

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITEWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY HELD ON MARCH 28, 2024 AT THE WHITEWATER MUNICIPAL OFFICE AT 13:00 HOURS

Present: Janis Tomkinson President; Daryl McLaughlin, Vice-President; Debbie MacDonald, Treasurer; Sandra Buttle, Recording Secretary; Evelyn St. Amour; Betty Heubner; Joanne Pratt; Gay Tushingham; Terri Saunders; Darryl McLaughlin, Glenn Collins; Andrea Graham.

1. WELCOME

President, Janis Tomkinson, welcomed everyone to the meeting and specifically new members Betty Heubner and Glenn Collins.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the February 29th meeting were reviewed. For clarification purposes it was noted that the Art Show and Writer's readings would be separate events. Also, the Don Kwan event is a Cultural Festival.

It was moved by Terri Saunders,
And seconded by Debbie MacDonald,

That the minutes of February 29, 2024 be adopted. – Carried.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

- Debbie MacDonald presented the Treasurer's report with a bank balance of \$12,316.00 ending February 29, 2024.
- Debbie and Janis will be opening a special bank account today for the quilt raffle.
- It was noted that the Museum has an account at Cobden Home Hardware and the invoices are mailed to the Museum at the post office in Foresters Falls.
- A request was made to keep a separate line on the Treasurer's report for donations received from the museum via the donation jar.

It was moved by Debbie MacDonald,
And seconded by Joanne Pratt,

That the report of the Treasurer be accepted. – Carried.

4. MUSEUM ADMISSION

A survey was done on the admission prices of local museums. Champlain Trail, Deep River Clock and the Bonnechere Valley museums charge an admission price. The McDougall Mill in Renfrew and Arnprior museums are by donation.

It was suggested that we do more signage stating that we rely on charitable donations and encourage guests to sign the guest book These donations will be tracked separately.

It was moved by Daryl McLaughlin,
And seconded by Glenn Collins,

That the admission price for the 2024 season be by donation. – Carried.

5. **2024 EVENTS**

- **Plant Sale** scheduled for June 15th and will be lead by Joanne
- **Gail Gavin** has been contacted via her website for an event. No response has been received to-date
- **Garden Tour** – participating with the Forester’s Falls Athletic Association on July 21st
- **Adult craft day** – suggested by Heather
- **Marc Audette Music** – Janis will follow up.
- **Art Show** - Lawrie
- **Writer’s Group Readings** - Heather
- **Don Kwan Cultural Event** – participating to showcase Museum - Janis

6. **OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. **Delta Bingo** – Andrew Trahan the Volunteer Coordination was contacted. They have 53 volunteer groups and would like to increase to 56 groups. A special bank account is required for OLG monies once we are approved. If the organization is dissolved all monies in this account have to be returned to OLG. We would have to work a 2 hour time slot every month and there is a dress code. It was suggested that we get vests with the Museum logo.

It was moved by Ev St. Amour,
 And seconded by Terri Saunders
 That we move forward with Delta Bingo. – Carried.

- B. **Forester’s Falls Library Space** – the library is closing today. Janis has asked that the historical books from the library be given to the Museum and has also requested some space for people to sit when doing research on their families at the museum. No response has been received. Daryl will check what is happening with the historical books and will try to clarify what is happening. Janis also stated that she send the Mayor a letter on our requests.
- C. **Accessions** – a list of accessions for 2023 were received from Fay Bennett.
 It was moved by Terri Saunders,
 And seconded by Joanne Pratt,
 That the 2023 list of accessions be accepted. – Carried.
- D. **Canada Summer Jobs Program** – formal approval has not yet been received. No applications have been received and today was the deadline. Janis will contact a previous year’s student and the Township also shares their applicants with us. It was suggested that we post the flyer for students in the post offices in Beachburg, Westmeath and Cobden.
- E. **Digitization workshop** – The Arnprior Museum hosted a Digitization Workshop on March 27th with a few of our members attending. This was a 2 year digitization project that they received funding for. They shared their hands-on experience. There is a high tech learning curve and a lot of software involved. They went to Argus software for public interface. Argus is a collections management system platform for museums and galleries and is built to enhance curation, and to significantly expand outreach and access via the Web for in-person and virtual visitors.
- F. **Culture in Arnprior** – The Arnprior Museum are running a series of speakers from March to May. The flyer was circulated.

- G. **Emergency and Disaster Planning for Ontario Museums** – Janis attended the zoom meetings. Janis and Ev will work on this.
- H. **Ottawa Valley Tourist Association** – This conference is being held on April 16th and Lawrie and Janis would like to attend. Costs are \$86.70 plus HST. There was discussion on sponsor opportunities but we are already advertising on the map.
It was moved by Ev St. Amour,
And seconded by Daryl McLaughlin,
That Lawrie Barton and Janis Tomkinson be approved to attend. – Carried.
- I. **Website Pictures** – Fay Bennett, Archivist, would like to post pictures on the website on pioneer families, farm, buildings, businesses, WWI & WWI profiles, etc. This is a great idea but all the pictures would have to have the resolution changed, etc. so that we don't slow down the loading of the website. If we had the Argus program this would be an easy way to share. The Past Perfect program that we have now is not a shared program. Janis will speak to Fay.
- J. **Glenn Collins** had a book that was written by his father and he would like to recreate this book with better resolution of the photos. He will contact Fay Bennett.
- K. **The apple tree** fell down and on the Orange Hall property. The Township has been asked to clean it up.
- L. **Barn Quilts** – Daryl has offered to hang the barn quilts. Arrangements will be made for everyone to bring their barn quilts to the museum.
- M. **Hazel Hawthorn** – An email will be sent later regarding Hazel's 99th Birthday in May.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

The Whitewater Historical Society sent a flower arrangement to Kaye Beach for her 100th birthday on February 29, 2024. Kaye was the Museum Archivist for over 15 years. Kaye sent a thank you note for the lovely flower arrangement and for bringing back many memories of the museum. She is very happy that we are carrying on.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Ev St. Amour,
And seconded by Darryl McLaughlin,
That the meeting adjourn.
Time of adjournment: 2:30 p.m.