

Portland on the Rideau Historical Society (PRHS)*Minutes of March 20, 2019

Public Library, Portland, at 2:00 p.m.

Attendance: Tom Sled, Larry Cochran, Doug Bond, Betty James, Judy Roger, Bert Petro, Diane Haskins, Isabelle Schmid, (Guest), Carolyn Bresee, (Guest): **Absent:** Brian Preston, Pat Evans

Approval of Minutes: Approved by Betty, Seconded by Larry, No changes.

Secretary's Report: Brian is away so no Secretary Report

Treasurer's Report: Larry indicated that the financial statement for December 31, 2018 is complete. Society has a balance of 1,430.90

Computer services have been paid. PRHS is to be reimbursed for part of the expenditure from Hall Board

Items: To Save the Church:

Tom reported on the request for a meeting with the Diocese and the response obtained from Alex Pierson of the Diocese. He had agreed to the meeting on March 25, at 2:00 p.m.

While the e-mail sounded positive and that the Diocese is pleased with what has been done, it now suggests that the time has come to define the relationship and get the Municipality involved.

The Diocese indicated that June was the end of the discussion period with PRHS.

After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to meet first with the Township and only then with the Diocese. All agreed this was the correct approach. Judy was to make arrangements for a meeting with the Township.

All agreed that the Library was a good idea with the Township. Mike Dwyer should also be involved. Carolyn provided her support for the endeavour.

All agreed to postpone the meeting with the Diocese and Tom suggested extending the deadline to the end of July. All agreed. Tom will send the e-mail to Alex Pierson.

Other sources of funding may be available and suggestions were made about Go Funding. Also mentioned was funding for church renovations through private foundations. What about Angus, the consultant?

Tom mentioned TVO programs referencing renovations to old building, particularly church renovations.

Passenger Shelter:

Based on conversations with the Township staff and PRHS held in February, it was determined that \$13,000 were still earmarked for PRHS for the Passenger Shelter on the Municipal Dock. Other funding may also be available. Mary Ellen Truelove will investigate.

Michelle Jones is scheduling a meeting with Parks Canada for approval, if required. Diane and/or Tom will attend if available. Michelle indicated the meeting may be before the end of March.

All agreed this was a worthwhile project and Carolyn provided her support for the project.

Plaque for Kingsmill Stone at Hanna Park

Brian is the lead on this project and was absent. No discussion followed.

Action on the Portland Community Improvement Committee

Larry stressed the need for involvement with the committee.

The Portland Community Improvement Committee would send representative to Council, along with the Hall Board and the Beautification Committee, both of which are sub-committees of Council.

Larry requested a strategy meeting outside our regular monthly meeting to discuss that involvement. All agreed. No date was set.

Heritage Network Meetings and May Heritage Days

Diane explained the events happening soon with the Leeds Heritage Network and the Rideau Lakes Township Heritage Network.

Rideau Lakes Heritage network is having a meeting April 26, 2019 with guest speaker Ken Watson. Symposium will be held at Delta Hall.

It was agreed to provide a display of the PRHS at the event. Doug agreed to deliver the display to the Hall and set up.

Diane, Judy and Larry agreed to pay for a "pop up" display for future events, advertising PRHS. Everyone thanked them for her generous contribution.

Leeds County Heritage Group is having an event in May 25, 2019, featuring museums. Contact George German. \$100.00 participation.

Annual General Meeting

AGM will be held on Sunday, April 28th at 2:00 p.m. in the Portland community hall. Tom has reserved the hall for the event.

Tom also arranged with Joan Delaney to be the guest speaker with her husband, Rob Butcher. They will be speaking on the first convalescence home after WW1. The facility was on the Rideau Canal and they provide a very interesting presentation.

Refreshments will be served. Betty will prepare some cookies. Larry agreed to arrange coffee from the hall kitchen. Tom to bring a case of bottled water. Betty, Larry and Tom were thanked by all. Any other donations of refreshments would be appreciated.

Larry has agreed to prepare the Notice of the Event and get it out as soon as possible, the earlier the notice, the better the turn out. Larry will check with Joan Delaney to get more details.

Tom to contact Perth radio station and put add in Westport Review Mirror.

Elections will be held at the meeting. Anyone wishing to run for specific positions should notify Tom at their earliest convenience.

Tom suggested using the event for a membership drive, funding for Save the Church project.

Manotick Classic Boat Show

Tom indicated he had been approached by Dawn McKendry who is organizing the Manotick Classic Boat Show. She wanted additional information and had contacted Tom because of his involvement with the boat show several years ago. Tom promised to contact the Township, which he did.

Mixed feeling was highlighted during the discussion. Some felt it was a great deal of effort to managing the show with little gain to PRHS. Also, we are heavily involved with a number of other projects and there is only a core of volunteers to handle such an effort.

Some felt that the boat show would be an opportunity for Portland and that classic boats are closely tied to our history and our heritage, bringing pride and recognition to our community and Big Rideau Lake residents. Although it was a good idea, PRHS Directors agreed not to get involved this year.

Larry still expressed his desire to get involved and Councillor Carolyn Bresee indicated her support.

Next Meeting is the AGM on Sunday, April 28th at 2:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Thomas Sled

Chair, Portland on the Rideau Historical Society