Cultural Roundtable Committee Minutes  
Monday, January 20, 2020 6:00 p.m.  
LaunchIt Minto

Attendance: Peggy Raftis, Megan Raftis, Caitlin Hall, Raissa Rogers, Rosie Krul, Wayne Martin and Jennifer Frayne

Staff Present: Taylor Keunen, Marketing & Community Development Coordinator


1. Call to Order by Chair Peggy Raftis at 6:06 pm
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting
   a. Minutes of November 25, 2019 Cultural Roundtable

MOTION
Moved By: Megan Raftis; Seconded By: Raissa Rogers
THAT The Cultural Roundtable approve the minutes of the November 25, 2019 meeting.

   Carried

   b. Treasures of Minto Website Review

Keunen shared that a student will be hired this summer to focus on a website refresh and that it will be integrated into the Town of Minto website. She shared that closer to when the student is hired, they can start reviewing the website and making notes for the student to look into when he or she starts.

   c. Minto Pride Professional Development - set date for training

Krul shared that the Minto Council delegation is taking place tomorrow, January 21. She requested thirty minutes at the February 24 Cultural Roundtable meeting.

3. Committee Minutes for Approval
4. Roundtable Discussion
   a. Establishment of Project Sub-Committees
Chair Peggy Raftis informed the Committee that the purpose of the sub-committees is to allow for members to be able to focus more energy on specific events and not be stretched too thin.

- Pride in the Park – Rosie Krul, Caitlin Hall and Raissa Rogers
- Story Telling – Wayne Martin
- Culture Days – Jennifer Frayne, Peggy Raftis, Megan Raftis and Gordon Duff
- Local History Events – Clarify at next meeting

b. 2020 Action Planning & Budget

Chair Raftis suggested waiting for the next meeting to discuss the budget when more members will be present at the next meeting.

c. 2020 Meeting Schedule

The Committee approved the 2020 meetings dates and time:

All meetings at 6:00 pm

February 24, March 23, April 27, May 25, June 22, September 28, October 26 and November 23.

d. Recreation, Culture and Facilities Master Plan

Chair Peggy Raftis shared that the Recreation Master Plan Task Force Committee would like the Cultural Roundtable Committee to come up with questions for a survey surrounding the following topics: cultural organizations, cultural programs, and cultural facilities.

Keunen showed the Committee the most event survey posted to the Engage Minto website and explained the process for the Recreation and Culture Master Plan. She noted that February’s theme is Volunteer Sport and Cultural Organizations, and the March theme is Cultural Program and Facilities.

The Committee brainstormed the following questions to be included in the Recreation Master Plan survey to be launched in February and March on the Engage Minto website:

- Potential expansion to the back of the Norgan for more programming with vacant land
- Ways to cross-promote cultural opportunities/organizations’ events, etc., to create awareness
- What would motivate you to become involved as a volunteer
- What stops you from becoming a volunteer? Time? Location?
- How much time would you like to commit to volunteering per week/month
- Age-based questions Ex. Is there a targeted age group that you would like to volunteer with?
- Would you be more likely to volunteer if a friend is volunteering with you
- What kind of committee not are you willing to make to volunteer? What is ideal to you?
- Are you aware of volunteer opportunities? How do you find out about volunteer opportunities?
- What makes a volunteer opportunity attractive?
- Would you like to be on a mailing list for volunteer opportunities?
- Are you aware of the volunteer portal?
- Are there factors or incentives that would encourage you to become more involved in local opportunities or events?
- Are you aware of the annual volunteer appreciation event?
- Where do you hear about the majority of the events in Minto?
- What events are you aware of that take place in Minto? What do you feel is lacking?
- What are barriers to attending community events?
- What could eliminate these barriers?
- What cultural events are you leaving Minto to attend? What is the draw?
- What kind of cultural events would you like to see in Minto?
- Are you aware of the following cultural venues: art gallery, theatre(s), museum
- What kind of live music would you like to see in Minto?
  - Genre options
- What kind of venue would you like to attend a live music event at?
  - café, theatre, community centre, outdoor pavilion, other?
- Have you heard of the basement café? Is alcohol something that would encourage you to attend a love music event?
- What time of the year would you like to attend a live music event/concert?
- Link in survey to Ec Dev Year in Review list of events
- What communities do you frequent for cultural events outside of Minto?
  - Fergus, Elora, Guelph, KW, Listowel, Mount Forest, Hanover, etc. Other?
- Are you aware of Culture Days? That is is free? What kind of cultural events would you like to attend?
- How likely are you to travel to a different town in Minto than you live in?
- Is there a cultural facility that Minto does not have that you would like to see?
- Do you like when certain events rotate through towns in Minto (Clifford, Harriston Palmerston) or are you willing to travel within Minto to attend an event? Example: Fire & Ice in Palmerston. Would you be more apt to attend if it rotated each year?
- Is transportation a barrier to attend events? Have you heard of Ridewell? Do you utilize Ridewell? Why or why not? Pros and cons

SPARC Update

The Committee reviewed the SPARC letter and the Call for Pilot ‘SPARC Communities. Chair Peggy Raftis reported that Duff wrote a letter to SPARC as an expression of interest to share
that while they like the idea of SPAC regional groups, the Cultural Roundtable is already accomplishing that. Duff noted that he is willing to be a SPARC representative and work on the Trillium grants as well as assist with financial management. He would like the Committee to endorse participation in the SPARC Communities project in conjunction with local organizations, subject to the approval of Council. Chair Pegg Raftis noted that another symposium held in Minto could be possible as it is a central destination and there are willing partners. Chair Peggy Raftis also shared that it is not to repeat the work of the Cultural Roundtable but to cross-promote and connect with other communities and organizations.

**MOTION**

*Moved By: Wayne Martin; Seconded By: Raissa Rogers*

**THAT** The Cultural Roundtable support the SPARC initiative to carry forward to be a SPARC Community Hub.  

5. **Reports**

Raissa Rogers announced that her Burlesque Show was successful with approximately 70 people on New Year’s Eve and that the theatre will be closed in February for some renovations such as an air conditioner, painting touch ups and ceiling repair. Rogers also noted that she will be applying for a liquor license.

Rosie Krul shared that Minto Pride is looking at hosting a family event in the Spring and will confirm details and their next meeting. She also shared that PA Day programs are being planned as well as other programs for various ages.

Megan Raftis shared that MYAC will be collecting graduation/prom attire for a Prom Dress Swap in April and they will be planning a sign night in the coming months.

Wayne Martin shared that Railway Museum Committee will start meeting again in the Spring. He shared that a storytelling event will be a 70s/80s theme for the museum this year.

Caitlin Hall shared that a Winter Solstice event at reboot farm in December was a success. She bounced that the Harriston-Minto Agriculture Society AGM was rescheduled to Wednesday January 22 at the Harriston United Church. Hall also noted that the Minto Farmers’ Market’s first Trivia Night fundraiser is taking place at the Palmerston Legion on Friday January 24.

Keunen shared that the department is busy preparing the community guide and event planning for 2020. She also noted that a job opportunity is available for a Museum Student.

Chair Peggy Raftis shared that they are rehearsing for the next Play ‘Five Alarm’ which starts on April 17, 18, 19, 23 and 25 at 7:30 pm with the 19th being a matinee. She also shared that they are finalizing youth play details at the next board meeting.

6. **Adjournment at 7:32 pm**