



Northumberland Federation of Agriculture

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Mar. 10, 2015 at Centreton Community Centre 7:30 pm

Present: Allan Carruthers, Lisa Meekes, Eugene Brahaney, Lyle Gallagher, Jim Hair, Bruce Buttar, Carl Wilce, Pat Johnston, Jake Miedema, Arlene Dorland, Bill Dorland, Sid Atkinson, Marty Opsteen, Terry Linton, Paul Burnham, Ian Sculthorpe, Marvin McComb, Trissia Mellor, Raymond Bennis, John Logel, Mark DeJong, Adam Moulton

1. **Call to order** : Allan Carruthers at 7:40
2. **Agenda:** MOTION by Jake, 2nd by Paul that the Agenda be approved. CARRIED
3. **Minutes:** MOTION by Pat, 2nd by Gene that the minutes from Feb. 10, 2015 be adopted as distributed and approved. CARRIED
4. **Financial Report:** Financial report was distributed and an expense of \$1945.24 was clarified as expense to hire new secretary/treas. MOTION by Paul, 2nd by Jake that financial report be approved. CARRIED
 - 4.1. New Banking institute is CIBC in Colborne.
 - 4.2. Cooperators yearly invoice was paid
 - 4.3. Outstanding invoice for the Hasting Plowing Match was paid to the Hastings Federation of Ag.
 - 4.4. Per diem cheques will go out when we get cheques for new account
5. **Delegations/Guests:**
 - 5.1. Adam Moulton was introduced as the new Conservative member to take over from current MP Rick Norlock when he retires in the fall. Adam spoke to the group about the new boundaries in this riding and his intent to attend as many meetings as possible to hear the concerns of the farmers in this riding. He thanked us for the invite and the opportunity to speak.
 - 5.2. Ray Bennis, councilor for Alnwick/Haldimand township informed us that the Agricultural Advisory Committee is being reinstated in that township, and he asked for volunteers to sit on it. They would like to address issues such as the Oak Ridges Morain, planning agriculture buildings, set back distances, and field access to name a few. MOTION by Sid 2nd by Arlene that NFA contribute input to the Agriculture Advisory Committee in Alnwick/Haldimand. Carried. Allan said he would join the group which will be chaired by Ray. Ray also welcomed written submissions of issues that need to be addressed anytime we feel the need to do so.

Ray told us that Northumberland County has been awarded Ontario's 27th designated "Safe Community". The designation ceremony for "Safe Communities Northumberland County" will be held at the Baltimore Community Centre on Wed. April 8th at 10:00am. The MP, MPP, County Warden and other dignitaries will speak. He asked how he would request a donation from the Northumberland Milk board, of milk for this event, and Arlene said she would look after that request for him.
 - 5.3. John Logel, Mayor for Alnwick/Haldimand township brought info from OMAF about the "Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence" Deadline for this program is Apr. 10, 2015
6. **Business Arising from the minutes/current issues:**
 - 6.1. Quinte Farm Show Feb. 12 review by Jim. His display is shared by all four counties and the atmosphere at the show continues to reinforce local networking. The lunch was very good. There were also a few speakers addressing the bee health, one from Bayer and a bee keeper.
 - 6.2. Proud to Lead.... Update from Sid Atkinson. The DFO 50th anniversary open house event will be held June 27th hosted by the Northumberland Dairy Producers with NFA and FCC partnering in the event. Sid and Pat are taking care of the forms to fill out for funding with the "Proud to Lead" program that fits well with this function.
 - 6.3. Agriculture Wall of Fame application for Lou Dunk – Sid visited Lou and filled out the forms and they have been sent out.

- 6.4. Newsletter first edition – Lisa has newsletter ready to print and requested that we pay the extra \$200 to go to colour. **MOTION by Pat and 2nd by Allan that we go to a colour newsletter. Carried. MOTION by Terry and 2nd by Jake that we produce four newsletters a year. Carried.** We will work towards digital editions when we are able to establish an email list. Jim suggested Tyler Brooks at OFA could help with this.
- 6.5. Progress on Ag Trivia PLINKO Game and Good in Every Grain campaign- Pat reported that Plinko pieces are cut out and Allan will deliver plexi glass.

7. **Correspondence:**

- 7.1. Traceability Workshop Mar. 17 – Eric Lawlor workshop leader, OSCIA
- 7.2. OMAFRA summer jobs program accepting applications.
- 7.3. Farms at Work from Peterborough contacted Lisa and wondered if we would like to post our Newsletter on their web site. **MOTION by Paul, 2nd by Arlene that we share our Newsletter with them. Carried.**

8. **Reports:**

- 8.1. Pres. Allan reported that he and Lyle attended a very informative evening with speaker Susan Chan on FEB. 12 at the Cobourg Community Center. Her topic was native bees of Ontario and she addressed many misconceptions of the bee issue.

Allan also plans to attend the Ontario Farm Day held in Ottawa Mar. 31st. Some of the issues we are hoping to increase attention to the politician are continued support of the Risk Management Program, Research Funding in the industry and the importance of rural infrastructure.

- 8.2. Zone Director, Bruce Buttar had nothing to report.
- 8.3. MSR, Jim Hair reminded everyone that all need to do the two step registration for membership renewal for the 2015 year.
- 8.4. PAC Member, Gene will continue with his appointment on the Cooperators board.
- 8.5. Ag. Manager Northumberland County – Trissia said that we can post our minutes on the OAFVC web site. We are still waiting for the date for opening as they are waiting for the occupancy permit to be issued. NFA meetings will be held there when it opens.

9. **New and Other Business:**

- 9.1. Bruce informed us that OFA is dealing with the issue value added on farm expansion is having with MPAC rates. There seems to be different rate levels for on farm milk bottling as compared to maple syrup bottling and a more sensible middle ground is being pursued.
- 9.2. Budget 2015 – Arlene, Allan and Pat are going to work on this. **MOTION by Arlene, 2nd by Paul that a draft budget be done for the next meeting. Carried.**
- 9.3. Pat proposed that NFA sponsor a plaque for the vintage tractor show at Apple Blossom time in Colborne in May. The cost would be \$39 plus tax. **MOTION by Pat, 2nd by Lyle that NFA sponsor a plaque for the vintage tractor show at Apple Blossom time in Colborne. Carried**
- 9.4. Mark DeJong presented a letter that he would like included in the next newsletter encouraging farmers with the upcoming fall election to consider financially supporting politician's campaigns as it is a costly process. It is hoped that it would encourage good relations between government and our industry. **MOTION by Mark, 2nd by Gene that the letter be included in the next newsletter. Bruce amended the motion subject to advice from OFA, 2nd by Paul. The friendly amendment was accepted by Gene. Carried.**

10. **Next Meeting:** Sid Atkinson on lunch duty; Next meeting Tuesday, April 14 at 7:30 pm Paul on lunch duty

11. **Adjournment:** **MOTION by Arlene, 2nd by Marvin that the meeting be adjourned. Carried** 9:55pm