**Burritt’s Rapids Community Association**

**Minutes of the April 2014 Board Meeting**

**Board Members Present:**

John Dwyer, Jeff Gauthier, Jill MacDonald, Maureen Wilson

**Community Members Present:**

Drew Avis, Olivia Mills

**Financial:**

A full financial report was not available, however, the Treasurer indicated that the Theme Dinner raised about $3,500 for the Association.

**Minutes of the March 2014 Meeting:**

It was moved that the minutes as presented be accepted. This was seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution of Issues Raised at February 2014 Meeting:**

***Theme Dinner***

Community members have indicated that the Theme Dinner was a social success; the estimated earnings for the Association, reported above, show that the Dinner was a financial success. The Board unanimously wished to thank Kathy Knott and her team for their hard work in ensuring this. Many community members (*see list below; please accept our apologies if your name was inadvertently omitted and let me know so that it can be corrected*) were implicated in the project and the Board wishes to recognise their efforts. The Board also wishes to thank the many individuals and businesses that supported the event by providing items for the silent auction. Finally, the Board wishes to thank Mayor Watson of Ottawa for his attendance at the event.

*Theme Dinner Volunteers:*

*Committee: Kathy Knott, Aileen Weston, Tiiu Wallner, Debbie Alexander, Buzz Conn, Maureen Wilson, John Dwyer, Julia Dunning, Jefff Gauthier (pub quiz)*

*Decorations: Julia Dunning and her mother, Dianne, and daughter, Bethany.*

*Décor Items provided by: Natalie Schleyer (The Sugar Post) and Ted Hitsman (Canal Gallery) as well as Deborah Symonds, Aileen Weston, Julia Dunning (and her parents, John and Dianne Miller), Ashley and Ben Tomkinson (Kathy and Verner Knott’s daughter and son-in-law).*

*Sound System: David Weston*

*Food Prep, Service and Clean-up: Committee Members plus:*

*Karl Weedmark, Lynn and Erin Hawkins, Ashley and Ben Tomkinson, Beth and John Tilbury (theme cake decorated and donated by Beth), Deborah Symonds, Mary Hegan, Muffy Koch, Jane Kendall and Lionel Bedard, Vanda Stanley, Catherine Swail, Verner Knott, Olivia Mills (trifle), Diane Hedley (sticky toffee pudding), Bethany Dunning, Jill and Abbey MacDonald-Johnston*

***Website***

Community resident and volunteer expert, Drew Avis, addressed the Board on his recommendations for the community website. In summary, it was felt that the current site could and should be updated while the process of switching the platform to one that would better suit the Board’s needs, be more user-friendly and be more cost efficient, was pursued. (The current platform has no mechanism to link the calendar with the reservations system, for example.)

Mr. Avis generously agreed to update the current website while looking more closely at a possible new platform, including the cost that would be incurred if the hosting agent undertook to manage the site.

**Hall Maintenance:**

There was a general discussion about leakage into the basement around the window wells caused by ice build-up. The Board was informed that Chris Roberts had handled things and the Chair had informed the Board via email prior to the meeting that she was purchasing a new de-humidifier as well.

Jeff Gauthier informed the board that there had been a malfunction in the secondary furnace in the basement and that it appeared as if the fan had become disengaged. The breaker for the furnace was switched off and repairs will be made shortly.

Jill MacDonald informed the Board that the Masons had had difficulties with electrical outlets. Jeff indicated that he would look into the problem and take action as necessary.

**Other Business:**

***Heritage Symposium***

Community resident and member of the North Grenville Heritage Advisory Committee, Olivia Mills, informed the Board about an up-coming Heritage Symposium that is to take place on Friday, May 9, 2014 at the North Grenville Municipal Centre from 10 am to 3 pm. Cost to attend is $15 and reservations can be made by contacting Phil Mosher at pmosher@northgrenville.on.ca.

Community residents with an interest in heritage issues are encouraged to attend.

***Historical/Heritage Plaques***

Discussion on Heritage brought the Board to re-introduce the issue of heritage plaques that might be prepared and mounted on homes (listing for example the original owners name and date that the home was erected) on a volunteer basis. The issue was first raised by Brad Smith (when not a Board member) some years ago. The Board agreed that it would promote and publicise the activity, possibly linked to the 150th anniversary of the founding of Canada, and proposed that Brad take the lead in getting a template made for the plaque.

***Plant sale***

John Dwyer indicated that the Greening Committee had met to discuss the Plant Sale and that a final decision had been taken to host the event on May 10th 2014. Further information will be provided to the Community closer to the event, although, as always, donations of ***labelled and potted*** plants from residents’ gardens will be welcomed.

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY MAY 8 2014**

**7 PM at the Community Hall**

**RESIDENTS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND**