

HISTORICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Held Monday, September 9, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.
In the Classroom. Town Hall

PRESENT: Lindsay Neale, Chair
Robbie Broad, Secretary
Alex Noble
Mavis Clarke
Art Dyer
Jen Martin, Records Manager & FOI Coordinator
David Foster, Councillor
Nina Bifolchi, Mayor

Absent: Mary Watson, Archivist

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by L. Neale at 2:00 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST – None

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Moved by D. Foster - Seconded by A. Dyer. Resolution 2019-09-01
That the Historical Advisory Committee minutes of August 12, 2019 be accepted.
CARRIED

4. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Mr. George Potopnyk was in attendance to make a presentation on Dinosaur Valley, a short-lived Wasaga Beach tourist destination created in the early 1980s. It was located on 160 acres opposite the Arena and was intended to be part of more expansive resort complex with an educational component. The dinosaurs were created in Great Britain and assembled in Wasaga Beach. He showcased some items from the original gift shop, provided a token to the Committee members and donated all materials to the Archives. On behalf of the Committee, L. Neale expressed thanks to Mr. Potopnyk for the time and effort it took to present this project.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) Interpretive Panel Files

D. Foster reported that he has yet to meet with Marilyn Beecroft but was hoping to do so later in the day.

b) Playland Park Carousel

L. Neale noted that she had not heard back from the Gordon brothers and was removing the item from the Agenda.

c) Heritage Research Project – TD Bank

D. Foster reported that he had met with G. Potopnyk to discuss the project. He has been in touch with the TD Branch Manager in Wasaga Beach and made contact with the TD Bank's Archivist in Toronto. He added that he hoped to work with both on obtaining some research and is looking at December / January for completion of the project.

d) Budget

L. Neale stated she had met with the Clerk to go over the budget. She was advised that the budgets for the HAC and the Archives were separate and that the HAC will act as a point of contact for the Archives budget. She discussed with the Clerk that the preservation of photos and artifacts is key and that more information on conservation will be necessary. It was suggested that the Committee apply for preservation funds on an annual basis.

6. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Doors Open Simcoe County – R. Broad had submitted our application and it was accepted. There was an issue in regard to the Simcoe County advertising, as our event was listed as "Wasaga Beach Public Library Archives". R. Broad spoke with Ontario Heritage Trust who corrected the issue. He has arranged for snacks and coffee to be donated by Grandma's Beach Treats. L. Neale indicated that she would put out invitations to Pam Pal, Council and Ian Adams from the Sun newspaper.

Archives – L. Neale reported that 416 items have now been inventoried. There has been a 300% increase in attendance at the Archives since it was open on Saturdays and was advertised on social media. Mavis Clarke and Karen Bowles have now been added to the volunteer roster. She also stated that she had been approached by the Archive head volunteer in regard to hosting an appreciation luncheon/tea for the volunteers. D. Foster will look into obtaining funding from the Town to cover the cost of same. She added that M. Clarke would be donating a laptop for the Archives. Inventory will soon begin on the many items that are in storage in a Town owned building on Mosley St. She also reported that she met with M. Watson who is scanning and cataloguing photos and postcards at her home. It was further noted that A. Noble will be contacting Matthew Fells from the Simcoe County Archives to find out how they handle conservation and preservation of archival items.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) Heritage Walking Tour – M. Clarke was asked to take on the project of expanding on the Walking Tour so that our Committee members will be able to guide groups through the experience. She will be doing more research and come up with a script that can be used throughout the tour. It is anticipated that this project will be completed and ready to be implemented by April, 2020. D. Foster brought up the possibility of partnering with the Wasaga community theatre group.

b) Community Update – L. Neale met with Bruce and Karen Bowles whose father owned Bowles Pharmacy, the first pharmacy in Wasaga Beach. The family is considering donating some items to the Archives.

- c) **Heritage Research Project** – L. Neale expanded on the idea of these projects, including the initial TD Bank project, culminating in a newspaper article and/or a presentation to the Community at the Library.
- d) **Staff Update** - J. Martin noted that budget deliberations would begin soon.
- e) **Council Report** - D. Foster elaborated on the upcoming budget discussions and that Council would soon be discussing staff recommendations.

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS – None

9. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

October 7, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.
November 4, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.
December 2, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The chair adjourned the meeting at 2:48 p.m.