



A meeting of the **Stratfords of the World Committee** was held on September 26, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. – 82 Erie Street, Stratford ON – Avon Room

**Present:** Joan Ayton – Chair Presiding, Wayne Whitehorn, Susan Kummer, Ken Clarke, June Wells, \*Councillor Tom Clifford, \*Joyce Mohr, Bill Andrus, Donnalene Tuer-Hodes

**Staff Present:** Casey Riehl – Recording Secretary

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## MINUTES

### 1.0 Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

### 2.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None declared

### 3.0 ADOPTION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES – August 7, 2019

**Motion by Wayne Whitehorn, seconded by June Wells to adopt the minutes dated August 7, 2019 as printed. Carried.**

### 4.0 Business Arising From Previous Minutes

#### (a) 2020 SOTW Reunion Planning

##### **Registrations – Joan Ayton**

Joan Ayton reported there are currently 96 registrations for the reunion (36 from Connecticut, 12 from PEI, 23 from UK, 8 from New Zealand, 17 from Australia). The UK is still working on some numbers and may have additional delegates from their Shakespeare School.

\*Councillor Clifford now present (3:05 p.m.)

Ms. Ayton will hand the book of registrations over to Joyce Mohr to continue planning for hosts.

**Promotional Items – Joan Ayton**

Ms. Ayton has some City of Stratford pens to add to the welcome packages. She has a couple of options for umbrella bags. The first option only has the logo on the bag, the second option can have the logo on the bag, as well as the umbrella. Another option would be to purchase a nametag/wallet combination.

**Festival Theatre – Joan Ayton/Ken Clarke**

Joan Ayton and Ken Clarke are meeting with Festival representatives on October 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss options/pricing/schedule for when the delegates are here.

**Charitable Donation – Joan Ayton**

The committee would like to choose one charity for the Stratford's to donate to if they choose to do so. Staff will forward the list of the committee's choices to the Director of Corporate Services for approval.

**Venues – Susan Kummer**

No new updates.

**Tours – Susan Kummer/Donnalene Tuer-Hodes**

Susan Kummer and Joan Ayton met with a representative from Kettle Point to discuss tour options. They were very happy with the tour package they had put together and would like to proceed with the required deposit for the Wiiwkwedong Powwow ceremony, meal and visit to market. Ms. Kummer will confirm two buses with the bus company.

**Motion by Susan Kummer, seconded by Ken Clarke that the Stratfords of the World Advisory Committee spends \$1,375.00 for the deposit for the Wiiwkwedong Arts Collective Event scheduled for August 4, 2020. Carried.**

No new updates on city or Amish/Mennonite tour plans.

**Volunteer Gear – Susan Kummer/June Wells**

June Wells discussed two ideas for volunteer gear – sashes and neckerchiefs. Members agreed with her suggestion that a neckerchief would be easier to suit everyone, as opposed to a sash being too large or small. The SOTW reunion logo could be placed on the back of the neckerchief. Ms. Wells volunteered to sew (10) with the blue material from Joan Ayton. She has a small amount of yellow and will trim the edges.

**SOTW Garden & Plaque Design – Susan Kummer/Wayne Whitehorn**

Susan Kummer and Wayne Whitehorn have done some research on whether the stone at the new SOTW garden should be engraved or a plaque placed on it. The large stone would have to be engraved onsite, which may add to the

cost. Members also noted that engraved stones are not always easy to read, especially long term. Mr. Whitehorn will confirm pricing for a brass plaque and will contact the Parks Manager to confirm size and text restrictions. Please send your plaque suggestions to Mr. Whitehorn or bring a design to the next meeting and he will incorporate them into the draft design.

Members would like to see a reference to the 2020 reunion in the plaque, perhaps the logo.

Susan Kummer has been discussing design ideas and planting suggestions for the SOTW garden next spring with the Parks Manager and local garden centres. The Parks Manager would require the design plan, including what plants to order, no later than November 1, 2019.

