



Cultural Roundtable Committee Minutes

Monday, May 26, 2025

7:00 p.m.

LaunchIt Minto

Attendance:, Chair Peggy Raftis, Rosie Krul, Megan Raftis, Mary Jean Hartwig, Councillor Ed Podniewicz, Lynn Jamieson, and Deputy Mayor Jean Anderson.

Staff Present: Belinda Wick-Graham, Director of Economic & Community Development, Erin Raftis, Marketing and Community Development Coordinator, Gordon Duff, Treasurer,

Regrets: Jennifer Frayne, Tate Driscoll, Raissa Rogers, Bob McEachern, and Greg Mallett

1. Call to Order at 7:03 p.m.

It was noted that member Amy Sjaarda resigned from the Committee. We are still seeking a youth representative, but there was no interest from members of the Norgan Board to join the Cultural Roundtable.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

- a. Minutes of March 24, 2025, Cultural Roundtable Meeting

MOTION

Moved by: Megan Raftis Seconded by: Rosie Krul

THAT the minutes of the March 24, 2025, Cultural Roundtable minutes be approved.

CARRIED.

3. Updates, Reports and Minutes for Approval

- a. Minutes of March 17, 2025, Minto Farmers' Market Meeting

Raftis reviewed the Minto Farmers' Market meeting held on March 17, 2025. Minutes are attached as Schedule "A".

MOTION

Moved by: Rosie Krul Seconded by: Councillor Ed Podniewicz

THAT the minutes of the March 17, 2025, Minto Farmers' Market meeting be approved.

CARRIED.

b. Minutes of May 12, 2025, Railway Heritage Museum Committee Meeting

Wick-Graham reviewed the Railway Heritage Museum Committee meeting held on May 12, 2025. Minutes are attached as Schedule "B".

MOTION

Moved by: Lynn Jamieson Seconded by: Megan Raftis

THAT the minutes of the May 12, 2025, Railway Heritage Museum Committee meeting be approved.

CARRIED.

4. Roundtable Discussion

a. Culture Days Planning Update

Gordon Duff shared that the sub-committee plans to meet next week. Raftis and the economic development student, Collin Day, will help uploading events to the Culture Days website. The Committee will discuss offering micro-grants to groups and artists interested in hosting their own culture days events. Anderson noted an interest in adding a musician to the annual Apples and Astronomy event.

b. Driftscape App Testing

The Committee provided feedback on the Driftscape website landing page and app. Suggestions were made to add more detailed instructions to the website to download the app, as well as why people should download the app. The app is set to officially launch on May 30th at the Cultural Symposium.

c. Cultural Plan Action Item Update

The Committee reviewed the Cultural Action Plan to remain on track for 2025 initiatives. See Schedule 'C' attached.

d. Committee Member Updates

Gordon Duff and Lynn Jamieson updated on the Minto Arts Council noting that the recent Juried Art Show had a successful opening night. The Art Gallery will be open during lunch at the Cultural Symposium for viewing. The upcoming show will be the Norwell Arts Show. The Arts Council has joined the Association for Arts Councils in Ontario.

Duff added that he will be participating in the SPARC scouting trip for the next conference in Sudbury. He also noted that Film Fest will resume in the Fall and there will be at least two Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion related films presented.

Deputy-Mayor Jean Anderson noted that the Harriston Horticultural Society Garden Festival is on June 7th and there will be kids' activities. She added that the club is struggling with membership and to find volunteers for the Committee and are looking to restructure.

Councillor Podniewicz shared that the Palmerston Homecoming is busy planning for their August long weekend event. He noted that the Clifford Lions club is likely to dissolve and there is consideration for a Minto Lions Club being put forward. The Pike Lake Lions Club is still active in the summer months.

Mary Jean Hartwig noted that the Historical Society is running two headstone hunts, one for Harriston and one in Palmerston for its Homecoming. They are also meeting to update the 1978 Harriston book.

Rosie Krul updated that the Harriston Library will be getting a community pantry, thanks to the generous donations of Deputy Mayor and County Councillor Anderson to help with access to food in the community. She also noted that the summer reading club is back again with prizes to incentivise kids, teens, and adults. For the upcoming PA Day programs, the Clifford library is hosting a Llama Party, the Harriston branch is hosting a Horticultural Society Craft, and the Palmerston branch is showing the Dog Man movie and doing themed activities. She added that the County of Wellington Museum & Archives will be hosting a variety of events this summer. More details can be found on their website.

Megan Raftis added that the Historical Society will be hosting their annual BBQ at the Harriston Street Party on August 9th.

Erin Raftis added to save the dates for the upcoming summer events.

- Farmers' Market Opening (with a Taichi workshop) on June 7th
- Strawberry Social & Raleway Festival on June 21st
- Meet your Neighbours Welcome Picnic on July 3rd
- Clifford Carnival on July 12th
- Harriston Street Party on August 9th

Peggy Raftis shared that the Summer Youth Theatre production is cast, with youth ages 11-13. The show is July 25, 26, 27 and tickets are only \$5. The fall play is Sugar Road and is written by a Canadian author.

Belinda Wick-Graham promoted the Minto Dance Academy's upcoming recital on May 30 & 31. She also shared that Rob Mackenzie is creating a limited-edition issue of the Palmerston Observer for the Palmerston Homecoming. They are seeking sponsors and the Committee agreed to contribute \$250.

MOTION

Moved by: Megan Raftis Seconded by: Rosie Krul

THAT the Cultural Roundtable Committee sponsor \$250 to contribute to the Palmerston Observer.

CARRIED.

e. Upper Canada Two Cylinder Club Workshop Sponsor

The Committee agreed to contribute a platinum sponsorship (\$250) for the cultural related workshops at the UCTCC event in Palmerston this July.

MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Ed Podniewicz Seconded by: Deputy-Mayor Jean Anderson

THAT the Cultural Roundtable Committee sponsor \$250 for the Upper Canada Two Cylinder Club Workshops.

CARRIED.

5. Adjournment at 8:16 p.m.

Next meeting is tentatively July 28th, 2025.