

MINUTES

WELLESLEY TOWNSHIP HERITAGE AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

Monday, April 12, 2021; 2:00 p.m.

NOTE: The names and addresses of homeowners and researchers will be omitted from published minutes to maintain their privacy.

Present by Zoom: Nancy Maitland, Curator, Karolyn Fournier, Chair, Diane Peters, Garry Peters, Andrew Jacobson, Debbie Kroetsch, Jean Herrgott, Kevin Hackett, Councillor van der Maas, Amy Harron, Secretary

1. Call to order - Karolyn Fournier, Chair called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm.

2. Minutes from last meeting – March 15, 2021

Moved: Nancy Maitland, Curator Seconded: Councillor van der Maas

That the committee approve the minutes of the March 15, 2021 committee meeting as presented.

Carried

3. Communications – None

4. New Business

Heritage Committee & Historical Society explained – Karolyn Fournier, Chair explained that the committee is an extension of Council and voting members are named every four years in line with the Council elections. Everyone is welcome to attend meetings, but the voting members are Nancy Maitland, Curator, Dave Holzschuh, Jean Herrgott, Councillor van der Mass, Carol Gregory, Ross Kelterborn, Andrew Jacobson, Gary Peters, Diane Peters, and Debbie Kroetsch. Karolyn Fournier has accepted the position of Chair. Minutes from the WTHHS meeting will go to the next scheduled Council Meeting for approval for the Chair position for the duration of the 2018-2022 term.

Ms. Fournier provided clarification regarding quorum which is 50% +1 of the voting membership. All decisions made during the meeting requires quorum. Ms. Fournier, Chair confirmed they would require six voting members. If there is no quorum the voting will be completed at the next meeting. Ms. Fournier, Chair requested that anyone that is on the voting member list and is unable to attend a meeting please notify someone ahead of time.

Secretary, Meeting Schedule 2021 – Karolyn Fournier stated the Township of Wellesley has provided Wellesley Township Heritage and Historical Society (WTHHS), Amy Harron, as Secretary. Ms. Harron will be in attendance for this meeting and in the future, Lindsay Raftis will be attending as the Secretary until Ms. Harron's return. Ms. Fournier, Chair distributed the 2021 meeting schedule, meetings will take place on the third Monday of every month.

Heritage Committee & Historical Society Discussion- Ms. Fournier, Chair suggested looking at the wording on the website as they are not closing the committee off for people not to join. Ms. Fournier, Chair asked what is in it for members? Nancy Maitland, Curator answered that WTHHS went through this several years ago and everything is stated on their website. Ms. Maitland, Curator provided the

benefits of being a member of WTHHS. Amy Harron, Secretary explained that WTHHS can have unlimited members, but they need to have 10 voting members. Ms. Maitland, Curator asked if the WTHHS would have to change anything on our website? Amy Harron, Secretary answered no, the names that WTHHS provided to Council for approval would be the voting members. Ms. Harron, Secretary suggested the WTHHS may want to give it a different name outside of voting member, for example participant member. Nancy Maitland explained it is a minimum of five members and a maximum of ten for a municipal heritage committee. Ms. Maitland suggested that if WTHHS limited it to five voting members it would be easy to have quorum as three people would be quorum. Karolyn Fournier, Chair confirmed that at this point WTHHS is keeping those number of voting members until October 2022. Peter van der Maas stated that it might be wise to keep a larger voting number rather than a smaller one, there is a large budget and you don't necessarily want to give a small amount of people control over a large budget. Amy Harron, Secretary stated confirmation from staff that quorum is required for any decisions regarding heritage or historical society as it is one committee of Council. Ms. Maitland, Curator clarified she was just trying to suggest an easier way to meet quorum. Ms. Maitland, Curator asked if she needed to be unappointed from Secretary? Ms. Fournier, Chair confirmed that since Ms. Maitland, Curator had volunteered for the role that no further action is required.

5. Old Business

Virtual Display of the Future - Andrew Jacobson researched various institutions on how they display items from their collections. Some institutions use 360 camera aspect which would capture the whole room, other institutions use a forward and back click. Mr. Jacobson suggested WTHHS borrow the camera from someone or rent one. Mr. Jacobson stated that there are people that do the various additions to our website for us. Ms. Maitland, Curator confirmed that she is responsible for all the website content. Mr. Jacobson stated depending on funding, but if we have access to PowerPoint or slide show, when someone goes to the website they can be directed to the display and see the various images of what is on display. Mr. Jacobson stated there are postings by PastPerfect and Artefacts Canada that cover a whole area and different institutions contribute different images and information which can be accessed by the public. Ms. Maitland, Curator suggested to look at WTHHS's current platform before migrating to a different web platform. Ms. Maitland, Curator stated moving to a different platform would be a large number of hours and the current curator is only paid for 15 hours a month. Ms. Fournier, Chair answered that this is where we could use volunteers to migrate the information. Mr. Jacobson stated that Past Perfect online is where WTHHS would take a photograph of the artifact from three different angles and put it online with date, donated by, description, and search words.

