



THE OJIBWAY HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING OF THE OHPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

***SATURDAY JULY 16, 2022 AT 10:30 PM EST
MOVIE HUT, OJIBWAY ISLAND***

Members and Directors Present:

Bill Watts (Chair of the Board, President of the Corporation), Celia Milne (Secretary & Communications), Sean Clarke (Vice President), Doug Barrett (Legal and Governance), Patrick Findlay (Director of Fundraising), Jane Manning-Marshall (Community Outreach), Rainer Kaufmann (Ojibway Club Board).

Members and Directors excused: Bob Kilgour (Treasurer, Finance), Sam Skuce (Building & Grounds), Nancy Lang (Historical Archives & Website),

1. Welcome community members

Bill Watts called the meeting to order at 10:30 am and Secretary Celia Milne recorded the Minutes. A quorum of Directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Bill welcomed community members and introduced the Board.

2. Approval of the minutes of the July 17, 2021 Annual Public Meeting

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, held on July 17, 2021, which were posted on the OHPS website, were moved for approval by Rob Simpson and seconded by Helen Bryce. All in favour. CARRIED.

3. Ojibway Historical Preservation Society – Bill Watts

Bill briefly described the mandate and mission of OHPS: to preserve and protect the history of the Ojibway. The OHPS is empowered to solicit donations for the major restoration of the Heritage Buildings and Facilities and to issue official tax receipts for those donations.

The OHPS is in its third decade of existence. Bill outlined achievements to date, thanks to many

dedicated volunteers.

As background: The 19 buildings of The Ojibway are described in The Architectural Heritage Report written by ERA Architects in March 2001. That year The Township of the Archipelago passed a By-Law recognizing the Ojibway Facilities as qualifying for Heritage status under the Ontario Heritage Act. OHPS further signed a lease Dec. 28, 2001 in which OHPS is the tenant to the landlord “Ojibway Heritage Society and Community Centre” (now Ojibway Club). The Ojibway Club operates and maintains all facilities.

Bill outlined the OHPS has invested \$5,196,485 over the last 21 years to rescue the historic buildings. Most similar hotels in Canada from the time no longer exist. These investments have enabled the property to continue as a unique and historic community hub in Pointe au Baril.

With special thanks to Nancy Lang, Bill pointed out elements that reinforce the heritage of the Ojibway, including the historic hotel guest room on the second floor, the walking trails, the enlarged historical black-and-white photos adorning the restored Gift Shop and Grocery Store, the Ojibway Historical Preservation Society website housing stories about the Ojibway’s history, and the OHPS laptop computer in the lobby of the main building that provides guests with historical information.

4. Financial Report – Sean Clarke for Bob Kilgour

Bob Kilgour being absent, Sean Clarke reported that OHPS is in a stable financial situation. Expenses are steady. We have done some fundraising recently and earmarked funds to restore historic cedar railings. We also have some funds that have been donated for a sailing boathouse.

The Auditor’s Statements are qualified, which is typical for our type of small corporation.

4.1 Motion to approve Dec. 31, 2021 audited financial statements

Earl Manners moved the approval of the Financial Statements and Auditor’s Report of the Ojibway Historical Preservation Society for the year ended Dec. 31, 2021. Seconded by Helen Bryce. All in favour. CARRIED.

4.2 Motion to approve the appointment of Akler Browning LLP as auditors for 2022

Pat Posno called upon Sean Clarke to move the appointment of Akler Browning LLP as Auditors of the Ojibway Historical Preservation Society for the year ending Dec. 31, 2022. Seconded by Doug Bryce. All in favour. CARRIED.

5. Talking Circles – 2021 and 2022

Last year, OHPS hosted the first Garden of Pines Talking Circle, an Indigenous-led Talking Circle. The event was held on Sunday Aug. 22, 2021 in the movie hut, Ojibway Island. It was an opportunity for people all across the Pointe au Baril area to listen to one another and share stories, especially about their history on the land.

Indigenous drummers were in attendance, as well as Vince Pawis and Donna Longlade from Shawanaga First Nation. The ceremony was led by Marilyn Capreol, Shawanaga Elder.

By all accounts, the event was a huge success. Therefore, in summer 2022, two events were

planned. The first 2022 Talking Circle was held on July 10 in the movie hut on Ojibway Island. The next one will be held in the same location on August 21. Again, Indigenous drummers provided traditional drumming, and Vince Pawis and Donna Longlade hosted the ceremony. (Marilyn Capreol, who helped organize it, could not attend due to illness.) About 15-20 islanders attended.

From the floor, John O'Connell, president of the Ojibway Club, spoke. He wanted OHPS to be aware the Talking Circles could be aggravating to elected officials of Shawanaga First Nation. He suggested OHPS broaden its communications efforts to SFN and stressed that the Club is also trying to open lines of communication. Helen Garber spoke. She said the Talking Circles are very meaningful for her. A lively discussion ensued about whether the Talking Circles appropriately contribute to Reconciliation. Bill thanked everyone for their feedback, which he said was interesting and valuable.

6. Project review – Bill Watts

6.1 Dock replacement at west end of Gift Shop: This section of the dock needed to be built higher than the rest of the dock because of raised water levels when the Gift Shop was restored. Once the main dock is restored, all areas of dock will be level. This section is complete.

6.2 Railings replacement on hotel building: Last Christmas, OHPS did a fundraising eBlast, the "railing mailing." We raised money to replace the historic cedar hotel railings. Cedar material is being harvested with the help of members of SFN. We are starting with railings that are a safety concern.

6.3 Main dock replacement from gift shop to fire pump hut: This will be a multi-year project. It is being organized in collaboration with the Club. OHPS is seeking a structural engineer to assess conditions under the dock. Then the project will go to competitive bids. Then fundraising. Rainer pointed out it will be important to know the historic shape of the dock.

7. Actions of the Board since the last Annual Public Meeting

Doug Bryce moved that it be resolved that all acts and proceedings done by the Directors of the Ojibway Historical Preservation Society since the last Annual General Meeting be and the same hereby are ratified, confirmed and adopted. Seconded by Earl Manners. All in favour. CARRIED.

8. Board vacancies – Sean Clarke

Sean mentioned that new board members are always welcome. He asked that any interested parties reach out to him.

OHPS's governance process dictates that the Society makes changes to its Members and Directors during its annual meeting in October.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, Lloyd Posno moved the adjournment of the meeting. Seconded by Aileen MacDonald. The President then declared the motion CARRIED and the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.