**BRCA - MINUTES**

11 February 2016

Attendees:

**Board Members**

John Dwyer, Jeff Gauthier, Jill MacDonald, Brad Smith (interim), Inge vanGemeren, Juri Wallner, Maureen Wilson

**Residents & Others in Attendance:**

Ann Martin (for discussion on the Community Foundation Endowment Fund)

Geraldine Taylor (for discussion on the Community Foundation Endowment Fund)

**Financial Statement**

No financial statements were presented.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the AGM were approved unanimously with the amendment noted below:

***AMENDMENT TO JANUARY 2016 MINUTES***:

The draft minutes indicated that a resident had been engaged to erect the fence; they should have said that he had been asked for a quote for that work, as had others. A decision will be made on the basis of those quotes.

**Community Foundation Endowment Fund**

As discussed in previous minutes, the Community Foundation is a not-for-profit agency, with charitable status, that was created to support other charitable organisations by pooling endowments to ensure a greater return on investment. It is used by a wide variety of established charitable organisations in the area and across Canada. An endowment fund with the BRCA named as beneficiary has been created to support the Community Hall.

Ann Martin and Geraldine Taylor (who originally established the fund) explained the genesis of the fund and its aims. After a series of questions and exchanges it was agreed that:

* the name of the fund would be changed to better reflect its purpose. One proposal was that it be called “Friends of the Hall” in recognition of the many individuals that have supported the Hall in the past, as well as those that do so now and those who may do so in the future.
* the Board supports the concept of the Fund and its aims, and recognises the clear financial advantage it offers. As such, it will, as and when it deems appropriate, decide whether to contribute a portion of the revenues earned by Hall rental or other activities, including funds now held in low-yielding GICs, to the Fund. It also recognises the added value of others engaging in promoting the fund and will support this while ensuring that a clear communication strategy and message is in place so as to minimise any possible confusion from potential donors. (While there is no distinction as to the end result of donating to the BRCA or the Endowment Fund, since both funds can solely be used to support the community, it was felt important that potential donors clearly understand the vehicle that they are choosing for their support.)

**Parks Canada**

***Earthen-Dam Stabilisation***

No update to report.

 **Monarch Waystation (Village Greening initiative)**

A proposal was developed and has been submitted to Parks Canada for formal approval.

**Hamlet Design**

The Chairperson reported that the municipality of NG has sent a ‘request for proposals” to five companies to engage a consultant to lead community consultation. The selection of the consultant will be made in early March. The Board will not have a role in that.

**Theme Dinner**

There was a general discussion on the Theme Dinner. The Chairperson was to determine if there is a need to advertise. Discussions on what help is needed to organise the event will follow.

**Hall Maintenance**

***Wifi at the Hall***

Joe Computer has installed WIFI at the Hall. The Board would like the community to know that the normal fees for the installation of the service to the Hall as well as ongoing monthly service charges have been waived by the company. The Board wishes to thank Joe Computer for its generosity.

***Hall Redesign***

The Chairperson reported on consultations she and a sub-committee (Board member Maureen Wilson and resident Fairlie Ellis) have had with potential contractors to replace both the ceiling and the floor. Further detail will be provided as the process continues. In the interim, the Chairperson will verify the requirements regarding historic designation, which may apply only to the Hall exterior, and begin identifying and sourcing funding opportunities.

***Other Hall Issues***

Issues with lights (in the main Hall and in the stairwells and at the back exterior) were noted and will be addressed.

Issues with toilets (the fan in the Men’s and a water valve in the Women’s) were noted and will be addressed.

It was reported that a sound system had been purchased and would be installed in the next month or so.

**Grant from the City of Ottawa**

The Chairperson announced that the Grant from Ottawa, in the amount of $9,468, has been received. The Board thanks the City for its continuing support for the Hamlet.

**Other Business**

***Historic Home Signage***

Interim Board Member Brad Smith reported on progress in getting plaques for houses along the main street in the Hamlet. Ten plaques have been delivered so far, three more are in process and another nine in the works.

***Open Doors***

Discussion on this was deferred to the next meeting.

 ***Heritage Symposium***

The Symposium, to be held April 25th, will be attended by the community. Student volunteers will be used to sell heritage scrapbooks of the Hamlet at the event.

***Website***

The Board wishes to recognise and thank resident Drew Avis for his continuing support in redesigning and relocating the host of the website. The Hall manager would also like to recognise and thank him for support in putting the Hall rental schedule on-line.

***Attendance at Next Meeting***

Board members John Dwyer and Maureen Wilson and interim Board member Brad Smith notified the Board that they will not be able to attend the up-coming meeting in March.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

**7:00 pm Thursday March 10 2015**

**Residents Are Invited to Attend**