

**ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVANCY ONTARIO PORT HOPE BRANCH
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Place: By Zoom
Time: Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 7:00 pm
Present: Lydia Bell-Gradon, Brian Buttery, Tom Cruikshank, Susan Layard, Katherine McHarg,
Jennifer Wadds, Brenda Willows
Regrets: Ian McKay, Laura Antonik
Guests: Patsy Beeson, Phillip Goldsmith, Marina Smirnova

Call to Order: 7:01pm

Land Acknowledgement

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: none

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda - (Tom/ Brenda) **Carried.**

Adoption of Minutes of Meeting of February 1, 2024: Motion to adopt minutes: (Lydia / Brenda) **Carried**

Business Arising from the Minutes: none

Corespondence: Katherine McHarg and Susan Layard

- Two pieces of correspondence were received as discussed.

Chair's Report: Katherine McHarg and Susan Layard

- Welcome to Brian. Brian has agreed to take over social media for the Marketing Committee.
- Thanks to everyone for their hard work and professionalism/confidentiality.
- Annual meeting: very strong attendance. Guest speaker was outstanding and had rave reviews. Minor improvements for next year are being considered. Thank you to Susan Carmichael for organizational work.
- Bus tour – organized by Cobourg ACO; 22/44 seats sold to date.
- 65 Ward Street hearing was adjourned because Southbridge appealed the recent OLT ruling against them.
- Online auction is well in hand. Display is in the Walton hotel.
- April live auction is still accepting donations
- The Marketing Committee is seeking a new Chair.

Treasurer's Report: Brenda Willows via email

- Received \$39 000 from Critical Mass from a grant to help fund roof restoration
- HST rebate received
- Bank of Montreal saving account opened to hold funds for imminent expenses to allow flexibility
- Book donation to the Port Hope Library in Bruce Bowden's honour for his years of service to ACO has been made – Jackson's Wars by Douglas Hunter.

• Committee Reports:

• Advocacy – Susan Layard via email

- MPP day Feb 21 - organized by ACOntario. ACO volunteers described the ACO mandate to MPPs and made the following "asks":

- Extend deadline for removing existing properties from heritage registers to 5 years
- Initiate a \$10 million grant program to help redevelop heritage properties for housing
- Make additions to the Provincial Planning Statement to prioritize the retention and retrofitting of Ontario's existing building stock to current environmental standards
- Advocacy Committee meeting:
 - Properties for possible designation were discussed.
 - File factory: sections have collapsed and an engineer is preparing a report. Some buildings may be lost.
 - Barn study: Phil C. and Bruce are developing an inventory; Tom and Brian volunteered to assist.
- **Bus Tour/Newsletter – Patsy Beeson via email.**
- **HPH – Susan Layard**
 - Currently no HPH committee. Hopefully it will resume in April.
- **Education – Jenny Wadds/Katherine McHarg via email**
 - Tom will assist Lee Caswell with the “Antiques Roadshow” at the live auction on April 20th
 - Walking tours resume May 4th and will continue into the Fall.
 - Committee is working with Critical Mass on a creative project to celebrate the 60th Anniversary.
- **Next Gen – Marina Smirnova**
 - Approximately 5 individuals have already expressed interest in resurrecting the Next Gen Working Group
- **60th Anniversary Working Group - Jenny Wadds**
 - Official launch at the live auction; other events will piggyback on later ACO events
- **Live Auction Working Group - Brian Buttery**
 - Aiming for 200 items; so far about 120+ items

Other Business:

- Membership update: 476 members, 25 members in arrears
- Phil Goldsmith reported the possible addition to PHHF activities of scholarships and ornaments.

Meeting Conclusion: 8:19 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 4th, 2024 7:00 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Jenny Wadds