

Grand River Heritage Mines Society

Minutes of meeting held at 10.00 am., Saturday November 12, 2005.

Present: Ilse Kraemer, Cathy MacArthur, Cheryl Kernahan, Lou Knechtel, Diane Baltaz, Sanko Kraemer, Mike O'Byrne

The meeting was opened by Diane. It was established that a quorum existed and that business could be transacted.

News Items

Torrance Mine: Sanko reported that he had initiated correspondence reporting the public safety concerns with the open mine tunnel. He has been lead to believe that the entrance way will be closed off by blasting and will let the members know when the event is taking place. He will follow up on this item to ensure that the site is made safe.

Cayuga Dump Site: Ilse reported that a permit has been approved for the dump site. Allegedly the dump operators requested approval to pile waste to a greater depth than was originally understood to be the case. This was not approved and the operators are allegedly excavating the area which might achieve the same end.

Apparently a skilled lawyer has offered his services on a pro bono basis in a possible legal action against the Ministry of the Environment.

Ilse is going to see if she can get access to some of the media coverage on this project.

Treasurer's Report: Lou reported that the society had a bank balance of \$2,700.74. She has the society's financial affairs on a computer program which theoretically will make things more coherent.

Included in the above figure is the grant of \$375 received from the Brant Heritage Assoc. on behalf of the County of Brant for 2004.

NOTE: A BHA grant for 2005 was not applied for as there was no paperwork or activities undertaken to justify same.

Membership Report: Lou reported that we have 11 paid up members for 2005.

Ilse reported that she had received a cheque in the amount of \$50 which was to cover a membership and donation from a couple in Komoka. Given the fact that our newsletter schedule had been a tad spotty, etc., Ilse did a telephone survey and it was decided to return the cheque with our thanks and to forward the people a complimentary copy of our book Herons and Cobblestones. The couple are apparently professional geologists and Ilse indicated that the society would keep in touch with them.

Projects

Watershed Illustrated Mine Atlas: There seems to be some interest in compiling an atlas of the local mine sites. Sanko has expressed an interest in sort of co-ordinating the project and providing the technical expertise.

It remains to be seen how this will unfold. Sanko has suggested starting with the mines in the Paris area with subsequent sections dealing with the mines further downriver. Members who are interested in helping by supplying pictures, doing research, etc. should keep in touch with Sanko. It is understood that Sanko is to be compensated for any materials used in this and other literary projects.

Maps: Lou suggested that the society might be in possession of maps that might be reproduced and sold assuming that any and all copyright details are addressed prior to that decision being made.

Hérons and Cobblestone Book: Lou came up with a delivery receipt indicating the number of books that may have been dropped off to Jamie Kent in Paris. Diane will pay him a visit and see if she can recover our money for the books that may have been sold and recover the books on hand there.

Lou has a bunch of unsold books at her place. People who believe they maybe able to sell some should contact Lou and pick them up.

Mine Car: Mike was approached by a member of the Paris Historical Society to see if the mining society was interested in having the mine car put on display near the museum on Curtis Ave., Paris. Mike indicated that the members would have to decide.

Based on this meeting Mike will write the president of the Paris Historical Society indicating that we would be pleased to have the car installed there. While we didn't discuss it, the author believes that it is worth considering donating the cart and perhaps \$1000 - \$1500 to assist in offsetting the cost of installing it.

Dec. 20/05 Mike would prefer that some other member of the organization approach the Paris Historical Society if that is what we want to do. I do not wish to become involved in this transaction.M.O'B.

Hikes: It was agreed that many of the members are extremely busy and have different interests and views as to the nature of what our hikes/outings should accomplish. Some members might be more interested in technical hikes, some more recreational, some to merely enjoy the companionship of our quirky membership. It was sort of determined that if someone was interested in organizing an hike he/she should pass on the word so that others equally interested could participate.

Memberships: It was decided to keep our membership fees low, but sufficiently high to recover our postage costs, etc. My recollection is that we decided on a fee of \$5.00.

Past Events: During the past year members have attended a number of related public events such as the annual Grand River Conservation Authority's annual Heritage Workshop. In addition, a display was put on at the Gem and Mineral show in Paris, and Mike did a presentation at the Brant Historical Society.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 am.

Respectfully,


Mike O'Byrne