



*Preserving, promoting, and developing  
Wellington North's unique cultural  
resources to build a vibrant community  
and a prosperous economy.*

**WELLINGTON NORTH CULTURAL ROUNDTABLE COMMITTEE MINUTES  
THURSDAY MARCH 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @ 12:00 PM;  
UPPER HALL, ARTHUR & AREA COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Members Present:**

Chair Jim Taylor  
Gail Donald  
Bonny McDougall  
Robert MacDonald

**Members Present via Zoom:**

Penny Renken  
Lisa Hern, Councillor  
Linda Hruska

**Staff Present:**

Dale Small, Economic Development Officer  
Mandy Jones, Community Recreation Coordinator  
Tasha Grafos, Administrative Support

**Members Absent:**

Gary Pundsack

**CALLING TO ORDER –**

At 12:07pm Chair Jim suggested that EDO Dale chair the meeting as Chair did not have a laptop with him EDO agreed to chair the meeting.

EDO Dale called the Meeting to order 12:08pm

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA – Chair Taylor**

RESOLUTION: CRT2021-001

Moved: Member Gail

Seconded: Member Linda

*THAT the agenda for the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting be accepted and passed.*

CARRIED

**DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – October 22, 2020**

*Approved by Council on November 9, 2020.*

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**1. Cultural Plan**

MDB Insight is prepared to do a refresh of our Cultural Plan on the Committee's behalf. The last plan was done in 2013. We do have a small budget for this refresh and MDB can work within this budget of \$5,000. MDB would have the new plan ready for June 2021. There will be committee and township cooperation in completing this plan. The committee agreed that it was a good time to update the plan and would like the content of the plan to be more unique to Wellington North, not a generic Cultural Plan. Project would start early April with a first week of June completion. As our next roundtable meeting is May 20<sup>th</sup>, we would ask MDB Insight to review a draft of the final report at that time and the Committee will present this plan to council this summer.

RESOLUTION: CRT2021-002

Moved: Chair Jim

Seconded: Member Gail

*THAT the Cultural Roundtable accept the MDB Insight proposal dated March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to update the Wellington North Cultural Plan as presented.*

CARRIED

## **2. Wellington North Farmers Market**

Council approved the opening of the Wellington North Farmer's Market on Saturdays from June 19 – September 25, 2021. Pastor Harry has agreed again to be the Market Manager, he was unable to attend this meeting. All twelve of last year's vendors will be returning and we currently have three new applicants.

There is a new farmer's market, Kenilworth Farmer's Market, that is in the development stage. This market is not affiliated with the Township. This is a private venture from the new owner of the building that used to be the Kenilworth Country Kitchen, Peter Irvine. EDO Dale introduced Peter to Nicole McReynolds of Backyard Bounties, is assisting Peter with trying to find vendors and Peter's goal is to have a market that is open year-round indoors and utilizing his outdoor space in the summer months as well.

## **3. Wellington North Culture Days 2021**

EDO Dale would like the Committee to give some thought into planning events for Culture Days that will happen from September 24 – October 24, 2021. The thought is to have an appreciation BBQ for local volunteers, maybe twice over the course of month that Culture Days are happening. Last year in most communities, this event had to be moved online and that could happen again this year. We will need ideas for virtual and in-person, depending on what regulations allow. Bonny mentioned Metz is planning to once again host its Pumpkinfest.

## **4. Mayor's Volunteer Celebration Breakfasts**

We would like to begin to begin planning Mayors Volunteer Breakfasts as a way to thank and celebrate our Wellington North volunteers. This could be done virtually, with small groups of 8 – 10 people. Breakfast could be delivered to each attendee's home, then they would meet virtually with the mayor to enjoy their breakfast until such time as we can do them in-person.

## **5. Community Story Telling**

This was an initiative first introduced in the original Culture Plan. The Committee should look at the potential of partnering with The River for an opportunity to share stories about our community and interviewing our Wellington North volunteers. These would have to be archivable recordings for the Committee.

## **6. MCP Grants & Donations**

In previous years, the Committee has given out \$2000 in grants for community applicants such as Metz Pumpkin Fest, Agricultural Societies, Fireworks Festival, etc. for their events. With COVID-19 regulations, events in 2020 did not happen. We did not receive any applications for 2020 and to-date, we have not received any applications for 2021. The Committee should think about options for this grant money.

The Committee would like to consider reserving some funds for applications that could come forth later in the year, to assist these organizations in getting back operational. There should also be consideration given to funding elements of the Cultural Plan when that is ready. Finally, the committee would like to consider the allocation of some funds for the Historical Building and Places Project.

