



Media Release: Friday, June 4, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

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Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation

Annual General Meeting

Agenda

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

5:30 p.m.

This meeting will be held electronically

1. **Approval of Minutes - [June 9, 2020](#)****Page 2**

2. **Adoption of the [Annual Report](#)****Page 5**

3. **Adoption of the 2020 Financial Statements (To be distributed separately)**

4. **Election of Directors**

5. **Next Regular Meeting – June 22, 2021**

6. **Adjourn**



Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation

AGM Minutes

Tuesday, June 9, 2020

6:04 p.m.

This meeting was held electronically

150 Frederick Street, Kitchener, ON

Present were: Chair J. Glass, E. Clarke, J. Clinckett, D. Emberly, M. Lee, J. Lewis and H. Rennie

Members absent: L. Haggerty, V. Mance, B. Oberholtzer, K. Osborn and K. Redman

Opening Remarks

Chair J. Glass welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting noting the goals and highlights of the Foundation over the last year and reminded everyone that the awards have been postponed until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by D. Emberly

Seconded by J. Lewis

That the minutes of the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation Annual General Meeting held on June 11, 2019, be approved.

Carried

Adoption of the Annual Report

D. Emberly noted corrections to the annual report which included the founding year of the Foundation being 1974, not 1973 as well as the granting amount being over 2.6 million instead of the 1.5 million which was noted in the Chair's report. He also noted that the Heritage Advisory and Communications Committee make recommendations regarding awards opposed to granting them.

Moved by J. Clinckett

Seconded by M. Lee

That the Annual Report of the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation for the year ending December 31, 2019, be adopted, as amended.

Carried

Adoption of the Financial Statements and Auditor's Statement

Moved by M. Lee

Seconded by J. Lewis

That the Auditor's Statements of the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation for the year ending December 31, 2019, be adopted as presented.

Carried

Election of Directors

Chair J. Glass conducted the election of the Directors of the Foundation. He noted that there are 3 vacancies on the Foundation Board for 3 year terms and that two applications were received from John Clinckett and Barry Martin.

Chair J. Glass called three times for additional nominations from the floor, and with no additional nominations, asked for a motion to close nominations.

Moved by D. Emberly

Seconded by J. Lewis

That the nominations be closed.

Carried

Chair J. Glass declared John Clinckett and Barry Martin as elected to the Foundation's Board of Directors for three year terms.

Next Regular Meeting – June 23, 2020

Adjourn

Moved by D. Emberly

Seconded by J. Lewis

That the meeting adjourn at 6:17 p.m.

Carried

Foundation Chair, J. Glass

Foundation Secretary, J. Rudy



Annual Report
of the
Waterloo Regional Heritage
Foundation

2020

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June 2021

The second year of a pandemic has only hardened our desire for clarity, certainty and simplicity. Instead, 2021 has delivered greater complexity.

Due to public health restrictions, we have learned to interact with our museums, places of worship, and heritage landmarks in different ways. We have had to rethink our sense and use of space, and to a certain extent, how we think about time. We have found new appreciation for the experiences of past generations, whether through analogies to past pandemics, or as a result of foresighted investments they made in public services and infrastructure. We have also been reminded of past injustices and the wrongs we must right as a community. This complexity and study of the past can lead us to a better future.

Grappling with this complexity can only be done through community engagement, expertise, and a variety of perspectives. I want to extend a sincere thank you to the volunteers of the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation and community members who have provided hours leadership to preserve our heritage for future generations.

Sincerely,

Karen Redman
Regional Chair

Message from the Chair

The counties of Waterloo, Wellesley, Wilmot, Woolwich and North Dumfries amalgamated to form the new Regional Municipality of Waterloo in 1973. The Region's first Chair, Jack Young, a proponent of local heritage, facilitated the creation of the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation (WRHF). WRHF was incorporated as a non-profit organization on February 13, 1974, with a mandate to preserve and promote the unique heritage of Waterloo Region. WRHF provides financial and moral supports to individuals and organizations executing heritage projects.

Now in its 48th year, WRHF receives its funding through an annual grant from the Region of Waterloo. Holding the distinction of being the first heritage organization in Canada to be established and funded by a regional government, WRHF continues to help direct these public funds towards heritage projects in Waterloo Region.

One year ago, in June 2020, we were three months into the COVID-19 pandemic. When the board broke for summer recess, it looked like we would be heading back to "normal operations" in September 2020. That did not happen. The 12 board members - 10 elected members at large from the region, a regional councillor and the Regional Chair – continued to meet virtually via Zoom meetings through the entire season from September 2020 until June 2021.

WRHF business was conducted through virtual meetings, but the loss of personal contact limited face-to-face networking between board members, grant applicants and potential award nominees. Pandemic restrictions made the tasks a bit more difficult and a bit less enjoyable. We could not go on site to assess projects. Heritage work by individuals and volunteer groups decreased, resulting in WRHF receiving fewer award nominations.

The board meets nine times a year to discuss grant applications and to identify individuals, organizations and companies that deserve to be recognized for their work preserving and growing our region's heritage. During the pandemic, we've been unable to celebrate our successes with award winners, grant recipients and the general public as our June 2020 and June 2021 AGMs were relegated to business-only processes over Zoom. We are hopeful that June 2022 will offer us the opportunity to celebrate together once again.

