



FRIENDS OF AUCHMAR
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

November 9, 2022

AGENDA: 1) Call to Order, Welcome and Protocol. 2) A.G.M. Reports. 3) Chair's Annual Report – Diane Dent. 4) Friends of Auchmar Board Election. 5) Introduction of the A.G.M. theme, Doors Open Ontario, Doors Open Hamilton. 6) Introduction of Speakers. 7) Thank you to Speakers, 8) Closing Commentary and Adjournment.

- 1) Call to Order, Welcome and Protocol. Diane Dent called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance and explained the Agenda and format. First, a short business meeting. Secondly, the topic of the evening, Doors Open.
- 2) A.G.M. Business Reports.

John Kajaste gave the highlight and synopsis of the Minutes of the 2020 F.O.A. Annual General Meeting via Zoom. The Secretary's Report was moved by John Kajaste, seconded by Robin McKee and accepted by the membership.

John Buchanan gave the Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report was moved by John Buchanan, seconded by Doug Faraway and accepted by the membership.

Debra Mills gave the Membership Report, noting a small increase in paid members. The Membership Report was moved by Debra Mills, seconded by Richard Allen and accepted by the membership.

- 3) Chair's Annual Report: Diane Dent presented the Chair's Annual Report highlighting the activities of the F.O.A. which included an overview of the successful The War Years at Auchmar which was held at the Westdale, participation in Doors Open Hamilton 2022 at Auchmar for which a virtual tour was created using QR Codes, and

detailing some initiatives for the years 2023-2024. The Report of the Chair was moved by Diane Dent, seconded by Rob Zeidler, and accepted by the membership.

4) Friends of Auchmar Board Election.

Diane Dent explained that after consultation with the Ontario Heritage Society and pursuant to the F.O.A. Constitution, the current slate of directors will stand for the term of 2023-2024. When a nominating committee is struck, and election called, then, a new slate of directors will be put forward. The current F.O.A. Board will continue to sit and conduct the business of the Friends of Auchmar.

5) Introduction of the A.G.M. theme, Doors Open

Diane Dent introduced this evenings' theme, Doors Open, and its importance to communities both large and small. The list of speakers and order of presentation was articulated.

6) Introduction of Speakers for Doors Open

The following individuals spoke at the meeting: David Leonard, Community Program Officer, Ontario Heritage Trust; Robin McKee, Friends of Auchmar; Janice Brown, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Hamilton; Kathy Wakeman, Stoney Creek Historical Society; Rob Zeidler, The Cotton Factory; Larry DiIanni, former Mayor, City of Hamilton.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Diane Dent introduced David Leonard of the O.H.T.

David explained the role of the Trust in facilitating public awareness of Doors Open Ontario in various communities. Also, of significance was the decision to move into digital platforms which brought forward a younger cohort for Doors Open.

Richard Allen introduced Robin McKee of the Friends of Auchmar.

Robin told the story of how Doors Open began and how it was established, and brought to Hamilton in 2002. Robin is the significant individual who did the initial legwork in starting it in Hamilton.

Diane Dent introduced Janice Brown of the A.C.O. Hamilton.

Janice gave a rousing address detailing Doors Open Hamilton 2022. The A.C.O. Hamilton was responsible for the roster of sites. Her presentation titled “The Good, The Bad, The Ugly,” spoke to all facets of such a large scale event. This included communication, logistics, support, staff, volunteers, and co -operation among others.

Diane Dent introduced Kathy Wakeman of The Stoney Creek Historical Society.

Kathy addressed the state of presenting history such as the Re enactment of the Battle of Stoney Creek. Currently, that event is in a precarious situation. It is being reviewed through a different perspective, one that has caused concern among the reenactors.

Richard Allen introduced Rob Zeidler of The Cotton Factory.

Rob addressed the importance of Doors Open. The Cotton Factory is always a major draw for Doors Open weekend. The Doors Open event, with its focus on built heritage, is also, a community builder and investment in the city. Those who visit, can see that the city benefits from such a weekend.

Diane Dent introduced Larry DiIanni, former Mayor, City of Hamilton.

Larry spoke about presenting this evening’s program to the newly elected City Council. A delegation would put Doors Open on councils’ radar immediately with the centrepiece being the address by Janice Brown.

7) Thank You to the Speakers.

Diane Dent thanked the speakers for their commitment and passion for Doors Open and encouraged all to look at how Doors Open 2023 can be a resounding success.

8) Closing Comments and Adjournment

Diane Dent gave the closing commentary. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.