**BURRITT’S RAPIDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**MEETING MINUTES – May 2020**

**(NOTE: THIS WAS A VIRTUAL MEETING)**

**Members in Attendance:** Bart Bilmer, John Dwyer, Angie Lyrette, Jill MacDonald, Cameron Rhodes, Joan Simpson, Vanda Stanley, Inge vanGemeren (Inge had to leave early due to work commitments)

**Community Members in Attendance:** None

**Financial Report:**

No Financial Report was presented. The Treasurer indicated that while we were well positioned from a financial perspective, the continuing high costs for electricity remained a worry. The Chairperson indicated that she would check the thermostat once again and see if the hot water heater could be turned off, or lowered, while the Hall is not in use.

**Minutes:**

The minutes for the April 2020 meeting were approved.

**Hall Maintenance & Rentals:**

**Project Planning Framework**

Member Bart Bilmer presented the Board with a draft planning framework meant to identify all significant work projects, including recurring events, and all relevant information about those projects. This would ensure not only that we have a standardised listing of all outstanding work needs but also that we would be capable of drawing forth “shovel ready” projects as opportunities arose, including for the anticipated Federal Infrastructure Initiative. The Board congratulated Bart for his work and undertook to provide feedback on the framework and to assist him in completing it. (Note that the Framework could involve project initiatives that go beyond Hall Maintenance but, because the bulk of them will involve the Hall, this item is housed here.)

**Community Issues:**

**Hamlet Design Plan**

The Chairperson debriefed the Board on a positive video meeting she, and a few other Board Members, had with Mayor Peckford and municipal and regional officials to discuss the HDP. The Board congratulated Inge and the Board members involved for the progress to date and positive outcome of the meeting. There was considerable discussion on the way forward. It was agreed that residents would be kept informed of progress from the point at which officials presented a recommendation for action to Council (something that they are working on now) and that they would be consulted at any point that there was significant variation from the plan the community approved earlier this year and/or when a full-scale project proposal was developed.

**Ottawa Boundary Expansion**

At the outset of discussion, Member John Dwyer pointed out that the Federation of Citizens Associations of Ottawa, of which the BRCA is a member, had already put forward a position to the Ottawa planning committee on behalf of its members. That position essentially rejected the option of expanding city boundaries and called for shared and sensible intensification within the city as well as a commitment to on-going, meaningful consultation with community groups. This position aligns with the Board’s own views. The Chairperson was to consult with the person spear-heading our interface with other community associations and the city on the issue and provide suggestions on what our engagement should be going forward.

**Tip-to-Tip Trail Brochure**

Member Bart Bilmer presented the Board with a draft brochure he had developed using previous versions put together by Parks Canada. Board Members congratulated Bart on the quality of the product. There was a general discussion on the way-forward, including possibilities for geo-caching, It was agreed that Bart would talk to Inge as well (she had left the meeting at this point) to determine the best contact to involve in Parks Canada. However, in principle it was agreed that it would be best to find someone within that Department who could spearhead internal approvals.

**Up-coming Video Conference With Mayor Peckford**

The Chairperson asked Board Members to consider and consult as widely as possible in advance of an up-coming video conference with Mayor Peckford on the community needs/response to COVID-19. It was immediately agreed that we might highlight the ringing of the bells initiative that started here, as well as the Eye Spy and Weekly W(h)ine community initiatives we undertook.

**Meet Me On Main Street**

Rental Agent, Angie Lyrette, updated the Board on discussions with other members of the MMOMS committee. She asked Board Members for suggestions on a theme statement for the poster announcing the event and Members agreed to get back to her.

**Small Halls**

Member and rental agent Angie Lyrette informed the Board that Small Halls was still planning an event here for October 4 2020 but that it was still unclear whether it would be a scaled-back event or not.

**Next Meeting**

**June 11 2020 7pm**

**(virtual meeting)**