

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Feb. 9, 2016, 7:30pm OAFVC in Colborne - ***Today is Food Freedom Day***

Present: Lisa Meekes, Terry Linton, Ian Sculthorpe, Jim Hair, Paul Burnham, Allan Carruthers, Trissia Mellor, Marty Opsteen, Lyle Gallagher, Glen Milne, Marvin McComb, Amy Petherick, Gene Brahaney, Bill Dorland, Arlene Dorland, Resi Walt, Sid Atkinson, John Logel, Raymond Bennis, Allen Mann

1. **Call to Order:** by Allan at 7:30pm
2. **Agenda:** Gene motioned agenda be approved, Paul 2nd. CARRIED
3. **Approval of Jan. Minutes:** Allan noted the date needed to be changed to 2016 on minutes. Motion by Terry, 2nd by Marty that minutes are amended and approved. CARRIED
4. **Financial Report:**
 - 4.1. Motion to approve by Paul, 2nd by Arlene. CARRIED
 - 4.2. Arlene motioned the monthly bank statements be reviewed and initialed by the president on a quarterly basis. Terry 2nd. CARRIED
5. **Delegation/Guests:**
 - 5.1. Allen Mann came to speak to us about Safe Communities Northumberland. This group has a mission to make Northumberland County the safest and healthiest place to live, learn, work and play. Their leadership table includes representation from Northumberland County Council and member Municipal councils, local police services, local fire services and paramedics, local health units and school boards, as well as Workplace Health and Safety organizations. Their current areas to focus are mental health, falls prevention and off road on road. On June 3-4 they are planning a Community Connections EXPO at the Cobourg Community Center with keynote speaker Clara Huges booked. They are asking the Federation to set up a farm equipment display as an opportunity for the public to interact and understand safety issues when this equipment travels on public roads. Arlene motioned and Terry 2nd that a committee of Paul, Allan, Sid, Amy and Ian be formed to plan for this exhibit. CARRIED It was suggested Arlene be on this committee as well. This could also be an opportunity to educate the consumer about the miss use of slow moving vehicle signs as driveway markers.
6. **Business Arising from the minutes/current issues:**
 - 6.1. Hastings County presented a resolution at the OFA convention of implementing 911 signs at every field entrance to help emergency services locate accidents. This was voted down but Allan suggested using GPS coordinates on cell phones may be more practical. County Fire Coordinator Tim Blake is investigating the use of tablets to run programs to locate on site incidents.
7. **Correspondence:**
 - 7.1. Government is currently reviewing the recommendations laid out in the Land Use Advisory Panel's report and something we should keep up with. Jim suggested we ask Peter Jeffery, senior farm policy researcher with OFA, to speak about this topic at the Central Summit Meeting this spring.
 - 7.2. Farms at Work circulated numerous workshop/ event dates coming up. Sheep farming mentorship program, Traceability Workshops, Starting or Growing a Food Business and the Annual Woodlot Conference. Check out their web site for more details.
 - 7.3. OFA Involve funding program deadline is coming up on Feb. 21. It was discussed that the Safe Communities Equipment display may fit the criteria for this funding. Allan will fill out the application.
 - 7.4. Jeff Harrison has accepted a position as director for district 12 on the Grain Farmers of Ontario board and will no longer be able to attend the board meetings. He would still like to get correspondence to stay connected. We also

do not have a Vice President as Pat let us know she is unable to take that position. Arlene suggested we post that we have vacancies on the board in the next newsletter.

- 7.5. Quinte Agriculture Wall of Fame is seeking nominations for 2016. We would like to nominate Pat Johnston and Carl Wilce for their dedication to the industry in our area. Sid will take care of the application process.

8. **Reports:**

8.1. Allan – Had nothing to report

8.2. Pat- Was not in attendance. Carl is not well and is being taken care of at his home. He welcomes visitors.

8.3. Bruce Buttar, Zone Director- Bruce informed of us of a list of topics the OFA is dealing with on the board level. Some of them are Pest Management Regulatory Association resolutions, Wetlands and Ducks Unlimited, Stray voltage project, The Crombie Report, Coloured fuel, provincial pre-budget (internet infrastructure, risk management program, climate change, natural gas expansion, cap and trade credits), and county level regulations concerning drainage issues, farm hydro rates, ATV issues, farm registration card issues.

8.4. Jim Hair, MSR- Jim was happy to introduce Resi Walt as our new member's service rep. Resi moved back to her home farm in Prince Edward County from Guelph where she had a communications position at Farm & Food Care. For now she will be working out of a home office and her new email address is resi.walt@ofa.ca. Welcome Resi.

8.5. Gene, PAC member – The last PAC meeting was Feb. 4 and there was continued discussion on Pre-budget submissions; Energy; Cap and Trade; Wetlands; AGM resolutions and Municipal barriers to growth.

8.6. Trissia Mellor, County Rep – Trissia reported that the venter centre was a busy place tonight hosting the NFA meeting, a Rotary function and a client all at one time. The consulting services for product development have been active and there is a Non Dairy Beverage Farming event at the facility coming up at the end of March. Much progress has been made to purchase pelletizing equipment for hops production in the county. Number four of the eight video series that the County and NFA are in partnership together, was shown at the meeting. This one featured the Linton Maple Syrup production near Warkworth. There is a Food Entrepreneurship Conference at Georgian College on Mar. 3&4 having workshops with topics such as nutritional labeling and food safety. The Northumberland County Economic Development is sponsoring a bus and will rebate two NFA members the \$55 fee who registers before the deadline of Feb. 22.

9. **New and Other Business:**

9.1. Allan will look into organizing a group breakfast meeting with Kim Rudd to increase good dialog between the federal Member of Parliament and our group.

9.2. It is Northumberland's turn to host the Central Summit meeting for this spring. Resi will contact Peter Jeffries and arrange a date with Lisa. We will host in the OAFVC and also include a tour of the facility to the participants.

10. **Next Meeting:** Next meeting Tuesday, Mar. 8 at 7:30 pm

11. **Adjournment:** Arlene moved to adjourn. Lunch was provided by Marvin Stapleton of Deerhaven Equipment Belleville.