

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Nov. 14, 2017 OAFVC Colborne, 7:30pm

Present: Allan Carruthers, Marty Opsteen, Lisa Meekes, Pat Johnston, Ian Sculthorpe, Terry Linton, Resi Walt, Ashley Greenly, Trissia Mellor, Paul Burnham, Marvin McComb, Doug Gray, Gord Sharp, Amy Petherick, Mark DeJong

1. **Call to Order:** by Allan Carruthers at 7:30
2. **Agenda:** Motion; Pat added a Food Charter item 8.9. Paul/Terry.....agenda accepted as amended. CARRIED
3. **Delegation/Guests:** none
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion; Marvin/DougSept. minutes approved as circulated. CARRIED
5. **Financial Report:** Motion; Paul/Gord.....To approve financial statement as circulated. CARRIED
 - 5.1. Hastings Federation of Ag submitted their yearly invoice for our share of the expenses for the Quinte Farm Show and Hastings plowing match. It was \$1271.25 which was more than the \$700 we budgeted for. Motion; Paul/Mark.....over budget payment be made to Hasting Federation of Ag for Hastings Plowing Match and Quinte Farm Show 2017 yearly expenses. CARRIED.
6. **Business Arising from the minutes/current issues:**
 - 6.1. Resi presented Allan with a framed thank you certificate for being President.
Nominations for President - Marty Opsteen (accepted), 1st Vice – Sid Atkinson (accepted in absence), 2nd Vice - Ian Sculthorpe (accepted) All were acclaimed to their positions and are two year terms.
 - 6.2. NFA AGM review – All were happy with the new venue at the Alderville Community Center which included the use of their sound system and table linens on round tables. We had 156 in attendance and Dan Needles was enjoyed. A suggestion for next year’s speaker was Dennis Hall. The meal by Hayden Taylor was lovely but we were lacking in the beverage department with just water, tea and coffee. Next year we would like to look into have a bar or hosting a local brewer.
 - 6.3. OFA AGM November 20 & 21 Toronto. Rooms are booked. President, Vice and PAC. Alternates that were selected at our AGM are not able to attend. We are not able to select anyone else outside of the AGM. Lisa will cancel the extra room. Silent auction donation will be transported by Marty
 - 6.4. Christmas dinner is planned for December 12. A committee was formed for this event.... Paul, Ian, Trissia, Christie & Marty. Motion; Paul/Ian.... Budget for Christmas dinner to be \$12-\$16. CARRIED Lyle, Gene & Pat will be invited to attend.
7. **Correspondence:**
 - 7.1. Rural Ontario Leadership Program- suggestions submitted by Nov. 15. Trissia suggested Paul Burnham would be a great candidate. Letters of support will be written by Lisa, Amy, Allan, Marty and Ian. Trissia will submit application tomorrow.
 - 7.2. Farm Business Workshop Dec. 7 at the Manvers Arena hosted by The Agri-food Management Institute to support new business opportunities for your farm operation.
 - 7.3. Draft Soil Health Strategy open for comment - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/soilstrategy>
There will also be a public open house in Codrington Dec. 14 at the ON Soil & Crop annual and will give anyone the opportunity to talk with OMAFRA soil staff, ask questions and provide input.
8. **Reports:**
 - 8.1. Allan- Thanked everyone for their support over the years and will be available for Marty along his term.
 - 8.2. Bruce Buttar did not attend
 - 8.3. Resi Walt MSR- Resi and Allan attended the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus in Lindsay and did a presentation about Farm 911. Jennifer Moore CAO for Northumberland said they plan to formalize the guidelines for this project in Northumberland by December. There will also be a display set up at the OFA convention in Toronto.
Quinte Region Traffic coalition could be a good connection for road safety and farm equipment. Network with more OPP officers through them.
Farm & Foodcare have a new release out of their “Dirt on Farming” publication. Copies are mailed to MP & MPP. OFA shared a booth with them at the Royal Ag Fair in Toronto. Farm & Food Care had virtual reality goggles as part of their display so kids could tour farms while the staff talked to the parents. Great idea.
Topics or questions that should be addressed at the OFA AGM were chosen. Natural Gas infrastructure, minimum wage implementation, farm property tax increase.

New copies of the constitution were passed out for each director to put into their binders and new binders were passed to Mark and Marty will deliver Christie's.

- 8.4. Amy, PAC member- Attended the Municipal Ag Economic Development Planning Forum Oct. 18 and the dene of the ON AG College in Guelph was a speaker. He said they were targeting the Peel region for recruits for university ag programs. An afternoon panel was delivering new strategies that municipalities could adopt encouraging the importance of farms in a region for the improved mental health of the community members, scenery being an important tool.

Eastern Summit in Brockville touched on the subject of Insurance and due diligence for volunteers. We should look into getting an insurance rep in to talk to us about that topic possibly for January. There was also some talk of Integrated Pest Management policy for county control of noxious weeds. We should discuss this at the next Ag Advisory meeting in Northumberland.

- 8.5. Trissia Mellor, County Rep- Attended the Eastern Ontario Local Food Conference in Ottawa in October. It is important to keep agriculture representation at these events because they have a different mindset than conventional agriculture. Good to be aware of any new strategies and have input into any attempts of changing policy in the food industry.

Trissia was on the planning committee for the Municipal Agriculture Economic Development & Planning Forum in Milton.

Trissia will be attending the wrap up meeting for the Greater Golden Horseshoe Ag system and Natural Heritage System Map and be reporting back to us on the mapping process.

- 8.6. Strategic Goals and Actions- Jan. meeting plan to update print and distribute and consider new goals for the coming year.
- 8.7. Young Farmer's Forum- no update at this time
- 8.8. Electronic Policy Committee – Ashley reported this is complete and will email it to directors to vote on at Jan. meeting. Need to decide if it is a policy or bylaw.
- 8.9. Food Policy Council is looking for a new NFA rep as Pat Johnston's term is over. Any volunteers would be greatly appreciated.

9. New and Other Business:

9.1. **Motion; Amy/Ashley A new Safety committee be formed. Allan and Ashley have volunteered. CARRIED**

9.2. **Motion; Marty/Paul..... Parting gifts be purchased for long time serving directors Lyle Gallagher, Pat Johnston & Gene Brahaney. CARRIED** Lisa, Marty & Allan will look after this.

9.3. Agrifood Management Institute and Northumberland County are partnering for an upcoming conference in February for Agrifood Entrepreneurs. More to be announced soon.

10. Next Meeting: Jan 9 Snack duty is assigned to Ashley Greenly

11. Adjournment: Marvin 9:40pm

Snack duty for tonight Doug Gray