

**Brant Historical Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
January 30, 2018**

Brant Museum and Archives, 57 Charlotte St., Brantford  
**Meeting Minutes**

Present: Tim Philp (Chair), Willy Hilgendag, Doug Summerhayes, Annette Minutillo (Secretary)

Absent: Bill Hanna (Treasurer), Michael St. Amant (Past President)

Staff: no staff present

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. Quorum was not achieved.
2. **Executive Director's Report** - Tim Philp reported on the meeting with Robert Pajot from the National Trust on January 18, 2018 (Annette and Tim met with him). The National Trust's Survey Summary on Myrtleville House was circulated prior to the meeting. The Summary identified that few truly viable or novel ideas were generated. There was some discussion about a 'new' Friends of Myrtleville type group was being considered, and Robert seemed to agree that an extra layer in the hierarchy of authority between the museum and Myrtleville will likely prove awkward. While the Friends of Myrtleville were never originally a management group, they did run school programs and events, directing a shared staff person, a now more challenging arrangement since Esther is a Museum employee. The National Trust remains concerned about their financial losses. There will be no change for this year to our agreement with the National Trust - status quo.

Tim also reported that the Expositor has agreed to do a weekly column on the Museum.

3. **Treasurer's Report** - Tim made the following comments from Bill's forwarded notes - BHS is \$750 ahead in grants (received \$5000 in 2018 and \$5000 in special grant) but we are showing a \$40,000 loss, which is about equal to last year.
4. **Publications Committee Report** - no Report
5. **Member Event Planning Committee** – no Report
6. **Business arising** from the Meeting of November 28, 2017
  - a. **By-Law Review** - Tim noted that the corporations act has changed and some adjustments need to be made to the By-Laws.

Another significant concern is the required number of Board members i.e. five required for quorum and six to host the AGM. The 'sunset' clause requires that people step off after 3 terms - this actually takes away the vote from the membership (Board members who are supported by its members should be able to stay on).

**ACTION:** Board members are to forward to Annette by the end of the week their comments and suggestions for changes to the current By-Laws.

7. **Board Members:** The Board is down to its quorum limit so new members are required. Another Board member is required in order to hold the AGM.

A short questionnaire was circulated for members to fill out identifying their own skillset. Annette will forward to Bill and then collate the results in order to ascertain where our skill needs are as a Board.

New Board members: Annette will approach Kristin Pass and Doug will approach Lloyd St. Amand to consider joining the Board.

8. **New Business:**

- a. Internal Membership and Donation Procedures - Office administration is a bit messy i.e. we must improve our membership lists and we are having difficulty efficiently issuing tax receipts. These are now being done out of Rosewood House.
- b. A George Brown exhibit (200 years from his birth November 29, 1818) will be held at the Museum - Tim is to discuss with staff and have them connect with Willy with the intention of presenting the exhibit in the fall (Sept to Dec). Willy reported that Ruth Lefler will be writing article.
- c. Tim will be working on developing stronger employment contracts with staff.
- d. The date for the AGM will be set at the next meeting.

9. No Announcements

**Next Meeting - Tim will arrange an additional meeting between February 12 and February 22.**

Tim moved that the **Meeting be adjourned** at 8:15 pm

TP/am