## **7. Cultural Moment**

Committee would like to continue to offer Cultural Moments to council. Member Gail has offered to write at least three Cultural Moments for the year and enjoys doing these projects and Member Penny has written a piece about Monck that will be added to the agenda for the April 12<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

Moving forward we will not setup a schedule or pre-determine topics. Committee members are encouraged to write about what interests them and when completed send to EDO Dale who will include them on the next council's agenda.

Councilor Lisa expressed her gratitude for these moments at Council Meetings and likes having these as a part of the council agenda.

## 8. Summer Student

This year, we are hoping that we can have Summer Students return to the Township. EDO Dale has requested a summer student for 2021. This student would act as a support for the Wellington North Farmer's Market, Cultural Roundtable, Culture Days, Student Startup Program, and Economic Development. Ideally working from Tuesdays to Saturday, Saturdays would be in the Market.

## ROUNDTABLE

### 1. Member Penny

Penny wondered if the Hospital Auxiliary's project would be eligible to apply for a Cultural Roundtable Grant. The project is a book that about local stories, with recipes, and local history. It was agreed by the committee that this would fit into the Committee's requirements to receive a grant. The Auxiliary group should apply in 2020.

### 2. Member Linda

Linda appreciates the new signs in Mount Forest and likes the new design.

### 3. Chair Jim

Jim would like to see MDB Insight at the next Cultural Roundtable meeting (May 20<sup>th</sup>) to present and discuss the Cultural Plan. This may assist in helping to plan the Culture Days events and offer the committee an opportunity to provide feedback.

EDO Dale added that members of the Committee will be asked to meet virtually with MDP in early April to discuss the wants from the Committee in the Cultural Plan.

### 4. Member Bonny

Bonny will be retiring from Arthur Home Hardware within a week's time. She is looking forward to offering the services she did to Wellington North in terms of cataloguing the cemetery. She has volunteered to take on a number of cemeteries to the south of us.

Bonny added that Metz Pumpkin Fest is being planned for 2021 and they remain hopeful for a successful event. on with the Cemetery project that she started with Wellington North.

The Committee offers Congratulations to Bonny on her upcoming Retirement.

### 5. Member Robert

The Arthur Agricultural Society is planning a BBQ Drive Thru dinner, date is undecided. The Drayton Fair is hosting a drive thru Ham Dinner coming up.

### 6. Member Gail

The trails have been well used during the pandemic. There have been reports from Trail volunteer Jack Benham of beaver activity and they are working to resolve this issue. There have been more trees ordered and they will be planted along the trails this spring.

Gail also added that the Arthur Chamber of Commerce is looking to make young people, who may be missing their peers and family, enjoy the Easter Weekend. They are holding an Easter Egg hunt, where participants will find easter egg posters around the community, snap a photo and then post to social media.

### 7. CRC Mandy

Mandy is continuing to work with the Committee and Dale on volunteer initiatives. She reports that the trails have seen a large increase in usage and with that came Council's approval to a capital budget to work on improving our trails.

Way finding signage will soon be seen in downtown Arthur and Mount Forest. This signage will provide direction to recreation amenities in the community.

**8. EDO Dale**

The Recreation team has lots of great things on the go, including replacing the floor in the Arena, to provide for a new ice surface and a new park installation with Opti-Mrs. Arthur will also have a new outdoor gym this summer.

The Township was approved for a grant from New Horizons to hire a senior to train other seniors on technology. We are currently recruiting for a 55+ years of age person that can help other seniors learn to use their devices to bank, communicate and general knowledge of computers.

EDO Dale is looking for committee members to take the co-lead on a variety of projects with him. If committee members could self-identify which project(s), they would be interested in supporting would be appreciated:

Municipal Cultural Plan	
WN Farmers Market	Harry Engel & Summer Student
WN Culture Days 2021	
Mayors Volunteer Breakfasts	
Community Storytelling	
Historical Buildings & Places	
Simply explore website review	
Student Startup Program	

**9. Councilor Lisa**

Councilor Lisa shared how important things like the Cultural Roundtable and Recreation are to the community right now. Her son is a Mental Health intake nurse in Kitchener and while their ICU unit has many vacancies, their Mental Health unit is full. Mental Health is a very real crisis right now. Anything that we can do to offer solace to the community, is worth it. We need to work to keep our community members active and well.

EDO Dale thanked all for participating with the next meeting scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup> @ noon.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Resolution: CRT2021-003

Moved: Chair Jim

Seconded: Member Robert

*THAT the Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting be adjourned at 1:30pm*

CARRIED