#### **Concert Update – Bill Andrus**

Joan Ayton noted that the committee is still seeking a stage manager and director to run the concert at the City Hall Auditorium. Bill Andrus will set up a meeting with the schools to see if they can generate some interest with local high school students to assist. Members will also reach out to local theatre groups to see if they are interested in helping.

#### **Transportation Options (Info Sheet) – Bill Andrus**

Bill Andrus circulated a draft information sheet that the committee plans on sharing with visiting delegates. The information sheet outlines many transportation options for airporters, trains, car rentals, bus services and taxi's. Mr. Andrus will finalize the details and have it prepared to send out in the New Year.

#### **Golf Details – Bill Andrus**

Joan Ayton reported that (12) registrants indicated they would like to play golf while they are here for the reunion. Bill Andrus has been in contact with the Stratford Country Club regarding arrangements and they are looking forward to working with the committee. Once the itinerary is set, Joan Ayton will let Mr. Andrus know what times work to fit in the option to golf.

#### **Sponsorships – Wayne Whitehorn**

Wayne Whitehorn will confirm some details for the next meeting – who to approach, costs for ads, minimum for sponsorships, etc.

\*Joyce Mohr now present (3:55 p.m.)

#### **Flags – Ken Clarke**

The committee still needs to secure flag poles to use at the banquet. Ken Clarke will contact the downtown business with the flag poles to inquire if they would be willing to fly the flags from the other countries during the reunion.

SOTW would provide them with the flags. Joan Ayton suggested that the committee also purchase the flags for use at the civic reception.

### **Possible Events**

Ken Clarke reported that there is possibly a Bach Walk in T.J. Dolan scheduled during the reunion (Sunday morning).

Mr. Clarke also reported that he has contacted the summer concert organizers and the Westin Silver Band may possibly be doing a concert on Sunday evening. The band has tentatively agreed to do the concert that evening. Mr. Clarke will pursue the idea with them of a program to recognize the visiting Stratfords. Delegates could possibly get dropped off at Upper Queens Park after their trip to Niagara Falls if the timing is right. Joan Ayton also suggested a picnic for those who attend.

### **Hosting – Joyce Mohr**

Joyce Mohr will confirm numbers for the next meeting. She did report that they are still in need of hosts and requested members follow up with potential hosts. The committee may advertise in the newspaper and on social media in the New Year to get the word out on the need for hosts.

### **BBQ Dinner Option**

Wayne Whitehorn and Joyce Mohr attended a recent BBQ fundraiser and have been discussing possible options with the caterers. If a catered dinner is something that fits in with the itinerary, the caterers would do the cooking, however the committee and volunteers would be required to do the set-up and take-down.

### **The Branch**

Joan Ayton reported that the brass branch has been located and it is in the office of Anne Swarfager at the Festival Theatre. She informed Ms. Ayton that upon her retirement, she will forward the branch on to the Festival Archives for safe keeping. The branch was mentioned in the Friends of the Festival newsletter. It was also mentioned in the newsletter that hosts are needed. Ms. Ayton received information for three hosts after they read the article.

## **5.0 New Business**

### **(a) Date For Planning Sessions – Joan Ayton**

Staff has booked the Games Room at the Rotary Complex on October 7<sup>th</sup> and November 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. for an informal planning session for anyone who can make it.

**(b) Grand Trunk Community Hub – Grant Application Notice (Memo)**

A memo from the Acting Clerk regarding future grant applications was forwarded to committee members for their information.

**(c) Member Terms Expiring November 30, 2019 – Joyce Mohr, Wayne Whitehorn, Ken Clarke, June Wells, Donnalene Tuer-Hodes**

**6.0 Next Meeting Date:** Thursday, October 24, 2019 – 3:00 p.m. – Avon Room

**7.0 Adjournment**

**Motion by Councillor Clifford, seconded by Wayne Whitehorn to adjourn the meeting. Carried.**

Time: 5:00 p.m.