

Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society

Minutes of Council – 20 November 2013

Present		
Rosemary Barbour	Bill Laurence	Iris Shea
Sara Beanlands	Bertrum MacDonald	Anjali Vohra
Jim Ferguson	John Macleod	
John Grant	Jim Morrison	Regrets
Marilyn Gurney	George Parker	Blake Brown
Ross Langley	Henry Roper	

1. **Agenda:** The agenda was approved.
2. **Minutes.** These were approved with the correction of spellings for Gurney (1 e) and Haliburton (1l).
3. **Business arising from the minutes:**
 - a. **Future planning session.** This is being included on all agendas to ensure that we visit and revisit the suggestions from the membership and the various issues arising out of the input session. A topic for discussion at this meeting was income planning or the balancing of expense (activity) and revenue. The recent **Journal** was excellent. Next year increased postage costs may trip the balance between membership covering **Journal** costs and it not doing so. Discussion on the potential separation or determination of membership and **journal** costs ensued. On the accepted motion of Henry Roper and Bill Laurence the process to initiate a potential fee increase from \$25 to \$30 was started. During the course of the discussion it was noted that RNSHS royalty revenue for online access was lower than the \$7000 paid to a potentially comparable organization. [Rosemary, Marilyn, Jim (Treasurer) and John agreed to meet to review costs and fees associated with membership]
 - b. **Expert Panel on the future of libraries and archives.** Our brief had been well reviewed by the panel and would be distributed to the membership and posted on our website. How to carry the issue forward as one that would be on the mind of the public was discussed. Letter writing and getting a op-ed or featured letter in the Herald was discussed. Although the panel was here in November it's activities continue into the new year and time is not a limiting factor.
 - c. **Website:** Marilyn has identified even more potential links and NS heritage related organizations to add to the long list that Sara distributed. We will pursue getting access to the Facebook account that had been set up last year. We must be attentive to providing content for the site.
4. **President's Report:** The President's reception may become the highlight of the bleak mid winter.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Hugh Creighton will look at what we need to file with the Canadian Revenue Agency. The Credit Union account still is elusive in terms of signing officers and paper work. We have \$6383.54 in the operating account less \$656 in cheques issues tonight.

6. Vice Presidents:

- a. Publicity (Sara Beanlands):** Much was covered already in the website report. We need to address our website e-mail addresses. Sara also discussed some enquiry correspondences of a general historical nature that were received.
- b. Publications (George Parker):** The Journal cost was \$6122 plus postage. He and the editorial team would look at size as an issue.
- c. Program (James Morrison):** The program for the 2014 session was reviewed.

7. No correspondence:

- 8. Digitization Proposal – SMU:** This document was included in the distributed materials. Essentially St Mary's would like to digitize and include on a website the **Collections** of the Society. On the motion of Henry Roper and John Grant the idea was endorsed. Some discussion arose as to what was already "out there" in the digital world and what was the state of our back issues in order to supply some copies to render digital.

The meeting adjourned. Next meeting in January 2014.