



NFA

Northumberland Federation of Agriculture

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Feb. 14, 2017, 7:30pm OAFVC in Colborne

Present: Lisa Meeke, Allan Carruthers, Paul Burnham, Ashley Greenly, Ian Sculthorpe, Terry Linton, Lyle Gallagher, Sid Atkinson, Pat Johnston, Resi Walt, Doug Gray, Trissia Mellor, Gene Brahaney, Glen Milne, Arlene Dorland, Gord Sharpe, Marty Opsteen, Marvin McComb, Amy Petherick

1. **Call to Order:** by Allan at 7:40pm
2. **Agenda:** Motion; Gene/PatThat the agenda be accepted as circulated. CARRIED
3. **Delegation/Guests:** none
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion; Ashley/Paul..... Nov. minutes approved as circulated. CARRIED
5. **Financial Report:** Motion; Terry/Arlene To approve financial report as circulated. CARRIED
6. **Business Arising from the minutes/current issues:**
 - 6.1. NFA is doing a presentation with Ben LeFort who is a farm policy researcher from OFA at the Feb. 15 Northumberland County council meeting. The concern is how the county is going to set tax ratios for farm properties since the MPAC assessment values have risen on average 123% for this county. Ben met with a group to do some pre planning this afternoon. Resi captured the words from the planning meeting so they can be used in the presentation. Paul Burnham & Mark Dejong will be the speakers to the county council along with Ben.
 - 6.2. Young Farmer's Forum planning – Motion; Terry/Martyto direct the "Proud to Lead" funding for this event to help with costs. CARRIED Lisa will forward forms to Amy. Application deadline April 31 for events March 1- Sept. 31 and second round deadline August 31 for events Oct. 1 – March 31
 - 6.3. Paul did follow up to investigate procedures by the East Central Student Nutrition Program for the school board. Schools have responsibilities if a student becomes ill as a result of food purchased from local suppliers so traceability is the issue. This program is run through the Northumberland Food for Thought and the Health Unit. Paul spoke with Indra Noyes from Food for Thought and is going to set up a meeting along with some local fruit and veggie growers to discuss tractability issues and what needs to be done to satisfy all involved.
 - 6.4. Pat reported on the Strategic Planning Workshop held Jan. 31 in Belleville at the Quinte Sports & Wellness Centre, that Allan, Bruce, Lisa & she attended. Along with the three other counties and OMAFRA staff we all worked on establishing Mission and Vision Statements. Motion; Amy/Terry..... that the board approve the **Mission Statement:** Northumberland Federation of Agriculture (NFA) working in partnership with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) on behalf of local members to be the voice of agriculture in Northumberland County.
Vision Statement: Want a vibrant and innovative Agri-Food industry in Northumberland County. CARRIED
The purpose for having these in place is to help NFA focus on goals, provide a framework for future planning, shows priorities for action, provides an evaluation process to measure outcomes and helps to use resources effectively and efficiently. Next workshop is Mar. 1 @7:00 same location.
7. **Correspondence:**
 - 7.1. Wall of Fame nomination – Motion; Amy/Ashley.... To resubmit last year's nomination for Carl and Pat. CARRIED
 - 7.2. Fast Ag Facts for Dufferin County in infographic format were circulated to directors via web site link. <http://bit.ly/FastAgFacts4Dufferin> There was some discussion to see if we could work on having something like this for Northumberland.
 - 7.3. A drought workshop is being proposed in partnership with Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority. Allan is going to contact them to inform we are able to supply refreshments for the function as a contribution to the event.
8. **Reports:**
 - 8.1. Allan – Had nothing to report
 - 8.2. Gene – PAC wanted input from local counties on structural elements. Gene will submit the boards input on these changes.
Size of Board: The Board will consist of 12 members
Sunset Clause: A 12-year maximum term will be imposed for all OFA Directors, requiring the person to step away for at least one year.

Election of the President: *The President will be elected from amongst Board members, by board members following the Annual General Meeting.*

Maximum Term for President: *The President will serve a maximum of three consecutive years as President.*

Election of Vice-Presidents: *Continue to elect 2 VPs at the board meeting by the board*

Term of Office: *All Executive members will be elected for a one-year term.*

- 8.3. Trissia Mellor, County Rep. -
- OAFVC is hosting an open house where the public can meet clients and taste products coming out of the facility
 - Economic Development staff attended a meeting in Toronto to attract an international agri-food company to Northumberland. This process may prove to be lengthy, but the aim is to foster new markets for Northumberland crops.
 - Economic Development staff was invited to present a Case Study at a University of Waterloo event showcasing the use of Incubators to promote economic opportunities in Ontario. Northumberland was asked to present the OAFVC as a Best Practice for rural areas and small centers, we spoke specifically about the complexities of the food industry and its regulations
9. **New and Other Business:**
- 9.1. Three breakfast/lunch meetings should be arranged for MP, MPP, & county councilors sometime in March if possible
- 9.2. Barclay Nap is planning on doing 200 Junior Farmers past president's interviews for a history of Junior Farmers project and he will be coming to this area in March.
- 9.3. Marion McComb has requested the Ag Awareness resources for the Cramahe 150 celebration the weekend of Aug 5-6th
10. **Next Meeting:** Next meeting, Mar.14 at 7:30 pm Snack duty assigned to **Paul Burnham**
11. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by Amy @ 9:50pm