



Railway Heritage Museum Committee

Monday, May 12, 2025

1:00 p.m.

Palmerston Railway Heritage Museum

Committee Members Present: Councillor Paul Zimmerman, Bob McEachern, Diane Gilbertson, Lindsay Woelfle and Emily Peters

Staff Present: Belinda Wick-Graham, Audrey Tooley, Madison Dicks, and Megan Bryan

Regrets: Mayor Dave Turton, Greg Mallett, Chad Martin, and Susan Welsh

Guests: Wayne Martin and Tim Myers

- 1. Call to Order at 1:00 pm by Belinda Wick-Graham**
- 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**
 - a. Minutes of July 3, 2024, Railway Museum Committee

MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Paul Zimmerman and Seconded by: Diane Gilbertson

THAT the minutes of July 3, 2024, Railway Heritage Museum Meeting be approved.

CARRIED

- b. Notes from August 22, 2024

The Committee acknowledged there was no quorum at the August 22, 2024, meeting.

3. Roundtable Discussion

- a. Welcome Back & Introductions

Wick-Graham welcomed everyone back and introductions were made. Summer students Madison Dicks, Audrey Tooley and Megan Bryan introduced themselves and the Committee welcomed them.

b. Cook Car Repairs

Wayne Martin provided an update on the Cook Car roof repair. He noted that Don Grein had quoted \$4,100 to repair the roof, however when work began it was discovered that the wood on the roof had rotted and that the steel that was previously purchased 15 years ago for the project, was 10.5" too short. As a result, the cost of the project has increased to an estimated \$7,250. Blessings to You has generously sponsored \$1,500 towards this project and Wayne is in talks with another potential sponsor. The steel will be posted online to try and get some funds back. We will need someone to prime and paint the fascia.

c. Caboose Update

Tim Myers attended the meeting to provide an update on the roof of the caboose. Unfortunately, the contractor who had offered to sponsor the product and install the product for the roof for free has disappeared. The Palmerston Lions have prepped the roof for install so Don Grein has agreed to source the materials and install a metal roof. The estimated cost is \$2,000 - \$2,500 for the materials and labour and it is expected to be completed by the end of May.

Once the roof project is completed the Lions can complete the interior work. Bob and Diane will continue to source the artifacts needed for the caboose. The caboose project needs to be completed by the end of June 2025 to fulfill the RED grant.

A grand opening celebration will be planned for the summer to thank all the sponsors that supported the project.

d. Box Car Update

Wayne and Bob have been speaking with various members from the Palmerston Agricultural Society on the plans for the Box Car. Bob will look to meet with the President to finalize plans and invite her to attend the next Committee meeting.

e. Capital Workplan

The Committee reviewed the Capital Workplan attached as Schedule "A". Wick-Graham will follow up and present back at the next meeting.

f. Raleway Fest - June 21, 2025

Wick-Graham noted that the Raleway Fest is coming along well with 8 vendors confirmed and over \$7,000 in sponsors. This year the event will be age of majority only and profits will again be split between the Museum and All Aboard Palmerston.

g. 2025 Special Events

Wick-Graham highlighted that in 2024 the Museum began to host special events to bring people into the Museum. Several of the events were proposed to return and include: Smoothies and Songs (July) in partnership with Feel Alive Wellness Station, Teddy Bear

Picnic (August). New events proposed in 2025 include: Flower Bouquet Workshop (June) a possible partnership with Trails End Blooms and Dulce Heaven Cookies and Scoops, Cocktails and Charcuterie (July) a possible partnership with Adam Brown Distillery. The August long weekend is the Palmerston Homecoming and the Museum will be a busy location all weekend long.

h. Tourism Growth Grant

Wick-Graham highlighted the various projects under the Tourism Growth Grant that was received by the Town of Minto, Wellington North and the Town of Hanover. A Saugeen Region Culture Guide was produced and distributed through the Curious Daytripper magazine across Southwestern Ontario and features the Railway Museum. We are also hosting a Spring Cultural Symposium on May 30th from 10 – 2 at the Harriston Library and Committee members were encouraged to attend. A Driftscape App is being launched on May 30th as well that will highlight various attractions and tours throughout Minto including the Heritage Walking Tour that was created last year. Finally, the Museum will be one of the host locations on the Culture Bus on October 4th. It is a short 30-minute visit to give people an introduction to the attraction and hopefully provides a reason to return.

4. Other Business

Emily Peters and Lindsay Woelfle provided an update on all of the events happening this summer at the County Museum and Archives including June 21st Strawberry Festival, Pour House Tours (Saturdays), Summer Camps and Concerts, and the Antiques and Classic Car Show.

5. Adjournment at 2:00 pm

Next meeting: June 4th at 1:00 pm