**BURRITT’S RAPIDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**(Virtual) MEETING MINUTES – January 14 2021**

**Members in Attendance:**  Bart Bilmer, John Dwyer, Vanda Stanley, Cameron Rhodes, Jill MacDonald, Inge vanGemeren, Angie Lyrette (Hall Rental Agent)

**Hall Maintenance**

**Close Down of Hall**

There was a discussion on hydro costs and it was suggested that the Hall be shut down like a cottage – closing the water and heating only minimally. The Chairperson was to discuss with the cleaner re toilet bowl anti-freeze, the rental agent was to ensure that the Historical Society was not using the washrooms; and Member John Dwyer was to reduce the heat.

**Insurance**

The Chairperson and member John Dwyer informed the Board about negotiations on new Hall insurance, in particular that we had agreed to accept Director’s Insurance as part of the quote, which was still less than our existing policy costs.

**Ottawa Sustaining Grant**

The Chairperson indicated that she had been informed that the Ottawa Grant would be suspended as the Hall was not open. There was a discussion about the uniqueness of the BRCA needs and the Chairperson indicated that she would make the case for an exception.

**Community Issues:**

**HDP**

There was a discussion on the consultation being set up with the WSP and NG Public Works on this issue. The following members indicated that they would attend: Inge vanGemeren; Bart Bilmer; Cameron Rhodes; and John Dwyer.

**Canal Rink**

The Board noted the wonderful work done by many residents in building and maintaining a skating area on the Canal. There was also a general discussion on the draw this has been for non-locals seeking out-door activity and residual problems this created. The Board was to keep an eye on this matter. In the interim, it wished to thank those most heavily involved in the work done to date, namely: the Lalonde family; Bryan and Bob Parnell; the Lachaine family and the Vandekupt family. At the same time, the Board apologises to any other volunteer shovelers we may have missed.

**Board-sponsored Activities**

**Santa’s Visit**

The Board indicated their sincerely thanks to the many people involved in organising the very successful visit. They wished to mention the stellar work done by the local Masons (in particular Bob and Bryan Parnell) and special volunteer Bernard Cousineau. They also noted that the local owner of WoodChipDecor – Liz Jacques - donated all ornaments that were distributed by Santa and his elves.

**Snow-Sculpture Contest**

There was a discussion on holding a snow-sculpture contest and it was agreed that the messaging and format would parallel what had been done with the pumpkin carving contest. Members John Dwyer and Cameron Rhodes were to work out the details.

**Valentine Chocolates**

It was proposed that an event be held around valentine’s day. No firm decision was made, however.

**T-Shirt Design Contest**

There was another general discussion about the possibility of organising a T-Shirt Design Contest and how it might be used to generate income through sales (tees; mugs; carry bags). The tentative proposal is to organise this for March.

**Next Meeting**

**February 11 7:30pm**

**(virtual meeting)**