

## Huntsville Heritage Committee

Special Meeting held on **Wednesday, October 14, 2009** at **6:00 p.m.**  
in the **Huntsville Civic Centre, Council Chambers**

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Chair: Councillor John Davis

Members: Wayne Baker  
W. A. Beatty, Councillor  
Tim Doyle, Muskoka Marine Museum  
Lucille Frith, Huntsville Train Station Representative  
Tricia Markle, Friends of Muskoka Pioneer Village  
Patrick Mason  
Det Schumacher

Absent: David Johns  
Greg Reuvekamp  
Brian Thompson, Councillor  
David Topps, Huntsville/Lake of Bays Rail Society Representative

Staff: Dianne Conwath, Deputy Clerk  
Brian Crozier, Director of Community Services  
Teri Souter, Manager of Culture, Heritage and Programming

**1. CONVENE**

Moved by Det Schumacher

**HER24-09**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT:** we do now convene as the Huntsville Heritage Committee at 6:02 p.m.

Carried.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Det Schumacher

**HER25-09**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT:** the Special Huntsville Heritage Committee Agenda dated Wednesday, October 14, 2009 be adopted as printed and circulated.

Carried.

**3. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Nil -

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

a) Muskoka Heritage Books - Publishing

Chair Davis highlighted the previous Meeting Minutes related to the republishing of the four historic Huntsville books and outlined the Request for Proposal and the lack of interest to the RFP.

Chair Davis reviewed, in detail, the email proposal from Dr. J. Patrick Boyer, Q.C. President of MuskokaBooks.ca regarding the four out-of-print heritage books, the Town hopes to republish.

Discussions took place regarding:

- the lack of response related to the Request for Proposal;
- royalties and/or discounts;
- number of copies required – general market and G8;
- volume of work involved to republish the books;
- size of the market;
- retention of Town ownership of the books;
- promotion and distribution;
- Town's ability to take the project on without the required expertise;
- time restraints;
- changing of the titles and illustrations;
- request to have the books available for the Christmas season;
- further negotiations with Dr. J. Patrick Boyer.

Teri Souter noted in the Huntsville Heritage Committee Meetings Minutes of July 8, 2009 that it was the consensus of the Committee that the book titles and illustrations should not be changed and if the Committee is to proceed with Mr. Boyer's current proposal, he is recommending that some changes be made to the book titles and illustrations.

It was the consensus of the Committee that in order to move forward with this project some changes to the book titles and illustrations are required.

Moved by W.A. Beatty

HER26-09

**WHEREAS:** Resolution No. HER16-09 dated July 8, 2009 recommended that a Request for Proposal be issued for the reprinting, publishing and distribution of the four historic Huntsville books:

- 1) *"Pictures from the Past"*
- 2) *"More Pictures from the Past"*
- 3) *"Huntsville: With Spirit and Resolve"*
- 4) *"The Night the Mice Danced the Quadrille"*

**AND WHEREAS:** there was no response to the Request for Proposal;

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT:** the Town enter into negotiations with Dr. J. Patrick Boyer, Q.C., Canadian Shields Communications Corporation to reprint, publish and distribute the four historic Huntsville books, as outlined in his proposal dated September 28, 2009, attached as Schedule "A";

**AND FURTHER THAT:** the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the necessary documentation relating to the reprinting, publishing and distribution of the four historic Huntsville books.

Carried.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Det Schumacher

HER27-09

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT:** we do now adjourn at 6:50 p.m. to meet again on Wednesday, November 11, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Huntsville Civic Centre, Council Chambers.

Carried.

  
Chair

Corporation of the Town of Huntsville

**Huntsville Heritage Committee**

Special Meeting held on **Wednesday, October 14, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**in the Huntsville Civic Centre, Council Chambers**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**1. Muskoka Heritage Books - Publishing**

Moved by W.A. Beatty

**HER26-09**

**WHEREAS:** Resolution No. HER16-09 dated July 8, 2009 recommended that a Request for Proposal be issued for the reprinting, publishing and distribution of the four historic Huntsville books:

- 5) *"Pictures from the Past"*
- 6) *"More Pictures from the Past"*
- 7) *"Huntsville: With Spirit and Resolve"*
- 8) *"The Night the Mice Danced the Quadrille"*

**AND WHEREAS:** there was no response to the Request for Proposal;

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT:** the Town enter into negotiations with Dr. J. Patrick Boyer, Q.C., Canadian Shields Communications Corporation to reprint, publish and distribute the four historic Huntsville books, as outlined in his proposal dated September 28, 2009, attached as Schedule "A";

**AND FURTHER THAT:** the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the necessary documentation relating to the reprinting, publishing and distribution of the four historic Huntsville books.

Carried.

Schedule "A" to Resolution HER26-09

**-From:** Patrick Boyer [mailto:patrickboyer@sympatico.ca]  
**Sent:** September 28, 2009 4:58 PM  
**To:** 'John Davis'  
**Cc:** 'ElspethHogg@aol.com'  
**Subject:** RE: Huntsville Heritage Books

Dear John

Thank you for your email this afternoon. Below is a summary, further to our several telephone conversations and our meeting in Huntsville, about the four out-of-print heritage books the Town of Huntsville hopes to see republished. I trust you will have this in time for council tonight.

Also, as you requested, I am copying this to Elspeth Hogg, but unfortunately I do not have at hand the email addresses for Lucile Frith, Kelly Pender, and Teri Souter. Perhaps you could forward this message to them? Thank you.

