



The members of the NOTL Canada Sesquicentennial Committee met on January 24, 2017 in the Penner Room at the NOTL Community Centre at 10:00 am.

PRESENT: Bill Cowie, Rick Meloen, Clare Cameron, Tony Chisholm, John Mather, Bill French, Patti Knipe, Steffanie Bjorgan, Lord Mayor Pat Darte, Cheryl Morris, Kevin Turcotte, Maurice Pam, Mona Babin, Ryan Donnelly, Sheldon Randall, Vicky Downes, Roger Nugent, Rene Bertschi.

Guests/First-time attendees: Betty Knight (new volunteer), Stan Harrington (Cenotaph Committee)

REGRETS: Richard Coyne, Sarah Bowers, Peter Martin, Janice Thompson

Co-Chair Bill Cowie called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: None

MATTERS FROM MINUTES: None

DELEGATIONS: None

MINUTES of January 10, 2017 meeting approved by Rick Meloen and all.

AGENDA for January 24, 2017 approved by Clare Cameron and all.

PRESENTATIONS:

None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) **Finance:**

- Tony Chisholm reported the Transfer Payment Agreement has been signed by the Town and will be sent to ON150 for final processing.
- Cheryl Morris reported that 2 grant applications submitted to ON150 Community Celebration Program have been denied. There is still one application outstanding with Niagara Investment in Culture (due to hear back in March).

b) **Legacy:**

- Bill Cowie announced that Steffanie Bjorgan has volunteered to lead the Legacy project
- Town Councillor Betty Disero is interested in joining the subcommittee in order to tie it into the UNESCO efforts underway.
- Lord Mayor asked that Regional Council Member Gary Burroughs be invited to the next subcommittee meeting.

c) **Communications:**

- Bill French had no report.
- Volunteers for booth duty at the Ice Wine Festival (Jan 28/29): Rick, Clare, Rene, Tony, Cheryl.

d) **June 30:**

- Bill Cowie will contact VBA

e) **July 1:**

- Bill Cowie mentioned that the Committee will help with the Rotary activities.
- Bill French said he would like to engage the NRP Pipe Band to lead the crowd to Fort George after the cake cutting. Cost is \$2500 and the Rotary will submit a financial request to the Committee.

f) **July 3:**

- Bill French has asked for contact information for organizations who could be invited to participate.
- Cheryl noted that the new production manager will manage the stage performers.

g) **225th Anniversary:**

- Cheryl Morris reported that the printed invitations have been approved and ordered and the list of invitees, through the efforts of Ryan Donnelly and Mona Babin, has been refined. This list will be discussed at the next 225th Anniversary subcommittee.

h) **Sponsorship:**

- Bill Cowie has drafted details of what could be offered to potential sponsors. He will review this with some members of the Committee by January 27.

i) **Dock/Tall Ships:**

- Tony Chisholm reported that the cost of renting the dock will be approx. \$35,000, well within our budget. This allows for Committee to provide shower & break facilities – Tony has rented a nearby cottage for this purpose - plus Canada 150 goodies to the 62 sailors who will be onsite.
- Dates are July 4 & 5. Ships arrive July 3, depart July 6. Another ship may be available on July 6/7 for private cruises (ticketed).
- Cheryl will put Roger in touch with Brett Ruck from the Town to check water depth.

j) **Confederation Celebration** - In Sarah Bowers' absence, Cheryl provided an update

- A production manager, Joe Lapinski, has been hired. Joe has managed the St Catharines "In the Soil" event for several years and has a vast network of performing artists and technical expertise.
- A writer/director, Barbara Worthy, has been hired to write and direct the 2 plays. Barbara is well-known in the Niagara region and has worked on many historical projects for e.g. the Niagara Historical Museum, the NOTL Library and the Town during the War of 1812 commemorations, along with many other events.
- Rick and a couple of Town employees went to Beamsville to look at a mobile stage. It suits the purpose and bare bones cost is \$40,000, well within budget. Modifications for use with tech/AV equipment, as well as decoration of stage, will be added after at additional cost. Tony Chisholm moved that a decision be approved by the Committee to proceed with purchasing the mobile stage. All approved.

k) **Snowbirds**

- Lord Mayor Pat Darte will manage this event, along with Councillor Terry Flynn (chair of the Airport Committee).
- Pat will seek sponsorships to cover costs of accommodation & rental vehicles for the crew. He will coordinate sponsorship efforts with Bill Cowie's overall plan. It was suggested that the Chamber of Commerce be consulted for guidance on this.
- David White, who has experience as an Air Boss for many airshows, will be hired to manage all the logistics.

l) **Logistics:** no report

NEW BUSINESS:

- Rick mentioned that the Committee has a speaking slot for the Special Heritage Council meeting on April 17, 7pm at the Niagara Historical Museum. He has invited Dr. Wes Turner to speak. Rick is searching for someone to portray Queen Victoria to deliver the proclamation. Betty Knight suggested David Murray
- Stan Harrington of the Cenotaph Committee presented a proposal for adding three or four marching bands to the rededication ceremonies planned for June. Cost would be approx. \$12,000. Stan was directed to submit a formal request for funds via the Committee website.

Meeting ended at 11:20 a.m.

Next meeting: 10:00 a.m. Tuesday February 7 in Penner Room, NOTL Community Centre.