

DRAFT

Minutes of the Walking Village Committee – Monday January 19, 2015, Barbara's, 7pm

1. Welcome / Additions to the Agenda

Vice Chair R. Iadinardi called the meeting to order at 7:21 pm

Attending: R. Iadinardi, R. Caruso, J. Gillette, (B. MacKay)

Regrets: David Turner (flying to England), Stef Bernard (work commitment), Julie Reitzel (ill)

Robert Fawcett made a guest appearance (just prior to the meeting) to sign our incorporation documents as he is listed as a founding member.

New board member R. Caruso replaces the mysterious Mary Ferguson. R. Caruso introduced herself to the committee. She is a B&B owner (the Guest House at Eugenia Falls) and a founder of Stay in Grey, Grey Highlands tourism group. She was a member of the Cultural Planning Group in Grey Highlands before it dissolved. A transplant from Toronto, where she worked in Business and the Arts, including the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga, Etobicoke Arts and Lakeshore Arts. She owned an art gallery.

2. Correspondence

-The minutes of November, 2014 meeting (most recent) are posted to the website.

- Kolapore Wilderness Trails invites us to a Moonlight Ski and Pot luck dinner at the end of the month. We must rsvp by January 29

- Grey County is seeking applications for its Tourism Advisory Committee – volunteer, of course

- our Non-Profit Application was held up – see below under Business Arising

3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

-**E&O Insurance** – after much back and forth with Nicol Ins. it seems that the minimum price is \$50. Per month (the committee tabled this as there are no funds)

- **Incorporation Requirements:** B. MacKay will collect signatures from the Committee members to get our application moving, again.

- J. Gillette brought printed samples of our **Friends Cards**. A robust discussion ensued about whether to have one Friend Card and one Very Good Friend Card – or simply one card with the option to donate. R. Iadinardi likes the two options and R. Caruso says it is good for people to have a take away. J. Gillette reminded the committee that more than a fundraising opportunity, the Friend cards serve to collect email addresses. We need those to fundraise and to promote our walks. It was decided that J. Gillette would make one card with a donation option.

The members got a bit off topic with discussion of the **WV history and franchise opportunity** (can we develop criteria to award others the title “Walking Village” also? and passing the bucket at walks and how much money did we garner this way). It was a good chance to bring new member R. Caruso up to date.

4. New Business

-**Winter walks.** Seems a bit unlikely with frequent walk leader and chair D. Turner being away

much of the winter. Not that we need to have him, but it's difficult to plan winter activities because the weather can close roads. It seems more of a spur of the moment plan, without warming huts. However, it was mentioned that the Eugenia Community Group regularly hold a Family Day event at the frozen lake and maybe we could partner with them on something for that day? A snowshoe hike? B. MacKay will follow up with the Kinsmen and Ron Barnett about this year's plans.

- Roadside signs. A cheque was received from the Flesherton Foundation to help the cost of renewing the Walking Village signs east and west on County 4. Unfortunately, the cheque was made to the Walking Village and we don't yet have a bank account. D. Turner spoke with Foundation member Frank Colton to have the cheque made to the sign co. Permission has been received to mount the signs and the Municipality offered to do it as an in-kind donation. The artwork for the signs was designed by J. Gillette and delivered to Dunwood signs in Dundalk.

-Board Member News – R. Fawcett has resigned from the Walking Village Committee. Julie Reitzel, formerly “director at large” takes his place on the board as treasurer.

And, the Walking Village welcomes new board members Gary Gingras, a loyal Walk Village supporter, tourism advocate and owner of the Cedars Cottage Resort of Lake Eugenia.

We thank R. Fawcett for his time and effort with the Walking Village. Happy Trails!

Partnerships & Introducing the WV - R. Caruso wondered if the committee knows Nancy Matthews, chair of the Lake Eugenia Rate Payers Association (she's the gal who distributed an election notice to her members, suggesting who they might vote for last November). With Stay in Grey, R. Caruso is working with Matthews to promote the area's attractions and perhaps the Walking Village could be introduced to the Lake property association also. R. Caruso will follow up.

5. Next Meeting time/date

February 23 Bicycle Café 7pm

Adjourned: 8:14 pm