

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ATHABASCA HERITAGE SOCIETY
Monday, June 13, 2005

1.0 The meeting was called to order at 7:06PM by

In attendance were: Charles Bazalgette, Trish Bazalgette, Lori-Ann Claerhout, Bertha Clark Jones, Mike Gismondi, Heather Kariel, Marguerite Koole, Richard Loken, Jerry MacLean, Christine Nelson, Ann Stiles, Joan Veenstra, Agnes Wurfel

2.0 **Agenda:** Errors in the numbering of the agenda were corrected and an item about hiring a summer student was added to Old Business was added as item 9.2. Item 9.1 will be changed from ``Tent Fram' to ``Sandwich Signs'' and item 9.3 will refer to the casino application.

Moved by Christine Nelson, Seconded by Bertha Clark Jones, Carried.

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

Moved by Ann Stiles, Seconded by Bertha Clark Jones, Carried.

3.1 **Business Arising From the Minutes**

With reference to item 3.1 from the May minutes. When the all was said and done, it became apparant that a metal tent frame would cost about \$1,000.00 which is more than the original estimate of \$800.00. A prooperly contstructed metal tent frame would significantly simplify the assembly and disassembly of the Society's tent so the purchase is recommended.

Be it resolved that a metal tent frame for a price that will not exceed \$1,000.00.

Moved by Mike Gismondi, Seconded by Agnes Wurfel, Carried.

a letter and a cheque for \$5,000.00 were sent to the Town of Athabasca explaining that the Athabasca Heritage Society was completing the purchase of the riverfront property. The papers have been signed and the heritage site is now owned outright by the Athabasca Heritage Society.

With reference to item 5.2 of the May minutes, a letter was sent to Robert Belay, fundraising chair for the ARMS committee informing him that the Society's donation of \$20,000.00 has been put on hold and its release is dependant upon the Society's approval of the final riverfront development plan.

With reference to item 7.2 of the May minutes, a letter was written to the Town of Athabasca requesting that the soil in the infertile portion of the flower bed be replaced and the soil has now been replaced.

With reference to item 3.1 of the May minutes (which in turn references item 5.5 of the April minutes), Louis Barron felt that one adjustable harness could be made which would work for Trackers Pull contestants and it has been completed at a

cost of \$75.00.

Be it resolved that Louis Barron be paid \$75.00 for the adjustable harness.

Moved by Bertha Clark Jones, Seconded by Ann Stiles, Carried.

4.0 **Treasurer's Report:** No report.

5.0 **Athabasca Train Station Presentation:** Trish and Charles Bazalgette of Old Crow Antiques and Framing have submitted a proposal to the Town of Athabasca to the effect that they obtain possession of the train station which they would then restore and use as their retail premises.

It is Charles and Trish's opinion that the placement of the building and the associated obligation for its restoration and operation into private hands has several advantages which include continuity of responsibility and vision, sustainability of restoration and maintenance finances, and accessibility by the general public.

The building is now 93 years and has been remodelled significantly from its original appearance and function - especially in its most recent role as a seniors' drop in centre. Trish and Charles would like to see the building restored to its original appearance and floor plan as much as is practical. This restoration would be slow and expensive because almost nothing is as it originally was so community enthusiasm, financial grants and donations, and volunteer labour, and lots of time would be needed to see the project completed.

A copy of the original 2002 proposal to the Athabasca Town Council is attached to these minutes. More information can be found at Trish and Charles' web site:

<http://www3.telus.net/public/chasbaz/athabascastn.htm>

6.0 **West Athabasca School:** Joan Veenstra presented her vision of fund raising for the West Athabasca School restoration project. The West Athabasca School Restoration Project has been granted a matching grant of up to \$20,000.00 and this means, you guessed it, the local organization must fund raise \$20,000.00 to obtain that \$20,000.00. The fund raising and the associated restoration work must be completed by March 2007. Joan thinks that the donors have to represent 1% of the local population and that it would be desirable that they be "patrons".

Joan is requesting the support and assistance of the Athabasca Heritage Society and she would like combine a fund raising drive with a membership campaign for the Society - the West Athabasca School gets the money and the Athabasca Heritage Society gets the members.

Be it resolved that the Athabasca Heritage Society approve the West Athabasca School Project Committee's plan for a fund raising/patron drive and that the signees be given one year free membership in the Athabasca Heritage Society.

Moved by Mike Gismondi, Seconded by Christine Nelson, Carried.

By the way, the Taste of Athabasca fund raising event raised \$1,920.75 but this number will be affected by Lynn MacLean's expenses which have not yet been submitted.

- 7.0 Bertha Clark Jones made an announcement on behalf of the Athabasca Metis Childrens' Cultural Society that The Metis Nation of Alberta would like to donate a red river cart to the Athabasca Heritage Society. Audrey Poitras, president of The Metis Nation of Alberta would like to formally present the red river cart to the Athabasca Heritage Society at the Magificent River Rats Festival on July 1, 2005.

Be it resolved that the Athabasca Heritage Society express it's pleased acceptance of the red river cart from the Metis Nation of Alberta.

Moved by Lori-Ann Claerhout, Seconded by Agnes Wurfel, Carried.

8.0 **Committee Reports**

- 8.1 **Publicity, Fundraising, and Promotion:** Lori-Ann Claerhout reported that the promotion of the purchase of the Harrison Prints to the graduates at the Athabasca University Convocation did not take place due to the tumult surrounding the preparation for the convocation.

Two unresolved items are the selection of new Ambassadors and some consideration to the archival of documents by the Athabasca Heritage Society.

- 8.2 **Heritage Site:** No report.

- 8.4 **Newsletter:** No report.

- 8.5 **River Rats Festival:** The Magnificent River Rats Festival will be two days long this year and there will be Horse Drawn Wagon Tours from the Athabasca Archives location on both days. Four tour guides have been recruited and Mark Neaves of Whispering Hills Fuels is footing the cost again.

The Julien Cardinal Trackers Pull will take place on July 1 between 1:00PM and 4:00PM. The prizes will be Trackers Pull caps and \$100.00 but no sponsor has yet been found.

There are various heritage crafts and other activities scheduled for Friday July 1 including: blacksmithing by Jerry Sauve, Kim Smith of the Athabasca Native Friendship Centre will host a native bracelet making workshop. So far, the only Saturday activity is a rug hooking demonstration but Lori-Ann Claerhout will try to recruit Joyce Kiselyk to do a wool spinning demonstration.

9.0 **Old Business**

- 9.1 **Sandwich Boards:** Jerry MacLean reported that he has completed eight sandwich boards at a cost of \$156.00.
- 9.2 **Summer Student:** The Athabasca Chamber of Commerce hired two summer students but communications with the summer student and with the Athabasca Heritage Society fell apart due to the sudden departure of the chamber president and the appointment of a new president. Jerry MacLean will set up a meeting between the two summer students and Mike Gismondi so things will get back on track.
- 9.3 **Casino Application:** Mike Gismondi and Jerry MacLean have agreed to get the casino application from the secretary and fill it out.

10.0 **New Business**

- 11.0 **Next Regular Meeting:** Monday, September 12, 2005, 7:00PM, 2nd Floor Duniece Building