

**MINUTES**  
**Burk's Falls & District Historical Society**  
**Fell Homes, Burk's Falls**  
**Thursday, April 14, 2016**

Members Present: Linda Maurer – President  
Betty Caldwell – Vice President  
Diane Brandt  
Lorne Main  
Nieves Guijarro  
Rosalind Hall  
Wilma Bentley  
Jarv Osborne  
Maureen Lanois  
Rebecca Zanussi  
Lisa Morrison  
Charlene Watt – Secretary

The Members present constituted a quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Linda Maurer in the Chair

**Agenda Item:**

1. Acceptance and adoption of the March 9, 2016 Meeting Minutes Notes. **Moved by Jarv Osborne, Seconded by Betty Caldwell. Carried**
2. Treasurer's / Financial Report presented by Linda Maurer. Total account balance is estimated at \$6,000.00. Diane Brandt provided receipts for reimbursement in the amount of \$16.86 for a microwave plate cover and a card reader; and an invoice was received from Cam Watt for February/March/April snow removal at the Watt farmhouse in the amount of \$220.00. Calendar sales were reported: Linda Maurer collected \$16.00 from the Township of Ryerson. One calendar was donated to the Township of Ryerson as it was damaged. Betty Caldwell has dropped off 27 calendars at the Watt farmhouse. The Wooden Roo has been authorized to sell the calendars at a discounted rate of \$5.00. **Motion to accept the treasurer's report and pay the monthly invoices: Moved by Charlene Watt, Seconded by Rosalind Hall. Carried**
3. Project Manager's Report. Presented by Diane Brandt and discussed items with Members.  
*Update on Signs:* The Watt Century Farmhouse sign has been delivered, presently in the garage. Rick will install when weather permits. The sign at the Village Green

is up. Diane spoke to Derek Smith regarding the sign at the corner by Bait Shop. He will fix the sign.

*Karen Jones Consulting:* Final package has not been received, Diane has been in contact with Natasha. Hopefully we will be receiving it shortly.

*Update on Activities:* Old papers and receipts from Jamie Toepper was found in the ceiling of the Trout Creek Lumber from the mid-1920s to early 1940s. Documents are being distributed to historical societies according to the contents. The settee has been delivered to Nancy Kyte. Partial items have been received from Carr McLean. Another package will be coming in May as some items were on back order. A write up will be submitted to the OHS Bulletin regarding the promotion of our Heritage Day.

*Purchases:* Diane has purchased a camera and memory card to take pictures of the artifacts.

*Plaques:* Wording was selected by members for the wording on the donation plaque(s) which will be displayed at the Watt Farmhouse.

*Flyers:* Flyers, posters and brochures are being distributed throughout town and area. Diane contacted Bob Hall regarding the horizontal banner for the Heritage Day promotion and it can be put between the posts of the advertising board in the parking lot across from the Village of Burk's Falls Town Office.

*Painting:* Diane and Carole from Home Depot have been playing telephone and email tag regarding the paint for the schoolhouse. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

*Website:* Our website went live on Monday, April 4, 2016. Check it out! The flyers for Black Fly Tea and Craft Sale and the Heritage Day flyer have been uploaded to the site. Charlene will post detour routes to the Watt Farmhouse due to Yonge Street Bridge closure to the website.

*Vertical Banner:* Diane brought in the new retractable banner and stand that was purchased from SignCraft. The cost was processed through the Red Grant.

*Vista Print:* Diane purchased two horizontal banners from Vista Print. They will be used for parades, etc.

*Information Centre:* Rack cards and flyers advertising Heritage Day will be placed in the information centres in Barrie and Gravenhurst.

*The Framing Place:* The silk scarf that was donated by Dorothy Holt was taken to the Framing Place in Huntsville. They are framing the silk scarf and the 162<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Banner. Diane will follow up with the business in a couple of weeks.

*Almaguin News:* Two options were presented to members for summer advertising with the Almaguin News. **Choice One** was to advertise in the Welcome to Almaguin, Shop, Dine, Stay & Play and published in May or **Choice Two** was to advertise in the Almaguin Life Magazine and published in June/July. Members chose to advertise in the Welcome to Almaguin brochure.

*Farmhouse Repairs:* There have been multiple problems with the furnace this winter. Diane indicated that the furnace has been repaired and should be good now.

*Archiving & Cataloging:* The Project Manager position was finished at the end of March. Diane Brandt is now volunteering time to catalogue and archive with Betty

Caldwell. Diane is also working with Betty for the selection of pictures for the 2017 calendar.

Linda Maurer, President, thanked Diane Brandt, Project Manager for her time and dedication to the Historical Society. The position contract ended on March 31, 2016 and Diane was recognized for saving the Historical Society a lot of money, for her skills and her hard work. Diane was thanked for her continued support. The Historical Society and members are appreciative and grateful to have Diane's commitment.

4. *NOHFC Intern & Library Partnership:* This agenda item has been deferred by Linda Maurer and Nieves Guijarro until a later date, likely in May. The Historical Society needs to determine if there will be municipal support. Charlene Watt, Township of Armour Representative, presented Linda Maurer with a \$5000.00 cheque from the Armour Council to assist with 2016 staffing. Rosalind Hall indicated that the Township of Ryerson would be meeting on April 19, 2016. Linda Maurer indicated that the Historical Society would work with whatever the municipalities are prepared to give. A part-time mature worker and summer student were discussed. Nieves Guijarro mentioned the possibility of partnering with the Library for the intern position. There is plenty of work to do at the library and the intern could be assigned to tasks involving local history.

