

FRIENDS OF THE MARKHAM MUSEUM BOARD MEETING
Meeting No. 49
Mount Joy Boardroom, Markham Museum
September 9, 2015, 5:00 p.m.

In Attendance:	Regrets:
Bill Crothers, Chair	Moe Hosseini-Ara, Director of Culture
Doug Worsley	Councillor Colin Campbell
Martha Mingay	
Ardy Reid	
Carolina Moretti	
Mary Brawley	
Nicole Taylor	
Randy Barber	
Wendy Kadlovski	
Charlotte Schickedanz	
<i>Ex Officio</i>	Guests:
Cathy Molloy, Museum Director	
<i>Staff</i>	
Matthew Wright (Recording Secretary)	

1. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

The meeting of the Friends of the Markham Museum Board was called to order at 5:08 p.m.

2. BOARD EDUCATION:

Included in Director's Report

3. REGRETS:

M. Hosseini-Ara and Councillor Colin Campbell sent their regrets.

4. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Moved By: C. Moretti
Seconded By: M. Brawley

THAT the agenda for the September 9, 2015 meeting be approved as distributed.

Carried. (4.1)

5. DECLARATIONS

Nil.

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MEETING

Moved By: D. Worsley
Seconded By: A. Reid

THAT the minutes of the Friends of the Markham Museum meeting on June 3, 2015 be approved as distributed.

Carried. (6.1)

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil.

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

C. Molloy circulated a report (Attachment A).

Moved by: R. Barber

Seconded by: M. Brawley

THAT the Board receives the Director's Report.

Carried. (8.1)

9. TREASURER'S REPORT

N. Taylor gave a brief update. The current bank balance is \$78,169.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Collections Committee: Next meeting is Sept 16.

b) Development Committee:

i) Speaker series: Currently investigating an event featuring Jane Goodall which would have her talk livestreamed to all schools in the area. Requires a \$5,000 downpayment to hold the date. Looking at an April event. More information will come at the October Board meeting.

ii) Acadia: Plan coming soon.

iii) Applefest: Board members were asked to sell apples at Applefest as a method of light fundraising and public education.

c) Executive Committee:

i) Jim Wicks Memorial:

Moved by: C. Moretti

Seconded by: A. Reid

THAT a tree be planted at the Museum in memory of Jim Wicks and to recognize his many contributions to the Museum.

Carried. (10.c.1)

ii) Third Markham Book:

Moved by: D. Worsley

Seconded by: M. Mingay

THAT the Friends of the Markham Museum approve in principle that the funds from the Third Markham Book be transferred to the custodianship of the Friends with the understanding that the money could not be touched without the approval of both the Board and the Directors of the Markham Historical Society.

Carried. (10.c.2)

iii) Business Plan: The Chair discussed producing a budget and an updated business plan to show fundraising targets and how to achieve them. N. Taylor will help to produce.

M. Mingay wanted to officially thank M. Brawley and R. Barber for the work they did on the recent event.

11. MARKHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT

The Historical Society will be holding their annual Barbecue and Corn Roast on September 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Museum's pavilion. Tickets are \$10. On October 19 at 7:30 p.m. they will hold "Barbering through the Centuries", a talk in the Transportation Hall. R. Barber also encouraged Board members to support the Historical Society by becoming members.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

- a) M. Mingay submitted the idea of holding a more formal event in Enzo's honour to thank him for all of his hard work over the years.
- b) The Centre for D.R.E.A.M.S. is holding an antique car show on Sunday on Markham Main St.
- c) A new public art piece, "Gambrel Journey" by kipjones has been erected in front of the Museum. C. Molloy thanked A. Reid for sitting on the committee that selected the piece.

13. NEXT MEETING

The Chair informed the Board that the next meeting would be held on October 7, 2015 at 5 p.m. in the Mount Joy Board Room at Markham Museum.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: C. Moretti
Seconded by: M. Brawley

THAT the September 9, 2015 meeting of the Friends of the Markham Museum Board be adjourned.

