

Brant Historical Society Board of Directors Meeting June 25, 2024

Present: Murray Angus (President), Leisah Marie Jansen (Vice-President), Michael-Allan Marion (Secretary), Bill Hyde (Treasurer), Pat Duern, Glad Woodburn, John Utley, Brian Moore.

Regrets: Sarah Clarke.

Staff: Marion McGeein (Executive Director).

1. **Call to Order:**

The meeting called to order at 6:30 pm.

2. **Approval of Agenda:**

Motion: Moved by B. Hyde, seconded by P. Duern, that the agenda of the June 25, 2024 Board of Directors meeting be approved. **Carried unanimously.**

3. **Approval of Minutes:**

Motion: Moved by L. Jansen, seconded by P. Duern, that the minutes of the May 2024 Board of Directors meeting be approved. **Carried unanimously.**

4. **Business Arising:**

i. **Myrtleville House Museum Lease Agreement**

Discussion about the lease agreement included annual plans, whether the BHS can rent out rooms in the property, and the nature of insurance provisions with the two organizations as co-signers.

Motion: Moved by B. Moore, seconded L. Jansen, that the lease agreement between the National Trust and the Brant Historical Society be signed by the President/Chair, Treasurer and Executive Director. **Carried unanimously.**

ii. **SWOT Analysis Next Steps**

J. Utley outlined how the board should continue with a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) process that he introduced for a review of the BHS's structure, operations and programs.

All board members are asked to fill out the analysis template in detail and forward the information to J Utley by July 3, 2024.

iii. **Bruce Hill** - M. Angus explained about a book by author Bruce Hill and its reprinting. More information will be provided at a future meeting.

iv. Meeting With City Officials – Next Steps

Led by M. Angus, discussion regarding a recent meeting with city officials centred around the Brant Historical Society's future in this community. Further there was discussion regarding the location of the Brant Museum and Archives at Charlotte Street or some other location. There was also discussion about how to assist the Society to become more financially viable.

It was felt that it was a good meeting with the all the cards on the table and left the impression that the city is willing to help the Society.

More meetings with City officials will be arranged to discuss the proposed three-year financial plan.

There was also some indication that the City is willing to look at other possible venues for the museum.

It is suggested that for the BHS to be self-sufficient it would need between \$3.5 to \$5 million in an endowment.

Motion: Moved by J. Utley, seconded by P. Duern, that M Angus and B. Hyde meet with the City of Brantford for further discussion regarding finances and location.

Carried unanimously.

Motion: Moved by M-A Marion, seconded by L Jensen, that when the Board of Directors is advised of any upcoming meetings with the BHS and the City of Brantford or other organizations, a consensus will be resolved as to who is best suited to attend.

Carried, Bill Hyde and Brian Moore opposing.

Board members also discussed options to sell the Brant Museum and Archives on Charlotte Street as part of a relocation plan for a new facility.

Motion: Moved by J. Utley, seconded by P. Duern, that the BHS interview several realtors to ascertain a marketing plan for the Brant Museum and Archives property on Charlotte Street.

Carried unanimously.

v. Wall of Honour – No Discussion.

5. Correspondence: None

6. Reports:

a. **Financial Report** – The latest financial documents were circulated to Board members. B. Hyde highlighted main features in them.

Motion: Moved by B. Hyde, seconded by M-A Marion, that the Financial Report be accepted as circulated.

Carried unanimously.

Outcome of Meeting with Auditor – M. Angus reported on discussions with officials from auditor Millards about a bill for \$9,339.45. The auditor indicated a willingness to forgive payment.

b) Committees

Events Committee – B. Moore gave a brief report on the Events Committee roster for the forthcoming months.

Motion: Moved by B. Moore, seconded by P. Duern the Events Committee Report be accepted. **Carried unanimously.**

Executive Director's Report –A written report from Executive Director M. McGeein was circulated prior to the meeting.

Motion: Moved by P. Duern, seconded by M-A Marion, that the Executive Director's Report be accepted. **Carried unanimously.**

7. New Business

a. Website

Board members were given an outline of a revised website that L Dockree has created and to provide feedback by July 10, 2024

b. Emergency and disaster plans

A thorough plan was created by N Etherington and will be used as part of the CMOG grant submission that will be submitted at the end of June 2024.

c. Additional meeting dates

An informal dinner meeting to discuss the SWOT analysis has been arranged by G. Woodburn at the Piper Arms on July 9, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. The terms will be that each pay their own.

8. Next Meeting:

Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Brant Museum and Archives.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 pm.