

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Jan. 12, 2015, 7:30pm OAFVC in Colborne

Present: Lisa Meekes, Terry Linton, Ian Sculthorpe, Jim Hair, Paul Burnham, Allan Carruthers, Trissia Mellor, Marty Opsteen, Pat Johnston, Lyle Gallagher, Glen Milne

1. **Call to Order:** by Allan at 7:40pm
2. **Agenda:** No motion was made because of lack of Quorum.
3. **Approval of Oct. Minutes:** With a late arrival due to the snow storm, Quorum was achieved. Pat made note that there was a correction to be made in minutes that our Christmas party location was changed to Dundonald church hall. **Motion by Paul, 2nd by Ian that minutes are amended and approved. CARRIED**
4. **Financial Report:**
 - 4.1. **Motion to approve by Terry, 2nd by Marty. CARRIED**
5. **Delegation/Guests:**
 - 5.1. Sara Jane Shakura from the **Trent Hills Community Refugee Initiative** came to inform us of their local efforts. This group is planning to sponsor a refugee family of five from the Middle East to live in the town of Campbellford, close to needed amenities. The funds required to submit an application to sponsor is \$30,000 and the group has half of these funds. **Paul motioned and Pat 2nd that we send an Eblast through OFA to message our members of the groups in our county who are seeking sponsorship of refugees and options of how farmers can help. Carried.** Trissia will pass along info about the groups in this county participating for Lisa to include in the Eblast.
6. **Business Arising from the minutes/current issues:**
 - 6.1. Cramahe community gardens, Horticultural Society sent a request for funds for their project of developing a new garden in Colborne. It was decided this request of funds was not in our mandate to fill. Lisa will send out a letter to let them know.
 - 6.2. Financial Report review needs to be completed as was motioned at the AGM. Allan will talk to Arlene and contact Lisa to get this task completed.
7. **Correspondence:**
 - 7.1. Farm Work Job fair- Jan 15 in Peterborough
 - 7.2. Food Entrepreneurs: Conference March 4, 2016 George Brown College, Barrie
 - 7.3. OFA Regional Delegates to the Co-operators – February 10th. Gene who is the current PAC director has been forwarded this info for applying.
 - 7.4. OFA 80th year events and contests. Check out OFA web site.
8. **Reports:**
 - 8.1. Allan – Attended the OFA convention and was impressed with the speakers and the topics discussed. One resolution presented by Hastings county to have 911 signs put up at all field entrances to make it easier for first responders to find locations. Allan has discussed this with first responders and ideas of using GPS coordinates from cell phones may be a better option. Lou Rinaldi made special effort to attend and spent time with our representatives. A thank you letter was sent to him. Ontario food and drink were show cased throughout the convention.
 - 8.2. Pat- The Food Charter has an upcoming meeting on Feb. 2 in Cobourg
 - 8.3. Bruce Buttar, Zone Director sent his regrets and will bring an update to next month's meeting.

8.4. Jim Hair, MRS- TSC membership discount cards should have been received with the Better Farming magazine in the mail. The Quinte Farm & Trade show will be held on Feb. 11th at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Trenton. Jim reported that there were 52 applications for his position which he will be retiring from Feb.1st. The interviews were held Monday and there should be a new candidate chosen by Friday of this week.

8.5. Gene, PAC member – Was unable to attend tonight. The next PAC meeting is scheduled for Feb. 4th in Guelph. Some of the topics slated to be discussed are:

- Pre-budget submission: Energy, Cap and Trade, Wetlands, December and the AGM resolutions.
- Municipal barriers to growth: Stemming from the AGM resolution. Input needed from counties on municipal by-laws, policies and practices that impede agricultural growth and how we can effect change
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- Views and advice on the content of an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with commodity organizations (AGM resolution). Existing MOU with Beef Farmers of Ontario (need to update name of organization)
- County concerns

8.6. Trissia Mellor, County Rep – The OAFVC is now functioning in all areas and clients are busy using the facility. The range hood issues were finally resolved. Exploring the process of pelletizing hops for beer production is in full swing as the demand for this product increases in this county. Two custom hops harvesters are already functioning in the area for growers.

Eric Lawlor is promoting a Traceability Workshop to be held on Jan. 27 and Feb. 2.

9. *New and Other Business:*

9.1. Pat shared news of local agriculture advocates Ingrid and Peter Kaptyne moving to Alberta to be closer to their children and grandchildren. We wish them well on this new chapter in their lives.

9.2. Pat listed a few upcoming events one being the FarmSmart Conference in Guelph Jan. 23.

9.3. Lisa was contacted by Deanna Opsteen who is involved in a newly formed group called the Sunny Days Day program.

This group of special needs adults would be available to do our newsletter stuffing for a donation to the group. Terry motioned and Paul 2nd that we set aside \$100 for each edition of the newsletter for this service. CARRIED

10. *Next Meeting:* Next meeting Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 7:30 pm

11. *Adjournment:* Paul moved to adjourn.