

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ATHABASCA HERITAGE SOCIETY
Monday, May 9, 2005

1.0 The meeting was called to order at 7:05PM by Jerry MacLean

In attendance were: Peggy Baker, Severna Bosik, Bertha Clark Jones, Lori-Ann Claerhout, Mike Gismondi, Bert Lachman, Richard Loken, Jerry MacLean, Elaine Magusin, Mark Neaves, Ann Stiles.

2.0 **Agenda:** The agenda was adopted as distributed.

Moved by Bertha Clark Jones, Seconded by Elaine Magusin, Carried.

3.0 **Minutes:** First off, the secretary misspelled Agnes Wurfel's name consistently throughout the minutes which is curious since the secretary was able to spell her name properly in 10 previous sets of minutes.

In section 5.5 it is incorrectly stated that the Society's River Rats Festival committee had not met between the March and April meetings of the Athabasca Heritage Society. There was a committee meeting in early April.

The minutes were adopted as amended.

Moved by Lori-Ann Claerhout, Seconded by Ann Stiles, Carried.

3.1 **Business Arising From the Minutes:**

With reference to item 5.5, Marilyn Mol has agreed to be a guide on the Horse Drawn Wagon Tours.

With reference to item 5.5, an insurer has been found for the Horse Drawn Wagon Tours and the cost will be \$426.00. Mark Neaves is willing to donate the enough money to cover the cost of the insurance once he knows how much it will be.

Be it resolved that a letter be sent to Mark Neaves telling him the cost of the insurance for the Horse Drawn Wagon Tours.

Moved by Elaine Magusin, Seconded by Bertha Clark Jones, Carried.

With indirect reference to item 5.5, Lori-Ann Claerhout reported that Ann Humphries would like to display the quilts at the Athabasca University Convocation so Lori-Ann will call Ann Stiles to see if this is possible. However, Jerry MacLean reported that he has the quilts at his house.

With reference to item 5.5, Louis Baron has agreed to make two harnesses for the Julien Cardinal Trackers Pull but a price has not been negotiated.

With reference to item 5.5, Rod Winder has found that the cost of steel has increased so that the tent frame will cost an estimated \$800.00 instead of the originally anticipated \$600.00. Peggy Baker suggested that the frame should be purchased from a local business if possible, Mark Neaves agreed and suggested

that Riverside Welding could be consulted about construction of the frame.

Be it resolved that the Athabasca Heritage Society spend up to \$800.00 to purchase a tent frame and that a local supplier be used if at all possible.

Moved by Peggy Baker, Seconded by Lori-Ann Claerhout, Carried.

4.0 **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report was adopted as distributed.

Moved by Severna Bosik, Seconded by Elaine Magusin, Carried.

5.0 **Committee reports**

5.1 **Publicity, Fundraising, and Promotion:** Lori-Ann Claerhout reported that the summer 2005 edition of **Legacy** magazine contains an article entitled "The Billy Loutit Despatch" which nicely covers covers Billy Loutit and the sporting events named in his honour. Lori-Ann handed out perfectly legal photocopies of the article to the assembled membership.

Lori-Ann also reported that one of the Harrison Prints is on display at the Eden Cafe and another is on display in the Credit Union. Lori-Ann has sold a print to somebody in Ontario who sought her out in order to get one.

There was a discussion about the merit of displaying a print at the Athabasca University Convocation and offering prints to the graduates at a discount prices of \$500.00 as has been done at previous convocations.

Be it resolved that Athabasca University graduates be offered the opportunity to purchase Harrison Prints at the discounted price of \$500.00.

Moved by Lori-Ann Claerhout, Seconded by Severna Bosik, Carried.

5.2 **Heritage Site:** In February 2005 The Athabasca Heritage Society wrote a letter to the Town of Athabasca suggesting that the last payment on the Heritage Site be forgiven so that the \$5,000.00 could be donated to the Multiplex Project and that the land itself be formally turned over to the Town so that it can also be donated to the Multiplex Project.

Jerry MacLean reported that two letters of response have been received from Doug Topinka of the Town of Athabasca suggesting that the Society send a letter to the Town which requests a cancellation of the sales agreement so that the land can be returned to a zoning of Municipal Reserve and used for the Riverfront Project.

Meanwhile, Lionel Cherniwchan has been proposing to the ARMS Committee and to the Skateboard Park group that the Skateboard Park be built on the riverfront on or near the Heritage Site instead of in Jubilee Park (a short distance from Mr. Cherniwchan's home) as had previously been arranged. In light of this information, which suggests that the Riverfront Plan is not as firm as the Society assumed it to be, the Athabasca Heritage Society membership concluded that it would be wise to make the last payment on the land and assume complete

ownership so that the Society can maintain some control over the future direction of the Riverfront Project.

Be it resolved that the Athabasca Heritage Society make the final payment of \$5,000.00 and obtain full title to the Heritage Site and reserve any decision on its disposition until later.

Moved by Bert Lachman, Seconded by Severna Bosik, Carried.

There is also some concern that the Multiplex Project may fail due to the \$2,000,000.00 increase in cost. In light of this discovery, it may be wise to delay any planned donations to the Multiplex Project until the future of the project is certain.

Be it resolved that the Athabasca Heritage Society delay making its \$20,000.00 cash donation until the future of the Multiplex Project is more certain.

Moved by Bert Lachman, Seconded by Elaine Magusin, Carried.

5.3 **Trans Canada Trail:** No report.

