



**County
of Huron**

Cultural Services and Seniors Committee



Minutes - April 12, 2007

GODERICH, ONTARIO

Goderich, Ontario
April 12, 2007

The CULTURAL SERVICES AND SENIORS COMMITTEE met in the Auditorium of the Health and Library Complex, Clinton at 9:00 a.m. with all members present except Councillor M. Demaray and Library Board Member P. Chisholm.

SENIORS AND MUSEUM

1. Minutes

Moved by T. Collyer

Seconded by G. Robertson

That the minutes of the Seniors and Museum portion of the Cultural Services and Seniors Committee meeting of March 15, 2007 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Report from the Homes for the Aged

Barb Springall, Homes Administrator, presented the attached report, "Administrative Update" (Appendix A) for the information of committee and Council.

There was some discussion on the news release regarding the Provincial government and the lack of funding for Long-Term Care specifically the inadequate funding provided to feed residents and hire new nurses. Councillor G. Robertson requested that a letter be sent to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The Director of the Homes will bring back a draft letter for approval with the May reports.

Moved by N. Vincent

Seconded by T. Collyer

That the report be received.

CARRIED

3. Accounts for Homes for the Aged

Accounts for March 2007 in the amount of \$208,352.41 were reviewed.

Moved by T. Collyer

Seconded by G. Robertson

That the accounts be received.

CARRIED

4. Report of the Museum Curator

Pat Hamilton, Curator, presented the attached report (Appendix B) which includes statistics for the February reporting period for the information of committee and Council.

Moved by T. Collyer

Seconded by N. Vincent

That the report be received.

CARRIED

5. Federal and Provincial Budget announcements

A new museum policy did not appear in the federal budget, as hoped by the museum community. (In September 2006, the Museum Assistance program was reduced by 25%. Following the outcry from the museum community, a new policy was promised.) The Youth Employment Strategy has been renewed. There is also funding for local arts and heritage festivals and summer museum internships.

On the other hand, the provincial budget had good news for Ontario's museums, with an increase of \$2.3M in annual funding to the Community Museum Operating Grant. This is the first increase in 20 years.

FOR INFORMATION

6. Flea Market Rates for 2007

Beth Ross, Director of Cultural Services, presented the following rates proposed for 2007. This proposal is for a \$5 per day increase for the weekly rate but maintains the seasonal rate at the same cost as it has been since 2005. This encourages seasonal bookings, which are easier to administer.

It is recommended that the Flea Market rental rates be established as follows for 2007:

Price Schedule – 2007

	Small (approx. 100 s.f.)	Medium (approx. 150 s.f.)	Large (approx. 200 s.f.)
Weekly	\$ 20	\$ 25	\$ 30
Long Weekends (per day)**	\$ 25	\$ 30	\$ 35
Seasonal	\$ 130	\$ 195	\$ 260

** Long weekend rates apply to the following dates in 2007: May 20, July 1, August 5, and September 2.

Moved by N. Vincent
Seconded by Warden D. Shewfelt
That the recommendation be approved.

CARRIED

7. Accounts for the Huron County Museum and Historic Gaol

Accounts for March 2007 in the amount of \$4,780.45 were reviewed.

Moved by T. Collyer
Seconded by G. Robertson
That the accounts be received.

CARRIED

LIBRARY BOARD

8. Minutes

Moved by E. Nichols

Seconded by M. Menzies

That the minutes of the Library Board portion of the Cultural Services and Seniors Committee meeting of March 15, 2007 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

9. Library

a) Reports for Information/Updating Purposes

Beth Ross, County Librarian, and Sharon Cox, Deputy County Librarian, presented the attached report (Appendix C), which includes statistics for the relevant month.

There was discussion on the progress of accessibility with the branch libraries. Board Members are interested in having a guided tour of all the branches. Arrangements are to be made for a tour following the September Board meeting.

b) Book Expenditure Report

Sharon Cox, Deputy County Librarian presented the Book Expenditure and Outstanding Book Order Report for the period ending March 31, 2007 which showed total purchases to date of \$140,188 with outstanding orders totalling \$104,708; leaving the approximate amount in the uncommitted book budget of \$259,930.

Moved by N. Fairles

Seconded by B. Austin

That the foregoing reports be received.

CARRIED

10. Federal and Provincial Budget announcements

The federal budget had little news for public libraries. There is no mention of the Community Access Program (CAP), which provided funding to public libraries to provide internet access since 1995. The Youth Employment Strategy has been renewed.

Of particular disappointment, the provincial budget did not mention public libraries.

However, a quick turnaround offer of funding for the ServiceOntario Initiative in public libraries in March 2007 has resulted in a grant of \$28,800 to provide public access to government information for the period April 2007 to March 2008. This will ensure that the public access to the internet can continue at our libraries.

A surprise announcement on March 28, in the form of a letter from the Minister of Culture, announced a one-time grant of \$126,000 "to enhance the quality of life for the people of Ontario." It appears that this is a similar grant to the lifelong learning and family literacy funding of \$147,000 that was received in the spring of 2006. Many libraries serving rural and remote areas of Ontario have received the same announcement.

FOR INFORMATION

11. Accounts for Library

Accounts for March 2007 totalling \$63,598.41 were reviewed.

**Moved by C. Heath
Seconded by N. Vincent
That the accounts be received.**

CARRIED

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Social and Cultural Services Committee will be held on Thursday, May 10, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. in the Auditorium at the Health and Library Complex, Clinton. The Library Board portion will be held at 10:30 a.m.

13. Adjournment

**Moved by N. Vincent
Seconded by N. Fairles
That the meeting adjourn at 11:45 a.m.**

CARRIED

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Chair