



Minutes
Annual General Meeting
December 6, 2012
The Grange

Attendees

Jenny Rieger - The Grange NHS
Marilynn Havelka - Ruthven Park NHS
Mike Sawchuck - Ontario Heritage Trust
Pierre Bois - Ontario Museum Association
Rob Leverty- Ontario Historical Society
Janet Walters- Toronto's First Post Office NHS
Catherine Richardson - Hillary House NHS
Heather Thomson - Parks Canada
Brian Malcolm - Parkwood NHS
Kevin Fox - Parks Canada
Sally Gibson – Gooderham & Worts NHS
Shannon Prince - Buxton Museum & NHS

Guests

Cathy Nasmith, President, Toronto Architectural Conservancy
Susan Ratcliffe , President, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario

1. Welcome by the Chair

Shannon Prince, NHSAO Chair, welcomed attendees, thanked Jenny Rieger for hosting us at The Grange and invited NHSAO members present to introduce themselves.

2. Introduction to The Grange

Jenny did a short presentation on The Grange. Built in 1817, The Grange was designated for its architecture. It is the oldest brick house in Toronto, was a family home, the original Art Gallery of Ontario, and later was a fully functioning House Museum. The House Museum was discontinued and it is now the AGO members lounge. A new publication is available. Its cost is \$10.00 and well worth the price.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion to accept the agenda was made by Marilyn and seconded by Sally. Carried.

4. Approval of Past Minutes

A motion to accept the past minutes was made by Brian and seconded by Mike. Carried.

5. Business Arising, Strategic Planning Initiative, JCP Funding

All business arising was covered under the Co-Chairs' report.

6. Co-chairs' Report

Shannon started by sharing the loss of the Parks Canada funding and the resultant loss of our student. We have developed a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis in order to develop a strategic plan. The student, Elora, was housed by the Ontario Ministry of Culture. When that ended, Brian Malcom at Parkwood Estate hosted the student. At present there is no student on staff.

One of the things that was immediately required was a way to generate revenue. Membership fees were introduced. We worked with attractions Ontario in their Cultural Passport. A three-page spread was developed by Brian and Elora as a way of generating revenue. We have a partnership with Heritage Canada.

Georgian College students in Barrie will meet with us and do a marketing plan for a minimal fee.

The 2012 conference was postponed and a survey as to why there was such a poor registration was completed.

We did a workshop at Parkwood on "getting to know your Regional Tourism Organization, (RTO)".

We made contact with Parks Canada Manager Gilles Seguin. An email was sent outlining the past relationship of Parks Canada and the NHSAO, showing how the Alliance supports the goals and objectives of Parks Canada. We are currently waiting on a response from Gilles.

Shannon thanked Rob Leverty for helping us to incorporate as an organization.

The members of the Board are currently each taking turns on a monthly basis of checking email and responding to queries. Sally has the website in great shape and we have a PayPal account for accepting membership payments.

We are currently exploring different grants for staffing and strategic funding. We have applied for an Ontario Cultural Strategic Investment Fund (CSIF) grant and an Ontario Job Creation Partnership (JCP). If we are successful, these positions will help us reach out to the membership.

Brian and Heather provided an overview of the Strategic Planning initiative that would be undertaken with the JCP grant.

Shannon also introduced Susan Ratcliffe, President of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario.

7. Treasurer's Report

Attached as an appendix.

As of March 31, 2012 there was no core funding from Parks Canada. We had received 18K from Parks Canada for payment of the student. That took us to the end of March 2012. We had to pay Elora for the month of April. 38 Sites paid a membership fee. The Canada Revenue Agency refunded us \$400.00.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Mike and seconded by Sally. Carried.

8. Elections of new Board members

Ellen Kowalchuk and Dr. John McIntyre have tendered their resignations. Two new Board members are required. It was decided that Mike will send out a note to the membership at large to see if any one was interested in serving on the Board.

The Board would like to thank John and Ellen for their very dedicated time on the Board and wish them well in future endeavors.

A slate of officers was moved by Janet and seconded by Michelle. They were, Shannon Prince, Kevin Fox, Grant Maltman, Brian Malcolm, Heather Thomson, Marilyn Helveka, Fred Addis, Scott Davidson, Sally Gibson. Carried.

9. Marilyn moved adjournment.

Carried.

10. Cathy Nasmith gave a stimulating, illustrated presentation, "Main Streets as Old Growth Forest."