

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Mar. 8, 2016, 7:30pm OAFVC in Colborne

Present: Lisa Meekes, Terry Linton, Ian Sculthorpe, Allan Carruthers, Trissia Mellor, Marty Opsteen, Glen Milne, Marvin McComb, Gene Brahaney, Bill Dorland, Arlene Dorland, Resi Walt, Sid Atkinson,

1. **Call to Order:** by Allan at 7:40pm
2. **Agenda:** Terry motioned agenda be approved as circulated, Arlene 2nd. CARRIED
3. **Approval of Feb. Minutes:** Motion by Marvin, 2nd by Terry that minutes be approved as circulated. CARRIED
4. **Financial Report:**
 - 4.1. Motion to approve by Arlene, 2nd by Marty. CARRIED
5. **Delegation/Guests:** None
6. **Business Arising from the minutes/current issues:**
 - 6.1. Condolences to Pat Johnston on the passing of Carl Wilce Feb. 26, 2016. Flowers were sent to the funeral and a donation was made to the Shiloh Church fund in Carl's honor. Arlene motioned that in the future in the event of a death of an NFA director or immediate family a charitable donation of \$50 be done without having to contact directors for approval. CARRIED
 - 6.2. The Central Summit meeting is set for April 6, 2016 @ OAFVC in Colborne. Peter Jeffries, Senior Farm Policy Researcher, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, will speak but he feels the topic of the Greenbelt expansion is a little premature do to Government proceedings being incomplete. We will leave the topic up to his discretion. It was suggested that Kim Wright from MPAC do a repeat presentation from the fall summit meeting. Allan will contact her. Lunch is purchased by the attendees at a cost of \$10 each. Lisa will call a caterer and get ideas. Resi will invite OFA President and other dignitaries. It was suggested Bruce could be moderator for the day. Heather Chandler & Karen Fisher both from OMAFRA would like to be invited to this event.
 - 6.3. Wall of Fame Nomination – Sid will contact Pat when she settles and finalize the paperwork for the nomination progress. Lou Dunk and Helen & Gene Brahaney are still waiting for their federal certificates due to some administration error. Arlene motioned and Sid 2nd that we do up a letter to give to Kim Rudd at our breakfast meeting that this is an incomplete task. CARRIED
 - 6.4. Still have vacancies on our board that need to be filled. Some discussion on the action plan for the position of 2nd vice.
7. **Correspondence:**
 - 7.1. Greenbelt Fund grant deadline is Mar. 30. For details see web site https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/greenbeltfund/pages/44/attachments/original/1447425689/Local_Food_Investment_Fund_2015-Grant_Guidelines.pdf?1447425689
 - 7.2. Newsletter is in the mail. Yay.
8. **Reports:**
 - 8.1. Allan – A meeting with Kim Rudd is planned for Friday, March 18th @ 8:00 am at the Buttermilk Café in Cobourg. We also have a meeting scheduled with Lou Rinaldi in Colborne at the Big Apple Thursday March 17th @ 8:30. Please let Allan know if you are able to attend.
On March 9, 2016 well over a hundred Ontario grain farmers from across the province gathered at the Ontario Court of Appeals in Toronto. Grain Farmers of Ontario was appealing the dismissal of their case surrounding the province's new seed treatment regulations. Neonicotinoid-treated seeds are an important tool for modern grain farmers. The GFO court appearance was well supported by local farmers with a bus travelling from local elevator Maizing Acres.

- 8.2. Bruce – Didn't make the meeting but made us aware that the OFA has a document of key federal issues that we can take to the breakfast meeting with Kim Rudd which he will send to Allan.
- 8.3. Resi – Resi attended the Ottawa Valley Farm show this week.
Informed us of the April 12 Hill Lobby in Ottawa set up to meet MP's of our ridings. We decided that after going last year we would target our time to meetings in the riding with our MPs. There was also discussion about doing a workshop or having a speaker on the subject of effective lobbying, possibly for one of the zone summit meetings. David Armatage a senior farm policy researcher for the OFA is retiring.
The Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence deadline is approaching on April 15th.
- 8.4. Gene, PAC member – Gene is attending the Cooperators AGM in Winnipeg on April 6-7 as the delegate. Also for interest, Gene let us know the Federal Government had approached OFA for suggestions of names to be nominated to the Senate.
- 8.5. Trissia Mellor, County Rep – Trissia asked for our help for marketing ideas to invite and showcase what the venture centre can do for the local farmer. She wants to make them aware of using the center as a resource to develop products they produce whether it turns asparagus into soup or fresh freezing as an example.
The Food Entrepreneur Conference was attended by fifteen from Northumberland.
Farm Credit has a funding program for young farmers under 40, to purchase a farm, expand your business or make improvements. More information is online at FCC or talk to Trissia.
- 8.6. Cobourg Safety Event Committee- Proud to Lead funding has been approved for this event for June 3 & 4 in the amount of \$1000. NFA set a budget of \$2500 on the application form for this event. One of the expenses will be to supply ice cream and milk to distribute at the display. The plan is for the farm equipment is to be displayed Saturday only. We hope Resi is available to man the booth for Saturday. She will look into getting print material concerning farm equipment safety issues from the OFA.

9. ***New and Other Business:***

- 9.1. Arlene wants to look into a pilot project to promote the food literacy program launched in 2015 by OFA called "Six by Sixteen" to teach young people how to plan and prepare six nutritious (and locally sourced) meals by the time they are 16 years old. Arlene has a chef willing to run the program in Codrington hall and Trissia suggested there could be a partnership between the venture center as well. Arlene will investigate costs and have more to discuss for next meeting.
- 9.2. Terry made a suggestion that we have a time limit policy for guest speakers so meetings don't go as long as last months did. All were in agreement.
- 9.3. Marvin brought a box of leftover bags from rural ramble that he was hoping could find a purpose. Several members grabbed a bag and Resi will take the rest to her office for future uses.

10. ***Next Meeting:*** Next meeting Tuesday, Apr. 12 at 7:30 pm

11. ***Adjournment:*** Terry called the meeting to be adjourned. Lunch was provided by Marvin Stapleton of Deerhaven Equipment Belleville.