poster once it has been created to assist in promoting the Festival. The teepee will be set up on the weekend of Restoration Festival.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence.

Committee Reports:

Wiseman's Corner Schoolhouse Update:

Members reviewed the resolution from the Township of Ryerson dated September 12, 2023 supporting the Magnetawan River Nature Hub's Restoration Festival on the property. Diane advised Members that Home Depot donated a board for a shelf at the heritage centre. There is a Clark, Howe, Waters and Knight Brothers Algonquin Corporation sign that requires replacement and a local artist will be replicating the sign at an estimated cost of \$100-\$200. The schoolhouse will be open throughout the fall by chance. Diane informed Members that the broom vacuum is not effective for proper cleaning of the floors and walls. **Motion to approve the purchase of a canister vacuum for the schoolhouse up to a maximum cost of \$300: Moved by Barry Burton, Seconded by Nieves Guijarro. Carried**

Watt Farm House Update:

Diane provided a verbal update to Members to advise that Abell Pest Control performed exterior cluster fly treatment of the farm house and inspected all areas of concern. The stairlift is not operating properly and requires servicing. Diane will open the farm house up to visitors on Saturdays and Sundays by chance throughout the winter. A Remembrance Day display will be set up for the fall. The new steel building is still in the early construction phase and walls are expected in the coming weeks.



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General Business:

There was no general business.

New Business:

Halloween: Charlene presented to Members a draft flyer promoting the Halloween Party with the Burk's Falls Lions Club and the Burk's Falls Legion. Charlene is to meet with the Lions Club on September 21, 2023 to discuss partnering with the local non-profit organizations to host the Halloween event at the Burk's Falls Arena. The annual event has been hosted on Halloween night for well over 40 years and continuing the tradition is important. The community is lacking volunteers and by partnering, it will ensure continued success. Charlene has also drafted letters to the Township of Ryerson and Township of Armour to request a donation to support the purchase of candies and treats. A letter will not be sent to the Village of Burk's Falls as they allow the use of the facility, free of charge. Charlene will have a full report for members at the next meeting. Member volunteers to date include Diane, Nieves, Barry and his wife, Lorraine. Barry and Lorraine will be dressed in authentic medieval clothing.

Donations:

Jenny Hall offered to donate Victorian undergarments to the Historical Society. Members accepted the donation. Diane Brandt informed Members that a male mannequin will be donated to the Historical Society by Tracey Fowler. Members were thankful for the donations.

Adjournment:

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 16, 2023 at Fell Homes. There being no further business, **Krista Trulsen moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m.**

Recorded by
Charlene Watt, Secretary &
Deputy Treasurer

Approved by
Diane Brandt, President