

PRHS Minutes of General Meeting

25 April 2018 * Portland Library

Call to Order by Chair - Tom Sled Roll Call of attendees

Chair: Tom Sled
Vice Chair: vacant
Treasurer: Larry Cochran
Secretary: Brian Preston
Director: Doug Bond
Director: Diane Haskins
Director: Betty James
Member: Bert Petro

Reading/Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the General Meeting held on 21 March 2018 were read into the record and approved as amended. Motion: Brian; 2nd Diane CARRIED

Chair Report (Tom Sled)

Save the Church - Tom and Christine along with Larry, Betty, Diane and Pat met with Mike Dwyer on 5 April. Mike mentioned that it looked like the township was buying Rideau Centennial school, a fact confirmed in the Review Mirror today. The Library is to locate there. PRHS will follow up with Christine concerning partnering on events and fund raisers with ideas like reading sessions, raffles, etc. Christine agreed with this approach and will establish joint activities with PRHS at the Church. RLT still supports PRHS efforts to secure the Church but no \$ from RLT will be forthcoming. PRHS needs to revise and finalize our documents used in discussion previously with the Diocese, including removal of the Library as a paying tenant. Tom indicated that in the last discussion and emails with the Diocese they are supportive of our efforts and look forward to our revised submission in about 5 or 6 months. Brian mentioned that this is too long to wait and that we must find ways of helping the Diocese come to a decision earlier. Betty suggested that PRHS hold its future meetings at the Church. Agreed. Tom will send a letter to the Diocese about our use of the facilities and confirm that our public use of the facilities in the meantime are under the insurance coverage of the Diocese. He will also indicate that we are submitting a follow up Trillium Grant application in August and that a decision by the Diocese before then in our favour would greatly enhance our chances of receiving a grant. Tom and Christine communicated with Trillium for post results feedback on what was lacking in our initial submission and full disclosure was helpful as we move forward in putting in a follow up submission in the next round. It was revealed that we only missed getting

a grant by a few points so we had a very strong submission. (see Tom's email correspondence with Trillium for details on file).

May 20th anniversary for RLT amalgamation - Brian to get a couple of tables and chairs from the Legion for set up at the event in Kin Park in late May for our story board, brochures, etc. We will also get a pop-up tent; Larry says we need one with side panels so maybe he could ask Jan Bonhomme and source this type of tent. Otherwise, Brian will approach Sue Dunfield from RLT if it is available for the same event, or get one from Jan. Doug is project lead, he has the banner, and will man the table at the event; others are invited to do so as well.

Treasurer's Report (Larry Cochran)

Tendered the Financial Statement showing a Bank balance of \$1924.25 with \$3.10 cash. This includes receipt of \$1200 from RLT for our PRHS drone video. Larry moved; 2nd Betty CARRIED

Secretary's Report (Brian Preston)

General discussion about OHS Bulletin and agreement that Brian will write an article with picture(s) on Admiral Kingsmill, and a shorter version for the PRHS Newsletter. Submit a second article later with pictures on the Anglican Church if we secure a deal. Brian will contact Bruce Byington and Smiths Falls Museum/Archives to see if they have any old photographs of Portland businesses that we could use or copy. Larry will ask Chris Good if she has any too.

General and New Business

Membership rates - Diane suggested that we have a single rate of \$10 per year - discussed - Chair suggested he would review options with Brian and Larry as there were opposing views on the table, ie, status quo or make the suggested change, and report at next meeting.

Diane showed a draft of the inaugural PRHS Newsletter - discussion and changes - we will add the PRHS boat logo (Larry to send the jpeg version to Diane). When final 100 copies will be printed. Diane also corresponded with Mike Dwyer regarding PRHS and RLT relationship on Charitable Status for PRHS (see emails on file)

Tom prepared a draft public relations piece. Brian suggested, due to its content and target audience, that it be revised and incorporated into our Newsletter especially given the fact that we are trying to increase public awareness and their active participation in our community events.

Fund raisers - Betty would like the quilt to be for the Save the Church. Discussion ensued about 2018 budget year for getting about \$6K in additional funding for the Portland Dock Passenger Shelter as RLT monies expire end of calendar year if not used. This item needs to be resolved at

our next meeting as we prioritize allocation of funds to PRHS projects. Note: Larry asked by RLT to do engineering drawings using Eastern Engineering. Tom to assist. Matching grant would apply ie, \$12K plus \$6K from another source leaving about \$6K for PRHS to fund raise.

Drone Project - Larry confirmed receipt of \$1200 from RLT for us to move ahead with the project. In kind - Dave Williams has a drone and will work with Larry on this project.

20th anniversary of Heritage Committee - PRHS to coordinate activities - Doug Bond leads and Betty, Tom , Diane and Pat to assist and participate that day.

Doug distributed newly updated 8th Edition 'Heritage Map of RLT & Westport' (see brochure on file).

Old photographs of Portland Businesses - Brian to check with Smiths Falls Museum and Bruce Byington. Larry will ask Chris Good.

Larry mentioned OPP Training exercise and that the Diocese was contacted by OPP and they are supportive of this event at the Church taking place on 9-10 May.

Brian reminded that we need to update our Membership list as soon as possible. Tom and Larry agreed to assist.

Frontenac Arch Biosphere - Tom asked Doug what this organization was about wondering if PRHS should be part of it. Doug had not been involved with them for several years but surmises that all we need do is contact them, maybe through Ken Watson.

Steven's Family - Tom to get background information. Doug and Anna recently discussed this at Delta Mill meeting.

Tom mentioned the need for a tag line to identify Portland, something that could be used in signs, brochures and correspondence. We will all think about a tag line for discussion at the next meeting.

Diane suggested we obtain an open field and put in old farm machinery and implements as a walk-about learning experience about the agricultural history of the Portland area. There could be interpretive plaques installed. All agreed that this is a good idea; Brian suggested approaching RLT regarding a property and financial support for signage, and George Tackaberry and others who might sponsor and/or donate equipment for display.

Adjournment: Moved by Bert, meeting closed by Chair, Tom Sled

Next Meeting: **Wednesday 16 May at 7 PM in the old Church**