Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Jun. 9, 2015, 7:30pm OAFVC in Colborne

Present: Allan Carruthers, Lisa Meekes, Lyle Gallagher, Jim Hair, Carl Wilce, Pat Johnston, Arlene Dorland, Paul Burnham, Trissia Mellor, Terry Linton, Joe Banbury, Gene Brahaney, Jeff Harrison, Jake Miedema

1. **Call to Order**: by Allan Carruthers at 7:30

2. **Agenda**: motion to approve Paul, 2nd by Gene. CARRIED

3. **Approval of April Minutes**: motion by Arlene, 2nd by Pat that minutes have no errors or omissions. CARRIED

4. **Financial Report**: motion to approve by Paul, 2nd by Jake. CARRIED

   4.1. Pat submitted an invoice for the dash plates from the Apple Blossom Thyme Festival vintage tractor show for $44.07 motion by Arlene to pay invoice, 2nd by Gene. CARRIED

5. **Delegation/Guests**: No Guests

6. **Business Arising from the minutes/current issues**:

   6.1. The Proud to Lead program purpose is to offer training to increase leadership skills for new and existing members – Pat’s initial submission for our participation in the Open Farm event June 27th didn’t fill the criteria so she proposed a Members BBQ on July 14 at the new OAFVC which increases awareness and networking to our active and passive members. We were approved $800 from the program which will require us to submit a report, copy of promotional material, photos and receipts. Our regular meeting will follow the event. Hayden Taylor will cater for $10pp, Arlene suggested milk to be served and Paul suggested Raspberry tarts/pie for dessert. Trissia suggested local hard cider and beer to be offered so details will have to be investigated for a licensed event. Gene has his smart serve certificate. Arlene moved that NFA allocate $1000 to the event, 2nd by Terry. CARRIED

6.2. Newsletter 2nd Edition was mailed out June 2nd. So far few have responded to the digital only request; it’s a slow process when Lisa has no access to email list from OFA. They send out as an e-blast to our members. Will keep working on getting the physical mailing list shrunk.

   Jake asked about the eligibility of his none member associated niece for the NFA scholarship. It was agreed to let scholarship committee, Lyle, Gene & Marvin deal with this issue but think some level of membership is important in this case.

6.3. 2015 Budget- Arlene – Having an approved budget will eliminate motions at meeting for budget approved items. Hoping to have a budget ready for next meeting.

6.4. Open Farm update- Jake told us they have had their final meeting and are preparing for up to 1000 people to serve pizza, ice cream, milk and cheese strings to. Pat, Carl, Lyle and Allan are all planning on volunteering at this event on June 27 from 10:00 till 2:00. There are 12 similar events across the province celebrating DFO’s 50th anniversary by showing the public what happens on a dairy farm.

7. **Correspondence**:

   7.1. The Globe and Mail paper published an article about the July 1st legislation coming into effect. There was a press release by Queens Park announcing the legislation and quoting some comments from OFA president Don McCabe that was unsettling to our group. A letter will be written by Allan and group and sent to Don for clarification.
8. **Reports:**

8.1. Pres. Allan, nothing to report
8.2. Bruce Buttar MSR, was absent but sent an email stating that the OFA was still engaging provincial government to make a workable solution to the neonic issue.
8.3. Jim Hair informed us of the time limited GM Truck Rebate for members from the OFA and reminded us of the thirteen different companies offering discounts to members. Check web for more details. Jim expressed his concern that the neonic issue was dividing farmers and their organizations. “Caution Go Slowly” workplace health and safety signs were passed out to all from Jim.
8.4. Gene, PAC member – There is a meeting on Friday in Guelph for PAC members and the topic of climate change is on the agenda which Gene had hope for the neonic topic to be addressed. It was suggested that an agenda amendment could be a possibility.

9. **New and Other Business:**

9.1. Food Charter – Pat said the next meeting is on June 23rd.
9.2. Apple Blossom Tyme Festival – Pat said there was a wonderful display courtesy of Grain Farmers of Ontario and a combine from Ed Mazurek for all to see up close. The rain held off till later in the day. All went well. The vintage tractor participants all receive dash plates courtesy of NFA.
9.3. Annual Meeting/Banquet- Lisa will contact Barb Trotter and book the Gathering Place in Warkworth for October 16th. Then menu planning can be done with the church ladies. Allan motion and Terry 2nd that the Annual Meeting/Banquet be held October 16th in Warkworth at the Gathering Place. CARRIED
9.4. Paul asked that a letter be sent to the County to congratulate them on the OAFVC opening.
9.5. Arlene talked about the new Codrington Farmers market held on Sundays 10:00-2:00, and that they are looking for more vendors to join their group
9.6. Gene spoke of the grand opening of the Hastings Field House July 3rd in which Chris Hadfield will be a guest speaker. The new facility includes an indoor golf driving range and walking track and can be used for many sports including a basketball, soccer, tennis, ball hockey and pickle ball.
9.7. It was discussed that a $40 local food basket be donated to both Beef Day July 2 and Holstein Twilight meeting July 9. Arlene motioned and Pat 2nd. CARRIED
9.8. Gerry Rich is coming to the area to speak at Maizing Acres and Ganaraska Grain June 24 with a BBQ to follow. They are looking for 12 farmers to sit at a round table discussion.
9.9. **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, Jul. 14 at 5:30 pm at the new OAFVC, 116 Industrial Park Road North, Colborne; it is a members’ night with tours of the new facility and supper by Taylor’s Custom Meats.

*Adjournment: 10:15pm*