It was decided to run a classified advertisement for the Heritage Co-ordinator, Mature Staff Contract Position in the Almaguin News and note that the position would be pending funding approval. Linda indicated that if the Historical Society does not obtain municipal financial support that members would have to volunteer weekends in order to keep the centre(s) open, just like we did in the past, before the RED Grant funding. Linda indicated that the Mature Staff position would be taking the next steps of the Project Manager contract position that ended in March 2016.

The summer student position, Museum Assistant (June 6 – August 28) will be advertised in the April 21, 2016 Almaguin News, resumes are to be submitted to Charlene Watt, Township of Armour Municipal Office.

5. *Special Event Weekend:* Betty Caldwell reported on the Heritage Day Committee Meeting. The committee is made up of members from the Burk's Falls Historical Society and the Strong Agricultural Society Heritage Centre. The members on the committee include: Betty, Lorne, Dona from Burk's Falls and Catherine, Norm Webb and Pam Goodwin from Sundridge. The following will be at the Heritage Day Celebration: Algonquin Regiment, Callander Pipe Band, Burk's Falls Fire Department fire trucks, Girl Guide BBQ, Linda Barry will play the piano in the farmhouse, Linda Maurer will obtain the cotton candy and popcorn, Lorne Main will have a military uniform display from Drew Hutcheson, and tents will be obtained from the Village of Burk's Falls and the Fire Department. Lorne Main indicated that the "Marching for Veterans" from Huntsville will promote our event through their

Facebook page. Charlene will contact Marina Hammond for the horse and wagon rides. Betty indicated that formal invitations are to be extended to Councils, MPP, MP, and local legions. The next meeting is Monday, May 2, 2016 for the Committee.

Betty, Diane and Dona met with Rob Learn from the Almaguin News regarding the creation of a wartime newspaper without a publication date that can be sold at the event (and after) which will include articles of life/events from old newspapers. Betty Caldwell and Dona Crawford are to research old newspapers for relevant articles. Contributions are required by mid-May. The newspaper will be the size of the local weekend newspaper and approximately 20 pages in length. The first 6 pages will cover information about the 162<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. Rob Learn is also interested in the story behind the black bear mascot, the ship that carried the soldiers, and local soldiers. The cost of the publication to the public is still being negotiated. A title of "The Arrow and Echo of Almaguin" was chosen. An interview with Kathleen Judd was recommended by members. Nieves offered library assistance in the research. War diaries are also to be included.

6. *Spring Event:* Blackfly Spring Tea and Craft Sale was discussed. The event will take place on May 28, 2016 at the Watt Farm house. The event will run from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and is being promoted through posters. Vendors include: Brad Crozier, Susan Rodgers, Lynn Weller, and Petra's Pottery. Cathy Still has offered to play the piano for the event. We will serve sandwiches, scones and tea. Linda Maurer recommended Pegasus Wellness for the tea. The new bakery and Valu-Mart were discussed regarding the possible donation of scones but a formal decision was not made. Rosalind will look into purchasing clotted cream. The following items will be made by members: Nieves – cream cheese and cucumber sandwiches, Betty – egg salad sandwiches, Linda – ham sandwiches, Maureen – gooseberry jam and Charlene – fruit tray. Betty Caldwell will provide additional tea cups. Cost for the event was not discussed. Volunteers for the day include Linda, Nieves, Betty, Lorne, Shirley, Pierette and possibly Rebecca. Fancy tiered trays and cake plates are requested from members for the day.
7. *Invitation from Huntsville Historical Society:* Linda indicated that the attendance to the Huntsville meeting will be postponed until the fall of 2016.
8. *Other Business Items:*  
*2017 Calendar:* Diane, Dona and Betty have chosen photos for the calendar which will display a war hero theme that focuses on Canada's 150th anniversary. This project is a joint fundraiser of the Burk's Falls and District Historical Society and the Strong Agricultural Society Heritage Centre. Betty indicated that photographs will be selected at the meeting of the Heritage Day Committee on Monday, May 2, 2016.  
*Newsletter:* Lorne Main presented the Spring 2016 Yesteryears Newsletter. A copy will be uploaded to the website by Charlene Watt.  
*Culture Days Information Session:* To find out more about available resources, tools and tips that can make Culture Days activities a success an information

session is being held on April 27, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at the Caswell Resort Dining Room in Sundridge. To learn more about Culture Days, visit [www.culturedays.ca](http://www.culturedays.ca). Nieves indicated that she plans to attend the session.

*Schoolhouse:* The schoolhouse spring cleaning is scheduled for Sunday, May 15, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. Volunteers are required to wash walls and the floor in preparation of Home Depot painting the interior.

*Next meeting:* Agenda items will include member review of the constitution, heritage centre museum hours of operation for 2016 and schoolhouse cleanup confirmation.

9. Next Meeting: It was decided to meet on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at the Fell Homes at 7:00 p.m.
10. Adjournment: There being no further business, **Lisa Morrison moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m., Seconded by Charlene Watt.**

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Recorded by  
Charlene Watt

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Approved by  
Linda Maurer, President