

**ACO PORT HOPE BRANCH
ANNUAL MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025**

TIME: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE: Sculthorpe Room, Capitol Theatre
CALL TO ORDER: 7:02 P.M. Katherine McHarg

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Susan Layard

BUSINESS

ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22, 2024

MOTION: to adopt the minutes. (Katherine McHarg/Jennifer Wadds)
CARRIED

CHAIR'S REPORT - Katherine McHarg and Susan Layard

- 2024 was ACO 60th anniversary year with several events to mark the occasion.
- Virtual and live auction raised over \$20,000. Many thanks to both auction committees.
- The ACO Port Hope Heritage Colouring Book was produced to commemorate the 60th anniversary and given to local schools, the library and the municipality.
- ACO advocacy helped strengthen the municipal Property Standards By-Law which now includes a Heritage Properties section. Nicholson File Factory advocacy continues despite losses due to fire. Some heritage attributes remain. 65 Ward Street: Awaiting to hear whether any further appeals will be filed or if the OLT hearing will resume.
- Education Committee - Our Heritage Walking Tours were a huge success. Thank you also to TCS students for their help in developing a digital archive of branch materials.
- GRANTS: Two ACO Port Hope restoration grants were offered this year in the amount of \$95 000 for designated properties in the downtown heritage district.
- Finally in December, the 60th Anniversary celebrations continued with participation in the Santa Claus Parade with the Canadian

- Fire Fighters' Museum vintage pumper truck float. Local high school students distributed colouring book scrolls and candy.
- The year concluded with the publication of “60 Reasons to Celebrate: 1964-2024”, a compendium of our branch’s history written by Phillip H. Carter and Susan Carmichael.
 - We also bid farewell to departing board member Marina Smirnova. We thank her for her help on the Advocacy Committee and for co-chairing the summer BBQ committee. We also say farewell to Laura Antonik who has finished her second term on the Board but will remain in the key role of Chair of the Marketing/ Communications Committee. Laura has been invaluable as our website designer, and we know we will be in good hands with her guidance. We also say goodbye to Ian MacKay who has finished his term as Past Chair but will continue in the role of Chair of the Governance Committee.
 - Thank you to all the members for their tremendous support to the organization.

ACO FINANCIAL REPORT 2024 – Brenda Willows

- Brenda reviewed the annual financial report (attached)
- Questions from the audience: What was the federal grant for? This grant was through Critical Mass to help fund the roof restoration of the Little Station.

MOTION: To accept the financial report as presented. (Brenda Willows/ Anna Gray), **CARRIED**

PRESENTATION OF NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD - Trish Doney

- Feb 2025 approved the following new directors
- Greg Cooper – Director. Lawyer and proprietor of Cooper Law
- Malcolm Pike – Director. Retired physician.

The following Directors were re-elected

- Katherine McHarg- Co-Chair – 2 year term
- Susan Layard- Co-Chair – 1 year extension
- Brenda Willows- Treasurer – 2 year term
- Jennifer Wadds- Secretary – 2 year term
- Tom Cruickshank-Director – 2 year term
- Lydia Svenningson- Director – 2 year term

Not required to stand for reelection as in a 2 year term.

- Brian Buttery – director – Vice Chair

Motion: To accept the Nominations slate as presented. (Trish Doney/
Marie Lalonde) **CARRIED**

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

BLUE STONE AWARD:

- Susan Carmichael: for her many years of leadership and service at ACO Port Hope, including on the Board as Secretary and as Chair of the Grants Committee.
- Phillip Carter: for his many years of leadership, expertise and guidance with heritage restoration at ACO Port Hope and steadfast support of the organization.
- Anna Gray: for her countless efforts over many years including work on the Board, the House tour and the Christmas Party and planning fundraising group trips to Europe.

MARION GARLAND AWARD:

- **Rod Stewart and Masumi Suzuki:** For their many contributions to heritage architecture at projects including the Capitol Theatre and the Wesleyville Church.

INTERMISSION and REFRESHMENTS

PRESENTATION: THE NEXT 60 YEARS OF HERITAGE – Vignettes of Conservation: Introduction by Susan and Katherine

- **WHITEHALL PROJECT: Phil Goldsmith:** Introduced the incredible project of restoration/reconstruction of Whitehall by new owners Pamela and Andrew Brown on a new property on the 4th line.
- **WALTON HOTEL PROJECT: Will Ryan:** Provided a fascinating update on the progress on the exciting restoration of the original Walton/Queen's Hotel, in particular on the restoration of the exterior brick.
- **MUSIC HALL PROJECT: Rod Stewart and Albert Shultz:** Rod and Albert introduced us to the progress on the rejuvenation of the Port Hope Music Hall and related HopeTowns farm properties. They made an exciting announcement of a \$2.15 million

government grant for the exterior renovation. They also announced the new principle architects for this project.

MEETING CONCLUDED: 9:26 P.M.
Minutes recorded by Jennifer Wadds