

**Brant Historical Society
Board of Directors Meeting
June 9th, 2015
Brant Museum and Archives, 57 Charlotte St., Brantford
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Michael St. Amant (President), Chris Greenlaw (1st Vice), Bill Hanna (Treasurer), Jack Jackowetz, Anita Menon, Zig Misiak, Cody Groat, Annette Minutillo (Secretary)

Absent: Kevin Raymond

Staff: no staff present

1. Meeting called to order at 7:05
2. No Delegations
3. One Addition to the Agenda: Other Business - Volunteer Report
4. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Bill Hanna and seconded by Chris Greenlaw that the Agenda for the Meeting of June 9th, 2015 be approved. Carried unanimously.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the May 12th, 2015 meeting (attached)

Moved by Anita Menon and seconded by Bill Hanna that the Minutes of the May 12th, 2015 meeting be approved. Carried unanimously.

6. Report: Treasurer's Report - Financial Statements circulated prior to the meeting and presented by Bill Hanna.

Three versions had been circulated prior to the meeting to address errors. Sub-accounts have created issues for accurate presentation.

May 2015 results - Revenue Actual to Budget acceptable. Gift Shop and Research Program has not stayed in step with budget. Interest from 2013-14 just over \$8000 in the Endowment Fund with \$1700 this year. Expenses not in bad shape - adjustments were required to prevent/address incorrect account allocations. Camp and PA Days should meet Budget. Educational Programs, especially with respect to new Native Content, should be significant revenue generators. Seniors Program should exceed budget. Special Events looks promising.

The ReOrg Project hit this year's expense line at "Total Programs and Projects" but had not been budgeted for originally but is now covered in the Revised Budget as presented.

ACTION: Nathan to retrieve cash box from Market Square.

ACTION: Discussion around Membership and opportunity for membership generation in utilizing program services to be tabled at next meeting.

Bill shared Toronto Star historical articles and "Star Store" coupon purchases, with suggestion to approach Brant News and/or the Expositor to partner on local history articles and book sales. Concern raised that staff are stretched already, so it should be managed by volunteers and Lucas (on retainer).

ACTION: Bill and Michael to work with Lucas to approach the newspapers regarding development of this project. Bill will identify excerpts to be used.

Moved by Chris Greenlaw and seconded by Jack Jackowitz that the Treasurer's Report be approved. Carried unanimously.

7. Motion to approve the transfer of \$11,000 from the Scheak Fund to the Brant Historical Society operating account to cover business expenses. Cheques written in May could not be covered by bank balance (three cheques bounced - two were paycheques). \$7000 deficit in Operating account.

Moved by Bill Hanna and seconded by Chris that \$11,000 to approve the transfer from the Scheak Fund to the Brant Historical Society Operating Account to cover business expenses. Carried unanimously.

8. Endowment Fund

Moved by Bill Hanna and seconded by Chris Greenlaw to transfer the outstanding interest in the Endowment Fund to the Brant Historical Society Operating Account. Carried unanimously.

9. Business arising from the Meeting of May 12th, 2015

Investigation concluded with respect to the taping of the In-Camera Session at the Meeting of May 12th, 2014. Report, entitled Briefing Note, was provided by Chris Greenlaw and circulated prior to the meeting. Chris Shaw has been dismissed with cause.

Moved by Cody Groat and seconded by Anita Menon to accept the Investigative Report tabled by Chris Greenlaw. Carried unanimously.

10. Operational Report (circulated prior to meeting)

ACTION: Clean Up day June 13 - forecast suggests will probably be moved to rain date June 20. Chris will provide truck for moving. Gardening Club to plant flowers.

ACTION: Chris continues to work on the Reports required for previously received Brant Community Foundation grants.

ACTION: Michael and Zig to follow up on new products for the Book Store.

ACTION: Michael to discuss with Nathan how to grow the Seniors Program into the County, addressing travel and Museum coverage.

ACTION: Michael will place Walking Tour Brochures around the City (300 printed).

Future Ideas: the Board engaged in a short discussion about potential fundraising and awareness raising projects and events:

October 23, 2015 is 130th Anniversary of the birth of Lawren Harris (Group of Seven - Brantford born). Use connections (Cody) with McMichael Art Gallery to bring several Harris works to Brantford for an exhibit, several locations suggested. Approach Glenhyrst for experience/support.

W. Ross MacDonald Anniversary next year? (May 28 is 30th Anniversary of his death). Co-facilitate with Laurier' environment program, also an interest of McDonald's.

ACTION: Cody and Michael to flesh out ideas - report to Board in July.

Steve Smith is willing to lead a pottery workshop (whole weekend) in support of the Society. Zig noted that his workshops are very well attended, and revenue generating.

Culture Days - white glove tours

Lego Exhibition - Master Builders exhibit. Architectural buildings are a new Lego line - rebuild a Brantford/Brant historical building.

Laurier developing new Program in Public History. Chris to meet with Laurier (Dean of History) next week.

ACTION: Further discussion on all proposed projects to be tabled to the July Board meeting.

Moved by Cody Groat and seconded by Anita Menon to accept the Operations Report presented by Michael St. Amant. Carried unanimously.

11. Review of the Collection Management Policy for the Brant Historical Society (circulated prior to meeting). Suggested amendment was to note that Revenue from the sale of deaccessioned artifacts be directed for the acquisition of, or direct care of, the museum collection.

Moved by Chris Greenlaw and seconded by Bill Hanna to approve the Collection Management Policy as presented without amendment.

Carried (4 in favour, 2 opposed, 1 abstention)

12. Memorandum from Jack Jackowitz regarding a possible model for operating the affairs of the Brant Historical Society (circulated prior to meeting). Intended as a sharing of ideas and a reflective exercise, to address common challenges of museums today, as we reposition the Historical Society for contemporary times. Laurier will decide by middle of July as to the mall location. Hopefully Jack's memorandum will stimulate discussion amongst Board members, in anticipation of finding a landing pad (wherever) and moving forward.

13. Other Business

- a. Volunteer Development Report - circulated by Jack prior to the meeting. *"The key to recruiting and retaining volunteers requires that the Society articulates its needs, explains how these needs contribute to the success of the Society, advertises these needs for volunteers in the community and ensures that the interests of the volunteers are matched with the needs of the Society."*

ACTION: Jack to coordinate the development of a recruiting poster.

Moved by Zig Misiak and seconded by Bill Hanna to accept the Volunteer Report. Carried unanimously.

14. No Announcements

15. Next Meeting -**July 14th, 2014**

16. Cody Groat moved that the Meeting be adjourned at 9:50 pm