

FRIENDS OF THE MARKHAM MUSEUM BOARD MEETING
Meeting No. 59
Markham Museum, Mount Joy Boardroom
September 14, 2016, 5:00 p.m.

In Attendance:	Regrets:
Randy Barber, Chair	Mary Brawley
Doug Worsley, Vice Chair	
Martha Mingay, Secretary	
Wendy Kadlovski	
Ardy Reid	
Lorne Smith	
Charlotte Schickedanz	
Bill Crothers	
Councillor Colin Campbell	
Carolina Moretti	
<i>Ex Officio:</i>	<i>Guests:</i>
Cathy Molloy, Museum Director	
<i>Staff</i>	
Cynthia Szeto (Recording Secretary)	

1. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

The meeting of the Friends of the Markham Museum Board was called to order at 5:05 p.m. with R. Barber presiding as Chair.

2. DECLARATIONS

Nil.

3. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Moved By: C. Moretti
 Seconded By: B. Crothers

THAT the agenda for the June 1, 2016 meeting be approved as distributed.

Carried. (3.1)

4. BOARD EDUCATION

Included with the Director's Report (Attachment A).

5. REGRETS:

M. Brawley sent her regrets.

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MEETING

Moved By: W. Kadlovski
 Seconded By: M. Mingay

THAT the minutes of the Friends of the Markham Museum meeting on June 1, 2016 be approved as distributed.

Carried. (6.1)

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil.

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

C. Molloy gave a report (Attachment A).

Moved By: B. Crothers

Seconded By: W. Kadlovski

THAT the Board receives the Director's Report.

Carried. (8.1)

9. TREASURER'S REPORT

Over \$69k in the bank; waiting for strategic plan before making any decisions on its use.

Moved By: A. Reid

Seconded By: D. Worsley

THAT the Board receives the Treasurer's Report.

Carried. (9.1)

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Collections Committee: The next meeting is September 21 at 9:00 a.m.

b) Development Committee: Meeting soon to discuss Franklin Expedition event and plan for next the few months.

Moved By: D. Worsley

Seconded By: C. Moretti

THAT the Board receives the Development Committee's aural report.

Carried. (10.b.1)

c) Executive Committee: The team-building event held on June 29 was greatly appreciated by all staff.

11. MARKHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT

On September 24 and 25 at Applefest, The MHS will be running the Little train and selling Apple fritters. The next speaker is Ray Fugeman on clocks. Nov 14, Cary, North Carolina and Nordlingen; Dec 12, Italian Christmas (not confirmed); Feb 13, AGM and "Show and Tell".

Moved By: L. Smith

Seconded By: D. Worsley

THAT the Board receives the Markham Historical Society's aural report.

Carried. (11.1)

12. OTHER BUSINESS

a) The Mayor will be kicking off Applefest on Saturday, September 24, 2016

b) The exhibition opening for From the Ground Up & Construction City on Sept 19,2016

13. NEXT MEETING

The Chair informed the Board that the next meeting would be held on October 12, 2016 at 5 p.m. in the Mount Joy Board Room at Markham Museum.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: D. Worsley
Seconded by: W. Kadlovski

THAT the September 14, 2016 meeting of the Friends of the Markham Museum Board be adjourned.

Carried. (14.1)

Meeting adjourned 6:05 p.m.

ATTACHMENT A

Friends of the Markham Museum, Directors' Report

September 14, 2016

Mount Joy Board Room @ 5:00 p.m.

Programs and Events

The Museum has an extremely successful summer camp program. There were waiting lists for several sessions; however, with our current infrastructure camp numbers are at capacity.

Rental business was at capacity. Our new Business Development and Events Coordinator, Cynthia Szeto, came on board after the season had ramped up. She has been on a steep and busy learning curve and already has some great ideas, we will begin to strategize after the wedding and event season is over in November. The wedding rental business is still doing well with most weekends for 2017 already booked.

TRCA/Rouge Park new animal habitat geo-cache tour is now live and is a popular tour option for the grounds. As you know, most of the Museum gardens were designed and installed through partnerships with TRCA, Water for Tomorrow and other organizations.

Be sure to attend Applefest on September 24th or 25th. If anyone is able to volunteer, your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Exhibitions:

You have been invited to the opening of From the Ground Up, Echoes in the Ice and an announcement about Construction City. From the Ground Up is about the potteries that were

located on the current Museum lands. I have wished for this exhibition for a long time. Janet and her team have done a wonderful job. I think that you will be impressed!

