

Minutes
WELLESLEY TOWNSHIP HERITAGE/HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEETING
Monday, January 26, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

Present: Carol Gregory, Ron Hackett (chair), Ross Kelterborn, Nancy Maitland, Diane Peters,
Peter Vandermaas

Regrets: Garry Peters

Guests: Shirley and Del Cook

Refreshments were served prior to the meeting. Seven guests attended and viewed the Historical Room.

1. Call to order

- Ron noted the deaths of Society member Bob Hammer (January 6, 2015) and Wellesley councillor Jim Olender (December 26, 2014), as well as the father of Jane Orend, our scheduled speaker for the evening. Moved by Ross/Carol that condolences be sent. Carried. Diane will send these out.

2. Delegations - none (speaker Jane Orend forced to cancel)

3. Election of Officers

- Wellesley Township Heritage Society - Moved Ross/Carol that Ron Hackett continue as chair. Carried. Moved Carol/Peter that Diane Peters continue as secretary. Carried. Moved Diane/Ross that Carol Gregory continue as treasurer. Carried.

- Wellesley Township Historical Society - Moved Carol/Peter that Ron Hackett continue as chair. Carried. Moved Ross/Carol that Diane Peters continue as secretary/treasurer. Carried.

- Ron will convey this information to Wellesley Township Council at their January 27th meeting

4. Minutes of the meeting of September 29th, 2014

- moved by Ross/Peter that the minutes be accepted as distributed. Carried.

5. Business arising - none

6. Treasurers' Reports

- Carol reported that there is \$1498.59 in the Heritage Society chequing account and there is a GIC for \$6599.45 (no change)

- Diane reported that there is \$2317.97 in the Historical Society chequing account, with approximately \$40 in outstanding cheques

7. Communications

- distributed by email prior to the meeting

8. Curator's Report

- links to Ontario Genealogical Society material on township cemeteries have been added to the Society's website

- year-end statistics show almost 3000 visitors to the website, with 9705 pages viewed. Cost for the website is \$70 per year.
- 50 photos have been posted on our Instagram site, which has 34 followers
- some material to deaccession has been identified
- February 16th is Family Day and the Historical Room will be open from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. This is at the beginning of Heritage Week and Nancy hopes to put up material on Instagram every day that week. She is also working on some press releases.
- Nancy has been working on an article on the *Wellesley Maple Leaf* for the heritage edition of the New Hamburg newspaper. The *Wellesley Maple Leaf* was published from 1900 till 1927. She has been digitizing the issues from 1900-1908 which are thought to be the only surviving issues. She will try to have the first year of publication on our website by Family Day/Heritage Day.
- *The Maple Leaf Journal* is the history of the township was written in 1983. It was digitized by the Historical Society in 2012 after borrowing money from the Koehler estate fund to buy supplies and pay for Nancy's work on the project. We have now paid back costs for digitization to the estate fund and any further proceeds from sales will come to the Historical Society.
- three books were sold to Castle Kilbride. The Castle is planning a display on Victorian hygiene and the Society was asked if we had any objects for them to use. Nancy sent them a list of possible items. .
- Nancy was contacted by a member of the Ottman family and he will scan a number of photographs and donate them to the Society. The Ottmans were a prominent Wellesley family in the late nineteenth century.
- Nancy took a course at Conestoga College last fall and has written a paper on Michael Peter Empey, who lived in Hawkesville in the mid-nineteenth century. Moved Peter/Diane that Nancy be authorized to spend up to \$100 to secure copyright for a copy of a portrait of Empey by artist Paul Kane.
- Kitchener Public Library has eight years of the *Wellesley Maple Leaf* newspaper on microfilm. Nancy will be digitizing this material to put on the website. She has also digitally copied the Tweedsmuir history for Wellesley and the 1856 survey of Hawkesville, both of which are at KPL.
- Ron and Nancy will attend the township council meeting on January 27th. Moved Ross/Carol that Ron will present a proposal to approve the renewal of Nancy's contract for 2015, with a cost-of-living increase. Carried.

8. New Business

- Ron reported that Wellesley mayor Joe Nowak has spoken to him about using interest money from the Koehler fund to pay for repairs to the old Wellesley fire truck. There was some discussion, and Ross suggested that other local groups, such as the ABC Festival and the Lions Club might be asked to contribute to costs of this project. Ron will speak again to Joe for further information before the Society makes a decision.
- Peter brought in two calendars purchased at auction. One was a 1936 calendar from Jacob Lotz Flour, Feed and Seeds and the other was a 1951 calendar from M. R. Futher Funeral and Furniture Service. Thanks were extended to Peter for his donation.

9. Next Meeting - Monday, March 23rd, 2015, 7:30 p.m

10. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. (moved by Peter/Carol).