The four titles in question are:

*Huntsville with Spirit and Resolve*  
*Pictures from the Past: Huntsville Lake of Bays*  
*Huntsville: More Pictures from the Past*, and  
*The Night the Mice Danced the Quadrille*

To recap, you informed me that you had submitted – as a response to the Town's request for proposals to publish new editions of these books – the contents of my email sent early this summer to Elspeth Hogg about this project. You also said no other proposals were submitted, and that we should now negotiate specifics.

As I stated previously, my company MuskokaBooks would publish new editions of these works. As publisher, we would make certain changes so that the new editions are the best they can be, are consistent with our MuskokaBooks house style, and would let book-buyers know that this was indeed a fresh new edition of the work.

First, here are a few basics about what is required to be done:

In the case of *Huntsville: With Spirit and Resolve*, a new edition simply requires incorporating corrections from the first edition (which

Elspeth Hogg has already collected and passed on to Gary Long of Fox Meadow Creations), and creating a new front cover.

In the case of the two *Pictures from the Past* books, they might possibly be combined into one volume, and re-titled. Here too, some corrections from the first edition are needed, as noted by Elspeth Hogg.

In the case of *The Night the Mice Danced the Quadrille*, this engaging and important historical account needs to be presented for what it is, which requires changing the title and front cover from what, in the initial edition, made it appear as a book for children. As you may recall when I reviewed these possibilities with you and Elspeth Hogg at your home this summer, I also mentioned other changes I also envisage for this book: adding an index, presenting the pen-and-ink sketches differently, adding titles to each of the chapters, and making some 14 or so corrections of typographical errors which I noted when reading it.

Apart from carrying out these upgrades as above, I next wish to point out that each of these books is in a different category, as follows:

*Huntsville: With Spirit and Resolve* is owned by the Town, but the digital files for it are owned by Fox Meadow Creations and Gary Long. As publisher, I would contract with Fox Meadow for the production of this book, and pay Gary Long for the considerable costs he has already incurred in response to an earlier request from the Town. By that I mean the time and expense for Gary transferring his digital files for this book into the new format required by changes in printing technology since 2000, and also making the changes and corrections supplied to him by Elspeth Hogg. After his work on this title is completed, which would include the new cover I propose, I would then contract with a printer and book binder to produce the finished work. Then I would be responsible for distribution and sale of the books. All of these expenses, which are considerable, I would incur as publisher. On this title, a royalty in the amount of 15% of net receipts received by MuskokaBooks from sales of the book would be paid to the Town. On the 300 copies of the book purchased by the Town for gift and promotional purposes in connection with the G-8, these would be at a reduction of 15% from list price (and of course no royalty would be paid on that sale).

The two *Pictures from the Past* books were apparently printed by Friesen Printers in Manitoba. In response to an earlier request by the town, John Denison of Boston Mills Press has obtained quotes for reprinting them. When John returns to the country at the end of this month, he and I will be meeting to discuss the best business basis for proceeding with these books as MuskokaBooks titles. Our discussion will include considering the advantages, costs, and marketing considerations of combining the two *Pictures from the Past* books into a new and re-titled single volume, or leaving them as they are and just reprinting them with corrections. There are, however, also technical questions to be sorted out regarding the artwork needed for printing these books, including scanning all the photos in them since the original photographs were sent back to their owners. Here again, there are considerable costs which I would have to assume. No technical information has been provided by the Town with respect to the available artwork for these two books. I contacted John Denison in California yesterday and he will check on these matters when he returns. Whether to proceed with the *Photos from Our Past* project is therefore still a business decision to be made, once more information is available. If this is indeed a viable project, the royalty to Huntsville would again be 15% of net revenues received by MuskokaBooks from the sale of *Pictures from the Past*. On the 300 copies of the *Photos from Our Past* book(s) purchased by the Town for gift and promotional purposes, these would again be at a reduction of 15% from list price (and once again no royalty would be paid on that sale).

The book *The Night the Mice Danced the Quadrille* is in a different category. MuskokaBooks will proceed to publish a new and much improved version of this book, along the lines already described above. Again, all costs connected with preparing a new edition, then printing and binding the books, and handling of distribution, will be borne by MuskokaBooks. Because this title is in the public domain, however, the Town does not own copyright and as a result no royalty could arise payable to the Town. However, when the Town purchases 300 copies for promotion and gifts, I would also provide a discount of 15%.

In all four cases, from the Town of Huntsville's perspective, a real benefit will accrue by having these books of local history back in print. As you can appreciate, this is not a lucrative business deal for a book publisher. That perhaps explains why no one submitted a response to the Town's Request for Proposals. For publishers who apply for Ontario's tax

credit intended to support book publishing, re-prints of books (the situation here) do not qualify. I note that the Town is putting no money whatsoever into this project. In short, all risk and cost lies with MuskokaBooks. The purchase by the Town of 300 copies (ideally more, which I hope you consider) of each title is really a minimal commitment for a municipality seeking to take advantage of the opportunity for enhanced renown with the G-8 meeting next year.

I am, nevertheless, prepared to proceed as above, primarily due to my commitment to our Muskoka District. As I mentioned during our meeting at your residence, John, I will also be bringing out new editions of a number of other titles about Huntsville and north Muskoka first published decades ago by my father Robert Boyer through Herald-Gazette Press. Now out-of-print, these worthy titles will also be resurrected in new editions by MuskokaBooks.

Sincerely,

Dr. J. Patrick Boyer, Q.C.  
President  
MuskokaBooks.ca  
Canadian Shield Communications Corporation  
59 Kimberley Avenue  
Bracebridge ON P1L 2A3

Tel: 705-645-2225