

**Brant Historical Society
Board of Directors Meeting
November 14, 2023
Brant Museum and Archives
57 Charlotte St.,
Brantford, ON**

MINUTES

Present: Tim Philp (President), Michael-Allan Marion (Secretary), Willy Hilgendag (Treasurer),
Leisah Marie Jansen.

Regrets:

Murray Angus, Doug Summerhayes.

Absent:

Denise Methot (Vice-President)

Staff: Marion McGeein (Executive Director Pro-Temp)

1. **Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6 pm.**

2. **Approval of Agenda:**

Motion: Moved by L. Jansen, seconded by W. Hilgendag, that the agenda of the November 14, 2023 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved.

Carried unanimously.

3. **Approval of Minutes:**

Motion: Moved by M-A Marion, seconded by W. Hilgendag that the Minutes of the October 3, 2023 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved.

Carried unanimously.

4. **Executive Director's Report:**

M. McGeein reported that she has completed the new job descriptions for staff and presented them for each to sign.

She has also begun holding team meetings every two weeks.

IT issues continue to be a challenge. She and staff are working on each in turn.

Finances are also a challenge. She has written an application for a grant to improve security for the building to curb the problem of homeless and trespassers.

M. McGeein lauded the opening of the exhibit on the Boer War and World War I.

She reported and upcoming Christmas Social at Myrtleville House Museum on December 20, 2023 at 7 pm.

Motion: Moved by M-A. Marion, seconded by L. Jansen, that the report of the Executive Director be approved.

Carried unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report:

The latest financial documents were circulated before the meeting. W. Hilgendag briefly discussed their highlights.

He also delivered a separate written and verbal report in which he expressed his concerns that the earlier unknown financial costs that had to be borne in moving the Crystal Cottage and re-situating it on a vacant lot beside the Brant Museum are now hampering the Society's ability to carry on its overall operations.

He also raised questions about some of the costs that the Society might have to bear if it were to take over Myrtleville House Museum, because historical buildings like the Crystal Cottage and Myrtleville will need construction work.

And he said it is important for the Society to seek out other sources of funding to ensure its future well-being. "We need to find major benefactors, like we enjoyed...years ago."

6. Business Arising from the Minutes: NONE

7. New Business:

A) Resignation of Denise Methot

The Board was read a letter of resignation from Vice-President D. Methot, who served the Society and the Board of Directors for several years, and served as Vice-President for three years.

Motion: Moved by M-A Marion, seconded by L. Jansen, that the board accepts the resignation of Denise Methot with regret, and thanks her for her many years of service to the Brant Historical Society.

Carried unanimously.

B) Recruiting New Board Members:

The Board discussed the need to recruit new members to its ranks due to a combination of resignations, age and illness in the past year. The Board decided by consensus to put

a notice in a newsletter and on the website calling for interested people to apply. A committee will be set up to go over applications.

8. **Election of New Vice-President:**

Motion: Moved by M-A Marion, seconded by W. Hilgendag, that Leisah Marie Jansen be elected Vice-President, effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

9. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting is on January 30, 2024 at 6 pm.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.