

Minutes Walking Village Committee ~ Saturday Nov 7, 2015, 9:30 AM – Cedars Resort

Please Note: Action items are in Bold Italics

The meeting was followed by a strategy session led by consultant, and a founding board member, Mary Ferguson.

1. Welcome / Additions to the Agenda

9:42 a.m. Chair David Turner called the meeting to Order

Attending: Gary Gingras, Cara Sullivan, David Turner, Barbara MacKay (non-voting)

Regrets: Jon Gillette, Julie Reitzel

Guests: Pippa Gingras, Mary Ferguson

2. Correspondence

OTC Trail News – emailed to all

Kolapore Wilderness Trails (Grey County has denied their request to plow the skiers parking lot on Cty 2) As a point of information, Barbara MacKay says that neither the County nor the Municipality of Grey Highlands (MGH) plow Eugenia or Hogg's Falls parking lots in the winter – yet these two waterfalls are promoted by the County's Winter Tourism. ***Gary Gingras will speak to new Grey County CAO (Kim Wingrove) re parking lots***

CHC (see below)

RT07 Tourism Conference (see below)

GBSusNet Day – (see under New Business)

3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Board member replacement & size – do we want a bigger board? Cara suggests we should talk about this after our Strat. Session

Gary suggests quarterly meetings - if people aren't showing up, they aren't contributing to the meetings

Deferred to our next meeting: A discussion of the size and makeup of the board.

Roadside Sign in Barbara's garage – The Beautification Committee has asked theFlesherton.ca to take its sign off the board in front of Fleshcon. ***Barbara will assist David in installing the new WV sign on that board.*** (David is scheduled first for surgery and then a vacation)

Barbara informs the board that a Grant application has been made to MGH to Municipality for \$750 to reprint the WV brochure.

Deferred to our next meeting: WV brochure revisions

The WV has both a Twitter and Facebook account. Barbara manages the Twitter, Julie(?) the Facebook. Barbara says both are mostly neglected. Suggests maybe one person should do both. Gary suggests that maybe a teenager could do it. Cara thinks we might find one who is competent.

Walks Report

Gary offered to host a snowshoe hike in Feb or March - and we'll use social media to promote

David suggests maybe a Birding in Bognor Marsh as our May Jane's Walk

David would also like to do a Foraging Walk in summer and expressed an interest in hiking Kolapore, but not for foraging

Nancy Matthews was the guide for our Heritage Walk in Markdale. It was attended by Rosanne (former board members), David and Barbara. An excellent guide, an excellent walk – lots of great and lively info – also Nancy was spot on for time. David suggests we do another in Sept. Cara suggests we keep rotating the Heritage walks – e.g. we have done Flesherton, Priceville, Kimberley, Markdale

A Fall Colours Walk on the lower valley road walk near Hogg's Falls in early Oct was suggested for 2015, but never happened. Keep it in mind for next year

Gary mentions Small Halls festival, Barbara is enthusiastic also - but is walking going to work for this?

Cara suggests a abandoned rural buildings /barns tour

4. New Business

OTC membership – ask the municipality to join? ***Gary will see if there is Grey Cty membership for OTC***

Crystal with the CHC and their new program– Healthy Kids Community Challenge met with Barbara wanting to partner but while they explained the program, it wasn't clear what the expectation of the partnership might be. David suggests we ask explicitly what is in it for us. (Mary predicts what they are looking for provincial funding and need partners to walk with)

A regional Tourism Conference RT07 in early Dec in Meaford - Gary (who sits on the County's tourism committee) isn't going, mostly politicians

GB SusNet invited our board members to participate in their full day brainstorming in Chesley – lunch included (sponsored by Bruce Power)

David and Cara will both be away in Nicaragua at the end of February.

5. Next Meeting time/date

Monday, January 18, 2016 - location TBA