

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ATHABASCA HERITAGE SOCIETY
Monday, October 17, 2005

- 1.0 The meeting was called to order at 7:07PM by Jerry MacLean
In attendance were: Severna Bosik, Rhae-An Bury, Suzanne Bury, Bertha Clark Jones, Mike Gismondi, Greg Johnson, Richard Loken, Jerry MacLean, Christine Nelson, Ann Stiles, Agnes Wurfel
- 2.0 **Agenda:** Three new items were added to new business: Athabasca buiding inventory project, red river cart donation, and the winterfest.
Moved by Christine Nelson, Seconded by Severna Bosik, Carried.
- 3.0 **Presentation:** Rhae-An Bury and Suzanne Bury were in attendance to promote the Athabasca Winterfest which will be held on the weekend of February 3, 4, and 5. In particular Rhae-An and Suzanne are promoting the dog sled racing event which will be part of the Winterfest this year. The dog sled sprint race is to be named ``The George Monson Memorial Race`` in honour of George Monson who was a member of the North West Mounted Police and later a telegraph line maintenance man working out of the Calling River telegraph post.
It is hoped that the Winterfest will be more of a community festival this year and the Winterfest Committee invites the local community organizations to hold fund raising events as part of the Winterfest Trade Fair.
- 4.0 **Minutes:** The minutes were adopted as printed.
Moved by Ann Stiles, Seconded by Christine Nelson, Carried.
- 5.0 **Treasurer's Report:** The some of the report's totals were incorrect in that they did not include a \$500.00 donation from the Lion's Club. The report is generated by Microsoft Excel and Severna will check the spread sheet coding to make sure that it will be more honest in the future.
A new account will be created to separate the Taste of Athabasca financial transactions from the West Athabasca School entries.
The report was adopted subject to the discussed corrections.
Moved by Severna Bosik, Seconded by Christine Nelson, Carried.
- 6.0 **Committee Reports**
- 6.1 **Publicity, Fundraising, and Promotion:** No report.
- 6.2 **Heritage Site:** Mike Gismondi reported that he has three new signs in production that will be placed on the Rotary Trail. The signs will be in a three ring binder paged format.

Two signs pertaining to local wildlife are to be installed near the Trans Canada Trail pavillion, the signs were paid for by the local Trans Canada Trail Committee.

The big signs in the concrete display stands along the riverfront are deteriorating and the Town of Athabasca has paid to have them replaced. The replacement signs are now complete and will be installed in the near future.

The (hopefully) final fundraising campaign for the Multiplex Project will soon be underway and Mike wants to do some fundraising specifically aimed at gathering money for the Riverfront Project. Donations to the Riverfront Project can go to the Athabasca Heritage Society, the Town of Athabasca, or the County of Athabasca.

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

6.4 **Newsletter:** No report.

6.5 **River Rats Festival:** No report.

6.6 **Membership:** No report.

6.7 **Web Site:** No report.

6.8 **West Athabasca School:** Agnes Wurfel and Greg Johnson reported that they had a meeting with Gerry Chan who replaces Tom Ward as the preservation advisor for Alberta Community Development. The West Athabasca School has obtained two grants: \$10,000.00 to study the building and develop a restoration strategy and \$10,000.00 to begin the preservation stage of restoration (that is: things like the roof that make the building weather proof). The West Athabasca School preservation committee is not a legal entity so the financial side of the project are handled by the Athabasca Heritage Society. The Taste of Athabasca group has donated \$3,000.00 to the West Athabasca School project, this formal transfer is necessary because the Taste of Athabasca project is not part of the West Athabasca School project even though the Taste of Athabasca was launched as a fund raiser for the West Athabasca School project. Severna will create an account to hold the Taste of Athabasca financial transactions so that these two entities can remain separate.

7.0 **Old Business**

7.1 **Train Station Proposal:** Trish and Charles Bazalgette submitted a proposal to the Town of Athabasca Council suggesting that they restore the CNR train station as a historical building and use it as the home for their business. A copy of this proposal was attached to both the September and October AHS meeting agendas.

There was some discussion about the merit of having the train station placed into the hands of somebody who is willing to restore the building and put it into daily use but was also some feeling that there should be a mechanism that ensures that

the building will be returned to the town if Ravenspur Holdings no longer has a use for it.

Be it resolved that the Athabasca Heritage Society support the Charles and Trish Bazalgette train station proposal provided that there is a mechanism to ensure that the building remains available as an historical resource.

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

8.0 **New Business**

- 8.1 **Insurance of Heritage Site:** The insurance for the heritage site was due on October 6, 2005 and the cost is approximately \$600.00. Jerry MacLean proposed that he do a little comparison shopping before shelling out \$600.00 for insurance.

Be it resolved that Jerry MacLean shop for a better insurance price. If nothing better can be found then the Athabasca Heritage Society will remain with the present insurer.

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

- 8.2 **Athabasca Building Inventory - Phase 2:** Mike Gismondi reported that the Town of Athabasca has decided to implement phase 2 of the heritage building inventory and a consultant has been hired to steer the process. It is the intention that phase 2 will identify a few homes that have significant heritage value and to encourage their owner to register them as heritage buildings. The work must be completed before the end of March 2006 because the resulting bylaw must be written and submitted to the Town Council in April.

- 8.3 **Red River Cart:** Bertha Clark Jones reported that she has been told by Metis Nation of Alberta President, Audrey Poitras that the promised red river cart will be donated to the Athabasca Heritage Society in the spring of 2006. Jerry MacLean will communicate with Audrey Poitras to work out all the details of the formal transfer of the red river cart to the Society.

Be it resolved that the Athabasca Heritage Society inform the Metis Nation of Alberta that they would like to formally accept the donation of the red river cart on a weekend in May but not on the Victoria Day weekend.

Moved by Bertha Clark Jones, Seconded by Agnes Wurfel, Carried.

- 8.4 **Winterfest:** The Athabasca Heritage Society is interested in participating in the Winterfest Trade Fair. Participation will be discussed at the November meeting of the Athabasca Heritage Society.

- 9.0 **Next Regular Meeting:** Monday, November 14, 2005, 7:00PM, 2nd Floor Duniece Building