

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Sept. 8, 2015, 7:30pm OAFVC in Colborne

Present: Pat Johnston, Lisa Meekes, Lyle Gallagher, Carl Wilce, Jake Miedema, Terry Linton, Gene Brahaney, Ian Sculthorpe, Bruce Buttar, Jim Hair, Paul Burnham, Arlene Dorland, Bill Dorland

1. **Call to Order:** by Allan at 8:10pm
2. **Agenda:** Motion to approve Pat, 2nd by Terry. CARRIED
3. **Approval of August Minutes:** Motion by Pat, 2nd by Terry that minutes are approved. CARRIED
4. **Financial Report:** motion to approve by Terry, 2nd by Paul. CARRIED
 - 4.1. Northumberland County Plowing match annual donation; Terry informs that cheque has been cashed.
5. **Delegation/Guests:**

No guests
6. **Business Arising from the minutes/current issues:**
 - 6.1. Ian Sculthorpe reported on the Guelph workshop “Beef Carcass 101” he attended in August stating it was a worthwhile event. Presentations were done by Dr. Ira Mandell and Dr. Phil Bass. Topics included keeping stress level down for cattle while shipping which is best for meat and efficient cutting to keep portions of meat smaller for the consumers’ evolving needs. Dan Ferguson, manager of producer relations for Beef Farmers of Ontario, was impressed that we sent one of our directors to this workshop.
 - 6.2. Newsletter 3rd Edition- Everyone helped stuff and label the over 700 newsletters to go out. Good job all.
 - 6.3. 2015 Budget – Arlene will have it ready to be approved at the Oct. meeting then it will be presented at the annual meeting. Pat would like to include a \$250 support level for Farm & Food care.
 - 6.4. Proud to Lead funding report completed from our July Open House. We are approved for \$800. OFA asked if the photos we submitted may be used at their annual meeting presentation. Lisa resent in a higher resolution.
 - 6.5. Annual meeting/Banquet date is Oct. 23. Lori Caughey has agreed to do a presentation of her AALP excursion to Argentina and Chili. Will check with Lori to see what kind of audio visual equipment she may need. Tickets are available from directors and each is responsible for a door prize for the event. We would like ticket money handed in by next meeting so we have numbers for attendance. Lisa will make 50 copies of last year’s minutes, financial report, budget and agenda to lie on the tables. The nomination committee, consisting of the 3 past presidents, will do their job getting ready for elections.
 - 6.6. Scholarship- four applications received and are being looked at by the committee. They will announce their selection at the next meeting.
 - 6.7. AGM for OFA Mon. Nov. 23 & Tues. 24th. At the International Plaza Hotel, 655 Dixon Road, Toronto. Three rooms for Sunday night and Monday night are booked. Gene also needs a room booked in addition to these three. When delegates are announced credit card info can be transferred from Lisa to those listed. Donations being requested from our county for silent auction. Pat will look after acquiring two baskets of local goods in the amount of \$40-\$50 each.
 - 6.8. Cultivate – A festival of food & drink – Sept. 26 Port Hope – Contact was made with this group but details have yet to be known. Allan will ask Megan Taylor if she is able to man the booth there for Sat. Greta will have the corn table and we hope she may be able to assist in transport. Lisa can pick up and return to Pat. Pat has tent if needed for booth.

6.9. Federal Election Oct. 19 - All Candidates night package sent by Northumberland Chamber of Commerce to be held at Baltimore Recreation Center Oct. 7th. An eblast will be sent out to our members. **A motion to cover the costs of coffee and donuts at this event was made by Jake and Arlene 2nd. Carried.** Allan plans to attend. Durham Region Fed of Ag is not organizing an all candidate's nights but would pass along our participation efforts to their members.

7. **Correspondence:**

- 7.1. Healthy Soils Check-Up program was brought to our attention by the Lower Trent Conservation. It's a pilot project to provide farmers with agronomic soil testing with the purpose of being more efficient with fertilizer use. More info contact emma.perry@ltc.on.ca
- 7.2. Doug and Kim Harvey requested a letter for daughter's school scholarship application. Lisa contacted OFA and they prepared a letter for this purpose.

8. **Reports:**

8.1. Allan attended Hastings plowing match and was made aware of member's dissatisfaction with the new "total package" changes the Cooperators Insurance Co. is implementing. Jim Hair is meeting with a rep this week and will find out more info. The Plinko game was a success and at times very busy with a line up at the booth.

8.2. Pat- Hastings - Food Charter director meeting will be Sept. 16th in Cobourg. Pat mentioned that Canada has now been labeled with native "Blue Tongue" virus in cattle and has been reported to the World Health Organization.

8.3. Bruce Buttar, Zone Director- attended the Aug. 19, 20th meeting in Thunder Bay and found it interesting to see farming in this northern area and the short season frost challenges they have to work with. They attended a private function at a restaurant where local cuisine was showcased to the group of 80.

There is some attention about having more input on the boards of Conservation Authorities. A number of local meetings are happening and would be good to attend.

8.4. Jim Hair, MRS- drew our attention to the election handout sheet emailed to us by OFA and how it would be useful to present to the candidates in this riding. OFA is also in negotiations with General Motors for a continuation of the vehicle discount offered on 2015 trucks and hoping it will continue for the 2016 model.

8.5. Gene, PAC member- next meeting will be held in Kemptville on Oct. 21.

8.6. Trissia Mellor, County Rep – no report.

9. **New and Other Business:** no new or other business

10. **Next Meeting:** Next meeting Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 7:30 pm Jeff Harrison will be on lunch duty

11. **Adjournment:** Paul moved to adjourn. 9:45 pm