Ms. Fournier, Chair asked Mr. Jacobson about Artefacts Canada. Mr. Jacobson answered stating that it is images that are put together. WTHHS would need to have specific fields for Artifacts Canada, and it would be a great deal of work as the fields would have to be updated. Ms. Maitland, Curator stated that WTHHS has a significant database, not all would need to be migrated and a significant amount of research on the item would need to be completed to make it interesting. Mr. Jacobson stated that WTHHS could do that with photographs. Kevin Hackett asked what format is the data in so that we can move it over? Mr. Hackett stated that he works with records like this for his personal job and is willing to use personal software to help move the data over and configure to new program. Mr. Jacobson stated the format is Ascii or Microtext. Mr. Jacobson stated that there are a lot of options out there and thinks WTHHS should look at what the easiest option is at the time.

Julie Schnurr/Linwood Photos – Ms. Fournier, Chair provided an update that she was able to contact Julie Schnurr and Nancy Maitland now has that collection of three photographs.

Insurance – Ms. Fournier, Chair updated that WTHHS is insured.

6. Heritage Committee

Non-Designated Heritage Register Evaluation Update – Ms. Maitland, Curator stated that she had been spending time looking at the files prepared years ago from the former LACAC committee, maybe 40 properties have been done. The history of the building as well as what is significant historically and architecturally is documented. Ms. Maitland, Curator suggested to move forward with the 40 that have been done to move ahead with the register and that gives WTHHS a year to make an addition to the non-designated register. Ms. Maitland, Curator stated that this is simply ‘copying and pasting’, dictating to word and getting the information into a spreadsheet that we can present to Council because there needs to be a By-law to create this register.

Emancipation Plaque Update – Councillor van der Maas stated that the plaque price included a steel pole and frame so all that had to be done is to insert it into a concrete filled sonotube. Councillor van der Maas suggested that this could be completed in an afternoon and everything needed is provided by Riverside Brass. Councillor van der Mass suggested possible locations to be on the island that is on Temperance Road which runs north of the Hawkesville road or a spot on Geddes Street in Hawkesville. Councillor van der Maas expressed concern about the sign being stolen and thinks that it would be safer in Hawkesville rather than in a rural area. Councillor van der Mass stated that he contacted Ontario Trust as they have a plaque program, but unfortunately their manager is away until April 14, 2021. Ms. Maitland, Curator will contact someone from the region regarding the plaques that the region has put up. Diane Peters expressed concern about location as the edge of the road is narrow and would like to ensure that it is placed somewhere you can access it.

Ms. Maitland, Curator provided an update that she contacted Julie Schnurr regarding possible sites in Linwood for plaques and she said that the Linwood Lions are starting a memorial forest close to where the rail station once stood, Huber Mill explosion.

Zoeger House Designation – Ms. Maitland, Curator stated that WTHHS has a couple files about the property that are well detailed, and she is planning on going to Council for designation and Ontario Heritage Foundation is where the owner would get funding. Ms. Maitland, Curator stated that we will have to work with the owner on the application about the work to be done. Nancy Maitland, Curator stated that there is no progress except the file has been located and there are no old pictures of that house.

7. Chair Report – Karolyn Fournier, Chair

Ms. Fournier, Chair and Ms. Maitland, Curator are attending the committee meeting on April 13th rather than March 30th as previously stated.

8. Curator’s Report – Nancy Maitland, Curator

- Had someone looking for an antique appraisal receipt, through the township we were able to give him a tax receipt, templates were given to Ms. Maitland, Curator to use moving forward
- Form approval was given by Fiona Gilbert, Deputy Treasurer/Tax Collector for the Township of Wellesley
- Helped 3 people do research
- Wrote a newsletter and distributed to all members.
- Wrote an article for Embracing Change, used Crosshill research

- Webstats, 1800 page view in March, 563 session in one month
- Andrew to do more research, 2 apps, building stories – Heritage Resource Centre at University of Waterloo, Driftscape – similar one
- One of the people that has submitted information about family roots suggested that we write a blurb for Wellesley Roots on Ontario Ancestors Facebook page

9. Financial Report

Ms. Fournier, Chair stated that display supplies that were purchased were \$149.26. Ms. Fournier, Chair stated income since our last meeting is interest in both accounts one account was \$0.89 and the other account was \$4.41. Ms. Fournier, Chair stated that there were DVD sales of \$20.00, book sales of \$9.73 for a total of \$35.03 in income.

Cash account balances:

Historical Society	\$1,657.69
Heritage Committee	\$8,849.76
Petty Cash	\$152.73
Total	\$10,660.18

10. Other Business

- Diane Peters stated that she has some more calendars, Canadian Bag Company limited. Steinmann addressed tube letter with a drawing of the setting.
- Debbie Kroetsch stated that Mary Eileen McClear passed away from pancreatic cancer that advanced very quickly. She left her mark on the Region of Waterloo and further and there will be generations telling stories going to her story barn.

11. Next Meeting: Monday, May 17 - 2:00 pm

Moved by: Jean Herrgott - Seconded by: Diane Peters
 That the WTHHS meeting does now adjourn at 3:14pm

Carried