



**FRIENDS OF AUCHMAR**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**OCTOBER 26, 2017**

**AGENDA:** 1) Call to Order and Welcome 2) A.G.M. Reports 3) Introduction of F.O.A. Board Members 4) Other Reports 5) Buchanan of Auchmar Update 6) Howard Rabb Commentary 7) Introduction of Key Note Speaker, Robin McKee 8) Key Note Address: The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Dieppe Raid. 9) Thank You to Key Note Speaker 10) Auchmar Estate Restoration Update. 11) Closing Commentary 12) Adjournment.

1) Call to Order and Welcome. Diane Dent called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

2) A.G.M. Business Reports.

Diane Dent gave the Chair's Annual Report highlighting the activities of the F.O.A. and the F.O.A. Board which included the spring meeting Voices from Auchmar.

John Kajaste gave an oral summation of the Minutes of the 2016 A.G.M.

The Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Reports will be made available on the F.O.A. website. (NOTE: The Treasurer's Report will be emailed to members only upon request) Circulating copies of the Treasurer and Membership Reports were available at the meeting.

3) Introduction of the F.O.A. Board.

Diane Dent asked that the current board stand so that the membership could identify them.

She introduced Terrance Geissler, who has agreed to join the board, in the role of Member-at-Large. Terrance gave a brief presentation about his interest in F.O.A.

#### 4) Other Reports.

##### Restore The Dovecote Campaign.

Richard Allen presented this report. During the summer of 2016, F.O.A. applied and was selected to participate in the National Trust for Canada campaign, This Place Matters, to restore heritage properties. The F.O.A. Board decided to present one element of the Auchmar Estate, the Dovecote. This was a crowdfunding campaign which ran for one month. At the end, Save the Dovecote did not win the Grand Prize nor a regional prize, but did raise more than \$7,500. These monies will be held in trust for the future restoration of the Dovecote.

##### Canada 150 Event; The Life and Times of the Honourable Isaac Buchanan

Richard Allen presented this report. The F.O.A. applied to the City of Hamilton for a grant under the City's Canada 150 Events program. The F.O.A. received a grant for the amount of \$2,000. The concept is to have a robust yet lighthearted panel discussion of Isaac Buchanan's predominant contribution to the City of Hamilton. The membership and public was asked to check the website regularly for details and information.

#### 5) Buchanan of Auchmar

F.O.A. member Bill King was unable to attend to provide an update about the book he is writing about Isaac Buchanan.

Diane Dent reported that the book is undergoing a final edit and should be available in the new year.

#### 6) Terry Whitehead Comments.

Ward 8 councillor Terry Whitehead was unable to attend as was his assistant Colleen Wicken. Howard Rabb spoke on behalf of Councillor Whitehead. He conveyed the continued support and praise for the work F.O.A. is doing.

#### 7) F.O.A. Constitution By-Law 6.2.1.

John Kajaste gave an overview of this by-law (Board members length of service -3 consecutive 2yr terms) to the membership. He observed that some of the board will have attained 3 consecutive terms. He invited the membership to think about serving on the board for the upcoming term.

Questions from the floor included the following: a) Will the current board step down as an entity or will there be continuity in the directors? b) Can the constitution be amended? In response to the first question, the current board is comprised of directors with varied years of service, so there would be continuity. In response to the second question, there is a process for amendments to the constitution.

A suggestion from the floor asked the board to consider posting the constitution of the website.

#### 8) Keynote Address: The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Dieppe Raid.

Patricia Saunders introduced the keynote speaker, Robin McKee. Later in the evening, John Kajaste thanked Robin McKee on behalf of all in attendance.

Robin gave a presentation of his trip to the battlefields of Europe in conjunction with the R.H.L.I. The itinerary included stops at many of the sites where the R.H.L.I. was deployed and saw action. Most notable in 2017 are Vimy and Dieppe which are recognizing Centennial and 75<sup>th</sup> anniversaries respectively. The narrative was engaging and informative and the photography highlighted the objectives at Dieppe. The presentation was well received by the audience.

9) Auchmar Restoration Project Update. Carolyn Samko, Senior Project Manager, Heritage Facilities.

Carolyn spoke about the overall work completed at Auchmar with a focus on work completed in 2015 and 2016. She also addressed the current restoration of the stone walls in 2017 and restoration projects for the upcoming year, 2018, which includes work in the orchards.

10) Closing Commentary.

Diane Dent gave the closing remarks, inviting the membership to look for details of the upcoming Canada 150 Event and took some questions from the floor.

11) Adjournment.

Diane Dent adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.