

## Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Apr. 12, 2016, 7:30pm OAFVC in Colborne

Present: Lisa Meekes, Terry Linton, Allan Carruthers, Trissia Mellor, Marty Opsteen, Glen Milne, Gene Brahaney, Resi Walt, Sid Atkinson, Amy Petherick, Lyle Gallagher, Bruce Buttar, Fred Young, George Burkitt, Gene Thompson, Tim Blake, Fred McCaw

1. **Call to Order:** by Allan at 7:30pm
2. **Delegation/Guests:**
  - 2.1. Fred Young from Workplace Safety & Prevention (formerly Farm Safety Association) came to inform us of some new regulations in the workplace. Noises in the workplace and fall arrest were two topics he focused on. Worker Awareness formal training is available free and anyone with employees needs to be aware of the new responsibilities. He will circulate an email with further information to be distributed to our directors.
  - 2.2. Tim Blake & Gene Thompson from Northumberland County Fire Service came to talk about the pilot project in this area where technology is being used to better service the area. They are acquiring tables and having apps installed called *Who's Responding* which lists who is responding to calls, assists in incident mapping, can dispatch messages all things that help our 1<sup>st</sup> responders.
3. **Agenda:** Motion; Marty/Gene ... that the agenda be approved. CARRIED
4. **Approval of Feb. Minutes:** Motion; Terry/Sid ..... that minutes be approved as circulated. CARRIED
5. **Financial Report:**
  - 5.1. Motion; Terry/Amy ... to approve financial report as circulated. CARRIED
6. **Business Arising from the minutes/current issues:**
  - 6.1. Breakfast meetings with Lou Rinaldi and Kim Rudd – Allan- We had a breakfast meeting with MPP Lou Rinaldi at the Big Apple in Colborne March 17. Subjects discussed were broadband expansion, phosphorus loading issues, neonic paper work, and Hydro rates. On March 18 directors met with MP Kim Rudd at the Buttermilk Café in Cobourg. Topics discussed were, energy east, Federal transfers, research importance, climate change, animal welfare private members bill. She also told us the Wall of Fame certificate issue was going to be solved at a ceremony at the OAFVC in April. Having good dialoged with these government representatives is important. We should remind them of events such as Farm Fest, Field to Food and Twilight meetings.  
Motion; Marty/Lyle ... Set up another set of breakfast meetings with MPP Rinaldi & MP Rudd sometime in September. CARRIED
  - 6.2. Central Summit meeting April 6, 2016 @ OAFVC, summary – Resi – There were 29 in attendance. Peter Jeffery from OFA did a presentation on the Greenbelt expansion which was well received. He had several questions to answer and offered his email for any future questions. A link to his slide presentation is available upon request. After a lovely catered lunch by King's Plate, tours of the Venture Centre were offered to all in attendance. MPAC reps Catherine Barr, Account Manager and Terri Lyn Wright, Property Valuation Specialist spoke to the audience about how assessments are done on properties. They handled many questions during and after their presentation. The day started at 10:00am and was finished at 2:30pm as per agenda.
  - 6.3. 6 x 16 progress on this project – Arlene was absent so tabled till next meeting.
7. **Correspondence:**
  - 7.1. Sher Leetooze of Bowmanville was looking for info about who was growing apples in Northumberland County in pre WW2 years 1920-1930. Lisa contacted Margaret Appleby and she has a book entitled "A History of the Northumberland and Durham Apple Growers' Association" written by Elizabeth Chatten and Mary Macklam which could be helpful for this info.
  - 7.2. Logo design cleanup for OAFVC banner – Trissia showed us the proposed banner and all were happy with the look
  - 7.3. Jennifer Scott from the Co-operator Insurance Group has offered advertising in newsletter. At this point the board does not feel there is enough space in the newsletter for advertising but there is a possibility of an insert being included. Something to consider in the future
  - 7.4. OFA partnership with Hydro One to develop Farm Rapid Response Team to deal with on-farm electricity issues including stray voltage, ground current and power quality. New team is expected to be in place by Summer 2016.

- 7.5. OMAFA "Fresh From the Farm" pilot program is hoping to be developed for eastern Ontario and they are looking for contacts that can supply root vegetables, and apples for this program. Contact Heather Chandler at OMAFA in Brighton for more info.
8. **Reports:**
- 8.1. Allan – nothing to report
- 8.2. Bruce – Informed us in more detail about the new Farm Rapid Response Team regarding the Hydro partnership. Suggested we may consider hosting the OFA county visit which they do every summer. It's a two day meeting with approximately 30 people including directors and staff. Northumberland has all the facilities that could host in 2017. Last year it was held in Thunder Bay. Trissia & Amy volunteered to sit on that planning committee. Resi will look into the process. Social License accepting of public trust in industry "trust farmer not farming"
- 8.3. Resi Walk, MSR – There was an expansion of the six by sixteen website ([sixbysixteen.me](http://sixbysixteen.me)) by OFA with more material available. Working on getting some ideas about what kids and consumers might be looking for and continuing to increase awareness with Dietitians, Home economics and Public health officials.  
OFA was pleased with the Federal Budget announcement of significant investment in Agri research, rural broadband and infrastructure. They are continuing to work with government to targeting climate change investments, carbon issues, food safety among a few.  
Bill C-246, a private members bill proposing significant changes to the animal cruelty provisions in the Criminal Code is going to second reading May 9<sup>th</sup>. OFA is outlining farmers concerns in a letter to go to each MP. All are encouraged to contact their MP and express their concerns.  
**Motion; Sid/Amy that a letter be sent to MP Kim Rudd that our views are being passed on concerning this bill.**  
**CARRIED.** Sid will write with Resi's help.  
Hastings Plowing Match Committee is looking for volunteers for this year and there is a meeting in May. Allan will sit on the committee and we will check with Pat to see if she is willing to.
- 8.4. Gene, PAC member – Attended the Cooperators AGM in Winnipeg Apr.5, 6, & 7 as a delegate. They reported having a good year and were able to filter funds to OFA.
- 8.5. Trissia Mellor, County Rep – The Beverage Farming workshop in Cobourg on April 2 was a great success with 47 in attendance. Next step is a sequel in October 28 & 29.  
Northumberland County is working on a package for new comers to farming and targeting to have this produced in various languages to fill a perceived need.
- 8.6. Cobourg Safety Event Committee, June 3-4 - Allan will send in the registration form for this event which is due Friday. Volunteers are needed to participate for the day to pass out ice cream and milk. Gene volunteered.
9. **New and Other Business:**
- 9.1. MP Kim Rudd will present certificates to Lew Dunk and Gene & Helen Brahaney at the OAFVC on April 27 at 1:30 in recognition of their Agriculture Wall of Fame induction last September. Trissia encouraged as many of us as possible to come out to support them. Snacks will be served.
- 9.2. Allan asked us all to consider a NFA donation to the First Responders for their new pilot project. There was some discussion and most felt not at this time.
10. **Next Meeting:** Next meeting Tuesday, Jun. 14 at 7:30 pm
11. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:05. Lunch was provided by Marvin Stapleton of Deerhaven Equipment Belleville.