

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ATHABASCA HERITAGE SOCIETY
Monday, April 19, 2004

1.0 The meeting was called to order at 7:07PM by Jerry Maclean

In attendance were: Dick Baker, Peggy Baker, Severna Bosik, Mike Gismondi, David Gregory, Doug Kariel, Greg Johnson, Richard Loken, Jerry Maclean, Mark Neaves, Marilyn Peruniak, Ann Stiles, Sharon Van Hout, Stephanie Yuill, Andrew Woudstra, Agnes Wurfel.

2.0 **Agenda:** Sharon Van Hout will give a presentation immediately before the presentation by the ARMS Committee which shall be numbered 5.0 and the ARMS presentation shall be renumber 5.0A.

The agenda was adopted as amended.

Moved by Ann Stiles, Seconded by Marilyn Peruniak, Carried.

3.0 **Minutes:** The minutes were adopted as printed.

Moved by Agnes Wurfel, Seconded by Peggy Baker, Carried.

4.0 **Treasurer's report:** The treasurer's report was adopted as printed.

Moved by Severna Bosik, Seconded by Ann Stiles, Carried.

5.0 **``Beneath the Surface`` Athabasca River Expedition:** Sharon Van Hout spoke on behalf of Don Van Hout and the Mount Royal College Applied Ecotourism and Outdoor Leadership students who are planning to travel the length of the Athabasca River by canoe this summer.

For more information, see their website at:

www.beneaththesurface.ca

5.0A **Athabasca Regional Multiplex Steering Committee Presentation:** Andrew Woudstra and Mark Neaves made a presentation on behalf of the ARMS Committee. The first purpose of the presentation was to ask the society to make a firm commitment to raise funds for the construction of the Multiplex. The ARMS Committee would like the Society to send them a letter that promises that we will raise a certain sum of money, it is the hope of the ARMS Committee that we will commit to raise around \$200,000.00.

Andrew and Mark brought the preliminary drawings of the riverfront site which were examined with interest by all members present. There is \$500,000.00 committed to the riverfront site which will only allow the first phase of the project to be completed. The majority of the members present felt that the architect's landscaping plans did not do justice to the Society's riverfront lot and that a meeting with the architect was desirable.

Be it resolved that a letter be written to the architect telling him that we want to walk the site with him in order to consult with him about the design.

Moved by Marilyn Peruniak, Seconded by Ann Stiles, Carried.

Be it resolved that the Athabasca Heritage Society set up a subcommittee to meet with the architect and that the subcommittee be open to anybody who is interested. The subcommittee should meet at least once before meeting with the architect. The subcommittee should be led by a member of the Executive.

Moved by David Gregory, Seconded by Marilyn Peruniak, Carried.

6.0 **Committee reports**

6.1 **Publicity, Fundraising, and Promotion:** The Society's application for funding for a STEP employee was not approved because the application was submitted too late.

6.2 **Heritage Site:** Mike Gismondi reported that he had applied for a \$5,000.00 grant and received \$3,500.00 which will be used along with the remaining \$11,000.00 to complete a significant portion of the planned signage.

6.3 **Trans Canada Trail:** David Gregory reports that he will be attending the Alberta Trailnet annual general meeting which is to be held the weekend of April 24. The first priority for the local organization is to install signage on the trails and to fill in the gap between Athabasca and Sawdy and the gap between Colinton and Meanook.

6.4 **Newsletter:** No report.

6.5 **River Rats Festival:** The Athabasca Heritage Society has a paid membership in the River Rats Festival which gets the Society signage and promotion. The River Rats Festival committee has promised that the Society can have tent space at the 2004 festival. Having a space under cover makes it possible to put the quilts on display. It is hoped that Society volunteers will be issued passes instead of arm bands which will make it easier for them to get in and out of the paid area.

At meeting time, only the rug hooking demonstration had been confirmed for this year's festival. There has been some difficulty in reaching some of the other possible participants and efforts in that area are continuing.

The Town has approved a route for horse and wagon tours but they want assurance that the activity will be covered by liability insurance. Marilyn will ask the River Rats Festival committee about insurance.

Mike Gismondi would like to have the Society host tours of the downtown heritage sites and he suggested himself and David Gregory as possible tour guides.

6.6 **Membership:** No report.

6.7 **Web Site:** No report.

7.0 **Old Business**

7.1 **Oral History Workshop:** Marilyn Peruniak reported that the workshop had expenses of \$832.22 and an income of \$670.00 for a net loss of \$117.22 but not all the financial transactions have been completed yet. See Marilyn's report (attached) for further information.

7.2 **West Athabasca School:** Agnes Wurfel reported that the West Athabasca School has not yet been designated as a historical building. In addition, Aubrey Clark has not yet received approval from the Aspen View School Division to start the restoration project.

7.3 **Communities in Bloom:** The Communities in Bloom judges will be in Athabasca on Friday, July 23. Activities for the occasion have not been finalized but one possibility is a BBQ combined with a "Trade Fair" wherein each local organization will have 15 minutes to market itself to the judges.

In aid of the Urban Forestry criterion, Mike was able to obtain a grant of \$4,000.00 which will be used to identify heritage trees in the community and develop a programme to protect and replace them.

7.4 **Multiplex Project:** Agnes Wurfel reported that 1,035 of 1,440 River Breakup Raffle tickets were sold for a final profit after all expenses of \$2,029.56 which will be matched by the Athabasca Chamber of Commerce. The river officially broke up at 1:05AM on Tuesday April 13.

There was some discussion about the ARMS Committee's request for a fund raising commitment. Mike Gismondi recommended that we remind the ARMS Committee of the Society's contribution of land and labour.

7.5 **Second Scow:** Rod Winder was not available to make a report.

8.0 **New Business**

9.0 **Next Regular Meeting:** Monday, February 10, 2004, 7:00PM, 2nd Floor Duniece Building