Construction City has proven to be the most popular exhibition in the history of the Museum. During the summer months the exhibition always had a group of people enjoying the activities and learning about construction in Markham. It has been extended due to popular demand; even the Mayor commented on how much he liked Construction City.

Capital Programs

The Museum continues to benefit from the structural assessments that were done in 2013 with the support of Asset Management. This report gave us the needs for each Museum building and for the site. We have seen a number of improved structures in summer 2016. Be sure to take a look at Kinnee Barn, Maxwell Cabin, Chapman House, Baptist Church, Honey House, and the Houser Workshop when you have the time.

Museum Strategic Plan

The strategic plan was delayed in the Spring to do a technical issue with the consultant and once again, currently, due to an illness with the firm. However, the process will continue and we still hope to have the plan completed by the end of the year.

Culture and Economic Development Organizational Plan and Branding

In late Spring the new Culture and Economic Development Department was formed. The City has engaged a consultant to conduct an analysis of our current organization and to propose a new organizational structure to ensure efficient delivery of program, business development and community/business connection. The new department will be branded and structured to identify who we are and what we do. It will include a tourism strategy that meshes culture with the business community.

Acadia Rail Car

Acadia was built in 1921 as a private business car for the Canadian National Railway (CNR). The car retired from active service in 1974 passing into private hands. In 1985, the *Acadia* was sold to the Markham Museum. In 1998, George Prytulak, Conservator, Industrial Collections from the Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI) undertook a full condition assessment of the *Acadia* providing a detailed report of his findings and recommendations. In 2008, Prytulak revisited the *Acadia* reassessing her condition and making further recommendations for her preservation. It should be noted that the *Acadia* was also examined in 2005 by CCI's Senior Advisor, Collections Preservation, Siegfried Rempel.

The *Acadia* was one of only six private rail cars built for the CNR; meaning that we have few comparables. Her sister car, the *Pacific* is located at the corporate headquarters of Higgins & Burke in Ajax. The *Acadia* has a much higher level of integrity due to the extent and condition of original fixtures, detailing and built-in furnishings throughout the car.

A 2012 report of Maltby and Associates lists work that is required for *Acadia*, with associated costs listed:

Phase I: Concrete pad/foundation for the rail car, pre-engineered steel building, lighting, radiant floor, insulation, drywall, accessible ramp, designated substances audit, security and fire protection system. \$415,926.00

Phase II: Move and Mount Acadia in Rail Shed: Install rails and ties in new structure, move and install on new track. \$88,457.00

Phase III: Replace the roof and drip rail, clean and repair gallery deck, address failed repairs and corrosion, remove and replace existing carpeting, replace window seals & stabilize steel frames, fabricate and install replacement garnish moulding and window sills, repair blinds, clean, stabilize and refinish the dining room hutch, general cleaning & paint stabilization. \$256,450.00

Total Budget Cost for all Three Phases: \$760,833.00 not considering inflation

The Acadia has been brought forward for funding via the Capital application process. It was evaluated, but not recommended, for approval.

The treatment recommended by the conservators' reports would 'restore' Acadia. The railcar would in effect become an artifact, a static display at the Museum. She would not be a relevant addition to the Museum program. If she is to be restored, she belongs in a National Museum.

Staff have contacted the Exporail Museum in Montreal. Exporail has expressed interest in, and concern for, Acadia. Although the Exporail does not have funds, there has been political expression in the past that indicates that support could be available with federal grants and/or private donors.

There has been some discussion around retrofitting Acadia for public use as an event space, to be clear, this would define the Acadia as a structure. Events considered for the space include birthday parties, smaller gatherings such as 'showers', and the possibility of a 'honeymoon suite' for couples.

After examining this idea, staff have concluded that Acadia cannot serve as a rental space. There is no water supply to Acadia, and there are no public toilet facilities nearby. In order to make Acadia attractive as a rental space, significant work would need to be done to provide a fully serviced washroom and/or catering kitchen. To properly staff and support Acadia as rental facility, associated staffing costs would be extremely high.

Therefore, staff are preparing to sell/transfer ownership to Exporail Museum, or another Museum to which Acadia neatly fits the mandate and has the ability to properly retrofit her.