

Brant Historical Society  
Board of Directors Virtual Meeting  
On Zoom  
March 30, 2021  
Brant Museum and Archives  
57 Charlotte Street,  
Brantford, ON

Meeting Minutes

Present on Zoom: Tim Philp (President), Michael-Allan Marion (Secretary), Denise Methot, Leisah Marie Jansen, Doug Summerhayes.  
Regrets: Willy Hilgendag, Colleen Armstrong.  
Staff: None present.

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm.

2. Changes to Agenda: There were no additions or deletions.

Motion: Moved by M. Marion, seconded by D. Methot, that the agenda for the meeting be approved.

Carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Moved by L. Jansen, seconded by M. Marion, that the minutes of the February 23, 2021 virtual board of directors meeting be approved.

Carried unanimously.

4. Executive Director's Report:

T. Philp reported that he had in-person and telephone meetings concerning final hurdles in the project to move the heritage Crystal Cottage to a vacant property beside the Brant Museum. He said everything is ready from the society's side to effect the move and we are waiting for the developer to complete its arrangements. The move is still anticipated in late spring or early summer.

T. Philp gave an update on the society's need to move artifacts and displays out of the Laurier Brantford building (former Market Square). He estimated it could cost \$6,000 partly because a contractor must be hired to handle sensitive artifacts. Everything must be out by mid-April. He said staffer Nathan Etherington has been doing yeoman's service preparing for the move out and making arrangements for storage space.

T. Philp also reported on progress in the city's plan to create a museum complex at Greenwich-Mohawk where the society may be a partner. He said the realization of that plan is three to four years away.

In the meantime, the society is continuing its plan to achieve financial stability in its current location. He said he is close to finalizing an agreement with the city for long term funding in the interim, and the proposal is on city council's desk during its budget estimates.

T. Philp said he is fairly optimistic about the society's future in its financial sustainability plan.

Motion: Moved by M. Marion, seconded by D. Summerhayes, that the Executive Director's Report be approved.

Carried unanimously.

#### 5. Treasurer's Report:

The financials were distributed before the meeting. T. Philp delivered the Treasurer's Report in W. Hilgendag's stead.

He took the board through the financials. There are about \$228,000 on hand in the current account including the endowment fund. He noted that Brant County council has approved a \$25,000 grant to the BHS for the museum's operations.

T. Philp also reported that extra funds of an unspecified amount are expected to come from federal COVID funding.

Motion: Moved by D. Summerhayes, seconded by D. Methot, that the Treasurer's Report be approved.

Carried unanimously.

#### 6. New Business:

Motion: Moved by D. Summerhayes, seconded by L. Jansen, that the meeting move into in-camera session to discuss an identifiable individual.

Carried unanimously.

Motion: Moved by D. Methot, seconded by D. Summerhayes, that the meeting move into ex-camera session.

Carried unanimously.

Motion: Moved by M. Marion, seconded by D. Methot, that Nathan Etherington be awarded a bonus of \$500.00 in recognition of his efforts above and beyond his responsibilities in handling the museum's activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Carried unanimously.

#### 7. Corporate Sponsorship Committee:

No report due to COVID restrictions.

#### 8. Strategic Planning Committee:

No report due to COVID restrictions.

#### 9. Annual General Meeting:

T. Philp reported that he is circulating to the general membership by email and general mail a report called From the President's Desk, which details the board's activities during the past year,

including plans to hold an annual general meeting.

He gave a report showing options to hold an AGM and said the board is committed to holding it but is hampered by the fact that Brantford and Brant County have moved into Red Zone in the province's restrictions schedule and many members could be inadvertently disenfranchised by a virtual meeting because they lack the necessary online digital technology. He suggested that the board could concentrate on preparing for the holding of an AGM as soon as possible when the area moves onto Yellow Zone, hopefully in the next few months.

10. New Business:

Appointment of a Vice-President.

Motion: Moved by M. Marion, seconded by D. Summerhayes, that Denise Methot be elected to fill the vacant position of Vice-President.

D. Methot agreed to accept the position.

Carried unanimously.

11. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

The next meeting will be on April 27 at 7 pm.