

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

Place: Caretaker's Cottage
Time: Thursday, April 30, 2026, at 7p.m.
Present: Katherine McHarg, Susan Layard, Brenda Willows, Lydia Bell-Gradon, Tom Cruikshank, Brian Buttery, Greg Cooper, Susan Carmichael

Regrets: Malcolm Pike, Jenny Wadds

Guests: Patsy Beeson, Bruce Bowden

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

AGENDA:

MOTION: to Approve Agenda
(Lydia/Katherine) **CARRIED**

MINUTES:

MOTION: to Approve Minutes of April 2, 2026
(Brenda/Katherine) **CARRIED**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES: none

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter Re: Clutter at Little Station – addressed and Letter from Town re: Stone Fountain- passed to Advocacy

CHAIR'S REPORT: Brian Buttery

- A lot going on:
 - The big unveiling of Phase 2 of the Opera Hall April 13
 - Very successful Connect event at PHHS April 15 (Susan and Katherine, Helen)
 - A well attended book talk by Don Mikel at the library April 18 (Katherine, Marnie)
 - Meeting with David Piccini on Heritage Helping Housing April 27 (Katherine, Susan, Brian)
 - A sold out bus tour of Trent Hills April 29 (ACO Cobourg)
 - Skipping ahead to the beginning of Walking Tours May 16 (Brian)
 - Live Auction May 31 (Blaise, Brian)
 - Summer Social at Dunain August 6
 - Some interesting correspondence re: The Little Station and The Beatty Fountain
 - ACO inc.'s proposal for a new relationship with the branches (presented April 25) and how we explain that to the membership at the AGM May 7th (Susan L., Katherine, Brian)

TREASURER'S REPORT: Brenda Willows – via email

- Jan 1 to Mar 31, 2026, Income- \$1298. Expenses - \$2314. Net (\$1016)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Advocacy – Susan Layard – No Report**

- **ACO Matters - Patsy Beeson – No Newsletter until the fall**
- **Auction – Brian Buttery**
 - Auction Date – May 31, 2026
 - Chapel very full
 - Looking at some items from Farley Mowat Estate
- **Education – Katherine McHarg via email**
 - Walking Tours – 6 scheduled over 12 Saturdays
 - Connect Event – April 15, 2026 – introducing students to ACO
 - Don Mikel Book talk and signing April 18
- **Grants – Susan Carmichael- No Report**
- **Marketing/Communications - Laura Antonik – No Report**
- **Membership – Lydia Bell-Gradon**
 - 487 members
- **OTHER BUSINESS –**
 - ACO Re-Imagined- Susan L.
 - At a meeting held on April 25th the members of ACO inc. unanimously voted to change from a branch model to either an Associate /Affiliate member of ACO inc.
 - Branches must let ACO Inc. of their decision by May 31st.
 - Other motions were also passed including setting up a working group to help branches through the change.

It was agreed that ACO Port Hope would accept the recommendation and move forward as an Affiliate. Details of the MOU to be worked out with an end date of October 31, 2026.

- Annual Meeting – May 7th at the Sculthorpe Theatre
 - ACO Re-Imagined will be presented to the members

MOTION: The Awards Committee (Susan L. Katherine, Brian and Trish Doney) nominate the following:
Bluestone Award: to be given to Laura Antonik and Blais Gaetz
Marion Garland Award– Dave Watson for his work on the storefronts on Walton St.

(Susan L. Katherine)

CARRIED

MEETING CONCLUDED: 8:45 pm

NEXT MEETING: Thursday June 4, 2026, at Caretaker's Cottage

Minutes recorded by Susan Carmichael