5.4 **Newsletter:** No report.

5.5 **River Rats Festival:** Jerry MacLean reported that it is time to pay the ``Silver Sponsorship`` fee for the 2005 River Rats Festival.

The RRF Committee is looking for a sponsor for the Julien Cardinal Trackers Pull who would be willing to provide \$400.00 or more so that there can be a \$100.00 cash prize plus a ball cap for the winner in each of the four categories. Bert Lachman says that his is working on a possible sponsor.

Kim Smith at the Athabasca Native Friendship Centre would like to put on native dancing performances at the Heritage Site but they will need a shelter to protect the dancers and their costumes in case of rain. Jerry MacLean has inquired about Harvey Scott's tepee which is 15 feet across. It is yet to be determined if the tepee is big enough, if not then another tent should be found.

The horse drawn wagon tours have been arranged for both days of the festival and the insurance has also been arranged.

A blacksmith has expressed an interest in demonstrating his craft for both days of the festival. This is still tentative.

Jerry MacLean has been thinking about making eight folding plywood signs (sandwich boards) which can be used to publicize the various Society events. Jerry estimates that the cost of materials will not exceed \$200.00.

Be it resolved that the Athabasca Heritage Society spend up to \$200.00 to construct sandwich boards.

Moved by Mike Gismondi, Seconded by Peggy Baker, Carried.

5.6 **Membership:** No report.

5.7 **Web Site:** No report.

6.0 **Old Business**

6.1 **West Athabasca School:** Severna Bosik reported that the heritage supper, ``A Taste of Athabasca``, yielded a net profit of approximately \$1,471.80 plus an additional \$1,000.00 donation by Dot Lane (which is not shown in the financial report). The secretary is aware that this is an approximate profit because all the expenses may not yet be accounted for but he still wants to know how many decimal places are required to make it an exact profit.

6.2 **Wiwchar House:** No report.

6.3 **River Breakup Lottery:** Peggy Baker reported that two letters were sent to the Chamber of Commerce about the River Breakup Lottery: one from Eileen Chamberlain and one from the Athabasca Heritage Society. Eileen Chamberlain wrote recommend that all the profits from the lottery and not just \$1,000.00 be donated to the Multiplex Project. The letter from the Athabasca Heritage Society recommending that all the profits be donated to the Multiplex Project but the letter also recommended that the money be donated specifically for the Riverfront Project. The letter from the Athabasca Heritage Society was not read out to the members.

The Chamber of Commerce decided to donate all the lottery profits to the Multiplex Projected but the donation is not designated specifically for the Riverfront Project.

6.4 **Quilt Insurance:** No report.

6.5 **Ambassadors for the Athabasca Heritage Society:** No report.

7.0 **New Business**

7.1 **Tourist Booth Step Student (Chamber of Commerce):** The Athabasca Chamber of Commerce has hired two Step Students to man the tourist information booth seven days a week, all summer. The Chamber of Commerce would like the Athabasca Heritage Society to help with the cost by paying for one hour of wages (at \$8.50 per hour) each day. Since the students are working every day all summer, there will be perhaps 80 to 90 hours of time to be paid for which will cost under \$1,000.00. The proposal was well received and it is recommended to use that hour a day to run two daily half hour heritage tours.

Be it resolved that the Athabasca Heritage Society provide up to \$1,000.00 to support the cost of hiring Step Students to man the Athabasca tourist booth. The money provided by the Society will be used to pay for one hour of labour for each day that the Step Students are employed at the

tourist booth.

Be it further resolved that the one hour of time be used to run two heritage tours each day. In addition, members of the Athabasca Heritage Society will coach the students and provide them with scripts and pictures for use in conducting the tours. The students will also market Athabasca Heritage Society merchandise to the tour members and keep records of the number of people attending the tours.

Moved by Mike Gismondi, Seconded by Mark Neaves, Carried.

- 7.2 **Flower Beds:** Jerry MacLean reported that the flower bed in front of the tourist information booth has a portion toward the roadway that has proven to be infertile over the last five years. Jerry proposed that the soil be tested for contamination and fertility and then have the soil replaced if it proved to be contaminated or infertile. It was suggested by some of the members that it would be cheaper to just replace the soil.

Mike Gismondi suggested that a letter be written to the Town of Athabasca requesting that the soil in front of the tourist booth be replaced.

- 7.3 **Junior Forest Wardens:** Mike Gismondi reported that the Junior Forest Wardens will be holding their national camp at Camp Wright this summer. There is a opportunity to put on activities involving the Junior Forest Wardens including heritage tours and possibly sales of Athabasca Heritage Society merchandise. Mike would like 225 Athabasca Heritage Society postcards to distribute at the national camp and Severna Bosik just happens to have 225 postcards.

- 7.4 **Festival Passes:** The River Rats Festival will not be issuing free passes to participating organizations this year. There will be up to eight volunteers working in the sales and crafts tent who may require passes to do their work. Jerry MacLean proposed that the Society contribute \$15.00 toward the price of passes for these people.

Be it resolved that the Athabasca Heritage Society contribute not more than \$15.00 toward the purchase of River Rats Festival passes for volunteers working in the sales and crafts tent. The number of subsidized passes is not to exceed eight.

Moved by Peggy Baker, Seconded by Lori-Ann Claerhout, Carried.

- 8.0 **Next Regular Meeting:** Monday, June 13, 2005, 7:00PM, 2nd Floor Duniece Building