

TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

MINUTES

MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 26, 2020

The meeting of Museum Advisory Committee of the Town of Fort Frances was held in the Museum on February 26, 2020 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Debbie Ballard - Chair, Robert Schulz, Caren Fagerdahl, Nell Laur,

ALSO PRESENT: Sherry George, Museum Curator; Aaron Bisson, Manager; Bev Cochrane;

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest and the General Nature Thereof:

3. Approval of Previous Committee Minutes

3.1 Meeting Date: Wed Jan 22; approved as sent.

4. Governance:

4.1 Heard from Shannon Khan re CMOG, our contact. Standard requirements should be coming soon.

5. Finance:

5.1 Owandem berth/Hallett repairs: museum has applied for a RED grant, which pays 30% of project. Hope to piggy back on federal grant that would pay 50%, leaving 20% for Town/Museum. To sell the project as an economic boost for the community, we need tie the project into the Shevlin redevelopment plans.

5.2 Applications for student grants. YCW submitted - pays close to half of wages for 1 Univ student. Bev completed CSJ (roughly \$2000); and SEP (over \$3000). Also looking at Shooniyaa -- this would mean 3 univ students and Anna would be covered. With the Town hurting with provincial downloads, accessing all funding is important.

5.3 Membership drive flyer will be going out with current utility bills. Flyer includes increases to memberships and admission fees.

6. Collections:

6.1 No further update on the police archival documents donation.

6.2 Discussed having a committee for collections management.

7. Exhibitions:

7.1 Current exhibit is Canada: Day One. In conjunction, Borderland History will feature Hue Truong. Feb 27, 6:30 p.m.

7.2 Apr - June will once again focus on Climate Change: Perils of Plastic. We have challenged grades 4-8 to build sculpture with plastic garbage. Winning class will have a pizza party sponsored by Dominos. We have also spoken to IISD - Experimental Lakes Area. Sarah Warrack is willing to present once again in April.

8. Interpretation & Education:

9. Research:

9.1 Ongoing for Climate Change exhibit, plus small misc requests.

10. Conservation:

10.1 Nell found some evidence of a mouse visit - the first I've seen in the 10 years I've been here. We'll lay some traps.

11. Physical Plant:

11.1 Humidity continues to be a problem. We are calling Jim regularly as humidity falls off on one floor or another. He is looking into replacing units; failing that, parts.

11.2 Still concerned re: alarm going off every morning. Aaron will follow up with Ray.

11.3 Museum will call electrician about the HVAC kicking off the breaker.

12. Community:

12.1 Friends SnOasis 8 is scheduled for March 7 at the Rainy Lake Square. As this is an ongoing event, we should consider investigating grants for this as money for festivals is available.

12.2 On-This-Spot offered several webinars to explain what it is they do. Very similar to what we were considering years ago with community tours using the QR code. Theirs would use an app. Initial outlay is pricey for us: \$7500. However if considering that we were looking at hiring someone to do the background research, take photos, etc, it may not be unreasonable.

13. Human Resources / Professional Development:

13.1 Bev, Nell, Sarah attended training on collections/deaccessioning in Gimli -- possibly the most important training for museum staff. Training includes an assignment.

14. Numbers:

14.1 January: 242 (Jan 2019: 372)

15. Strategic Plan:

16. Recommendations to be made to the Executive Committee of Community Services...

17. ADJOURN / NEXT MEETING DATE

17.1 Adjournment 1 p.m. Next meeting Wed Mar 25.

D. Ballard, Chair

S. George, Museum Curator