WRHF provides advice, guidance and encouragement to those seeking grants. To date, almost \$2.9 million has been distributed to fund heritage projects in Waterloo Region. We hope to continue funding projects and recognizing heritage leaders for years to come.

John Glass, Chair

Membership 2020-2021

Members	Municipality
John Glass, Chair	Wilmot
Julie Lewis, Vice Chair	Waterloo
Elizabeth Clarke, Regional Councillor	Kitchener
John Clinckett	Cambridge
Phillippe Elsworthy	Waterloo
David Emberly	Cambridge
Lyndsay Haggerty	Kitchener
Vanessa Hicks	Kitchener
Michelle Lee	Waterloo
Victoria Mance	Kitchener
Barry Martin	Waterloo
Karen Redman, Regional Chair	Kitchener

Secretary – Jessica Rudy

Treasurer – Craig Dyer, Regional Treasurer

Allocations and Finance Committee

The Allocations and Finance (A&F) sub-committee is responsible for reviewing all grant applications and making grant approval and rejection recommendations to the Foundation's Board of Directors. Grant applications are considered for building projects, publication and events that support heritage in Waterloo Region. The board discusses recommendations by A&F before making motions and voting on those motions.

As with all WRHF board operations this year, the A&F sub-committee was forced to meet virtually using the Zoom platform. While this introduced some challenges, the sub-committee members were able to review all applications to ensure that they met all the grant application prerequisites including items such as overviews, budgets, quotes, information supporting their heritage relevance and letters of support from the heritage community.

The sub-committee works closely with applicants to ensure that their applications are complete. They also offer advice and guidance on the projects which sometimes need fine tuning to make certain that proper heritage aspects are correct. In the case of publications, the sub-committee members review the quality of the publication, but the author is responsible for ensuring the integrity of their research.

While WRHF board does not mandate the use of specific contractors, materials providers or other service professionals, sometimes they help applicants assess options. During the past year, the pandemic altered the way that A&F members interacted with applicants. Usually, in the event of property grants, an A&F member will meet with the applicants on site to review the project. Applicants for all grant types have the option of addressing the board face-to-face to present their applications, ask questions and to answer questions from all board members. This year, such meetings were held virtually.

One thing that A&F members share is a passion for our local heritage. They act as stewards ensuring that public money is being directed toward the projects that meet all the Foundation's requirements for heritage project funding. There is no typical project or grant amount. During the past year, grant awards have ranged between \$1,000 and \$100,000.

Based on A&F's recommendations, between September 2020 and June 2021, the WRHF board awarded approximately \$291,628 toward 11 projects. This was a very productive year for the sub-committee! A&F shoulders a great deal of responsibility for dispersing public money to deserving applicants. The sub-committee members do not take this

responsibility lightly. Along with fiscal responsibilities, there is a feeling amongst the members that they are helping to preserve our heritage for future generations of Waterloo Region residents, visitors and those who will study and appreciate these unique aspects.

Heritage Advisory and Communications Committee

The Heritage Advisory & Communications Committee looks after both the granting of awards to all the deserving recipients of our multiple awards, as well as the planning of the Annual General Meeting held each year, where the awards are delivered to our recipients in front of friends, family, colleagues, and members of the general public.

Unfortunately, as the global COVID-19 pandemic has continued, uncertainty and grief the pandemic has caused has also continued. In order to ensure the continued safety of all our friends and families within the community, and because we truly believe that our award recipients should be presented their awards in a public way to bring to light all their accomplishments and generous giving of time, and care to the heritage of the Region, we have made the decision to postpone the presentations of the awards for a second year to a later date, once it is safe to do so. We have also made the decision to extend our deadline for award nominations until June 15, 2021, to give ample time for people to nominate their deserving friends and colleagues.

I would like to take the time now to highlight the awards that are presented each year by the Heritage Advisory & Communications Committee.

Awards of Excellence

The Awards of Excellence are intended to recognize outstanding contributions by individuals, institutions and organizations to heritage preservation in Waterloo Region, in such areas as archaeological, archival, cultural, education, genealogical, historical, individual, literary, media, natural, other. The program began in 1983.

Sally Thorsen Award of Excellence

This award of excellence was created in 1998 in honor of the former commissioner of the Planning and Culture Department for the Region of Waterloo. This award maybe presented to only one person in a year who has demonstrated, in the course of at least ten years of their professional lives, an outstanding level of commitment to heritage concerns.

Dr. Jean Steckle Award of Heritage Education

This award for excellence in heritage education is presented to an individual who has demonstrated leadership in heritage education through teaching, writing or by example, and who has encouraged and mentored others in the understanding and appreciation of the natural or cultural heritage of Waterloo Region.

Region of Waterloo History Prize

Founded in 2013, the Region of Waterloo History Prize is awarded to a piece of work published within the previous 5 years which has helped to educate and promote the heritage of the Waterloo Region through the published work. The Region of Waterloo History prize may be considered for a piece of work presented in any format, including, but not limited to a book, movie, article, play etc.

Julie Lewis

Chair, Heritage Advisory and Communications Committee