Carried. (14.1)

Meeting adjourned 6:21 p.m.

ATTACHMENT A

Friends of the Markham Museum

September 9, 2015

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

Director's Report

Board Education

Over the summer there was quite a bit of correspondence between the Museum and the Historical Society about the publication of the new history book. Museum staff continue to support this project and are supportive of the Friends involvement.

The Museum strategic planning project has been initiated. The Director of Culture and the Museum Manager have been involved in discussions with potential consultants to lead the process. Once a suitable consultant has been engaged, the project will begin. This will be a very high level project as the budget is not large enough to conduct a thorough study. It is assumed that the strategic plan will make reference to further study/analysis that is required to follow through with strategic initiatives. The important thing is that we develop a strong set of strategic initiatives to guide us into the next phase of Museum growth and development.

This Saturday, September 12th, at 11a.m., Markham will celebrate the historic reign of Queen Elizabeth. This was initiated at the request of Friends member, Randy Barber.

The opening of the Yijing Zisha Chinese Tea Pot Exhibition will be September 17th at 7 p.m. in the upper gallery of the Collections Hall. The Friends are invited to attend this opening.

The Museum was approached by 'Motus O', the local dance troupe. At Markham Fair last year they performed 'Fairtale'. A member of Heritage Canada saw the performance and indicated that if they produced a show about the Ontario Fair Experience and traveled it to various fairs and festivals across Ontario, that the entire project could be funded. The Museum has submitted a letter of support for the project and requesting that they perform at Applefest in 2017. There was some discussion that the Friends may be interested in hosting a separate performance in 2016 as a fundraiser.

Janet Reid, Museum Curator, would like to provide Acadia with a new cover before winter. She would like to know if some members of the Friends would like to visit the rail car during the time that the cover is removed.

As many of you know, Enzo Greco has left the Museum for a position in the private sector. Museum staff will miss his dedication to the site and his sense of humor. Thank you to those that were able to attend a small event the Museum had in his honor on his final day of working at the Museum.

I have been nominated to sit on the Ontario Museums Association Council. The slate will be presented at the OMA conference in November.

Exhibitions:

The next exhibition to come to the Collections Hall will be SNOW, opening in January 2016. This exhibition is from the Canadian Museum of History and will be augmented with a section on the ice storm history of 2013. Sonia Singh, the City's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, is providing content and items used during an emergency like the ice storm.

Capital Projects:

There have been several delays with the Mount Joy School restoration work. It has been a frustrating situation as the project was to be completed well before camp started. Due to the amazing program/camp staff at the Museum, there were virtually no complaints about the awkward site access. Museum staff also mitigated several potential health and safety issues. I am extremely proud of the professionalism and care the Museum staff bring to their work.

Kinney Barn has a new roof and will soon have several new exterior barn boards. The structure will then be fully secured against raccoons and other animals in order that we can safely program the space on an annual basis.

Markham Little Theatre roof repairs are now complete.

The site drainage issues are being addressed in the next few weeks, unfortunately the road upgrades cannot be done until 2016, but there will be better site drainage for the spring.

Programs:

Museum camps were sold out for 2015. Due the extra week of summer vacation the camps have produced over \$50,000 in gross revenue over 2014. The summer season at the Museum is now at capacity. As summer camp clear out on Friday afternoon, a team of maintenance/event staff start preparing the site for weddings or other private events to be held over the weekend. Without further investment in capital and operating, we are at capacity. A study to convert Strickler Barn into an event space is being done this year.

The pottery program is selling better than forecast. Although not yet selling out, the program booking is selling well. The most popular programs are 'parent and child' and 'family programs', proving, once again, that our primary audience is families with young children.

- a) The Museum is going to partner with the Library and the Varley for a Pecha Kucha night in November. Like the Friends lecture series, this will help us grow our larger audience beyond being primarily young families.