



Corporation of the City of St. Catharines
WELLAND CANAL FALLEN WORKERS MEMORIAL TASK FORCE MEETING
Tuesday Mar 18, 2014
3pm to 4pm
St. Catharines City Hall, 50 Church Street: CR # 1 , Third Floor

MEETING NOTES

- Present:** Mayor Brian McMullan
Rick Dykstra, MP
Rob D'Amboise, Rick Dykstra's Office (conference call)
Dave Schulz, Regional & Municipal Affairs Liaison, Rick Dykstra's Office
Councillor Bruce Timms
Maggie Riopelle, EA Mayor McMullan
Kathleen Powell, Supervisor of Historical Services, City staff
Rebecca Cann, Cultural Supervisor, City staff
Arden Phair, retired city curator & historian
Patrick Little, Lawyer & heritage advocate
Chris Grawey, IBEW 303
Sheri Laekeman, President, UNIFOR 4212
Kevin Vallier, Fundraising Co-ordinator
- Guest:** Bob Sears, Canadian Canal Society
- Regrets:** Malcolm Allen, MP
Mayor Barry Sharpe, Welland
Mayor Ted Luciani, Thorold
Mayor Badawey, Port Colborne
Councillor Bruce Williamson
Karen Moncur, Rick Dykstra's Office
Lisa Bastien, Malcolm Allen
Jeff Burch, Executive Director, Folk Arts Council
John Armstrong, Welland Canal Foundation
Jim Given, Executive VP, Seafarer's International Union
Mark Cherney, Business Representative, IBEW Local 303
Gary Miele, President Unifor 4211

Welcome ~ Mayor McMullan

Review of Feb 18 meeting notes

- All in favour
- Carried

1. Fundraising Committee update ~ Dave Schulz and Rob D'Amboise

- Arden reports that the Grantham Optimist have committed to a \$500 donation
- Discussion on templates that need to be drafted to solicit funds and to thank those who have made donations (*see Communications update*)

2. Design Committee update ~ Rebecca Cann

- See handout, *Updates*
- Revised timeline presented with July 23rd designated to announce draft designs
- As summer is not the most opportune time to make garner public attention, other pertinent dates were discussed which would maximize public exposure

3. Site Selection Committee update ~ Rebecca Cann

- Seaway has confirmed support for Lock 3 Container Site
- Staff Report headed to Council, Apr 14 seeking council approval for site and negotiations
- DCH has responded that they can't waive the provision for the 10 year site guarantee required for Heritage funding
- We are required to submit a confirmation of a commitment to retain care and control of the memorial at the designated site for a minimum of ten years
- Also require "project readiness", i.e. secured funding from DCH, etc, before the City signs a lease with the Seaway

Action: Rebecca Cann

- *Rebecca to consult with Bruce Hodgson at the Seaway for the appropriate language to use to draft a request to the Ministry of Transportation for a letter which would guarantee the City care and control of the memorial for 10 years at the Lock 3 site*
- *Rebecca to co-ordinate through Rick Dykstra's office*
- *That letter will be submitted and included with our application to DCH*

4. Communications Committee update ~ Maggie Riopelle**i) Committee correspondence**

- Fundraising Com has drafted a letter for use in soliciting donations as well as a package describing sponsorship levels
- Arden needs a letter drafted for the Grantham Optimist by Sat Mar 22

Action: Maggie Riopelle

- *Maggie will consult with Dave Schulz and work with what has been drafted to revise two standardized letters:*
 - 1. Soliciting donations and*
 - 2. Thanking those who have made donations*

ii) Webpage updates continue as new information is relayed**5. Research and Interpretation Committee update~ Kathleen Powell**

- 131 victims are documented
- Mr. Mike Johnson is recognized for his hours of research on the victims and his contributions to the work of the Task Force

Other business:**6. Introduction of Kevin Vallier~ Rick Dykstra**

- Rick welcomes Kevin who brings a strong PR and fundraising background to the Task Force
- Kevin has volunteered to be the Fundraising Co-ordinator
- Rick extends the committee's appreciation

7. Thorold and Beaverdams Historical Society meeting ~ Bob Sears

- Arden spoke to members and some of the descendants of Fallen Workers at last meeting
- Hardcopy of Canals Canada newsletter with feature article on Fallen Workers distributed

8. Lock 3 Site location ~ Rick Dykstra

- Rick invites comments from Committee members who indicated the Seaway Parkway Lawns as their chosen site for Memorial
- Sheri Laekeman, Bruce Timms and Arden Phair express their regrets that the Parkway Lawn site wasn't chosen and their ongoing commitment to the work of the Task Force and the Task Force's decision to establish the Memorial at the Lock 3 Site

Adjourned: 3:45pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 15
3pm to 4:30pm
Ante Room, third floor
St. Catharines City Hall