

**Friends of the Central Experimental Farm
Amis de la Ferme expérimentale centrale**

**Virtual Meeting of the Board of Directors
10:00 a.m., June 16, 2021**

PRESENT: Deborah Higdon-LeBlond, Richard Hinchcliff, Eric Jones, Randy Taylor, Shirley Ewen, Susan Kehoe, Robert Stuart, Donna Pape, Dell Durnin, Blaine Marchand

AGENDA:

- **MOVED by Donna Pape and SECONDED by Blaine Marchand THAT the revised agenda be adopted. CARRIED.**

MINUTES:

- **MOVED by Donna Pape and SECONDED by Deborah Higdon-LeBlond THAT the minutes of the April 2021 Meeting be approved. CARRIED.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Eric

- Eric reported on changed roles at AAFC Integrated Services.
- Vision TV is planning a series on Healing Gardens, but it appears CEF would be suitable for this series.
- The Garden Team leaders will have a ZOOM meeting this week with Eric, Blaine and Donna to review procedures and precautions for allowing the volunteers to return to the gardens.

TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCIAL ISSUES – Randy

- FCEF finances are in a good position. Membership income has increased over last year. Donations are up due to memorial donations and the donation of some bonds.
- Investment options have been considered and changes made as recommended.
- **MOVED by Randy Taylor and SECONDED by Susan Kehoe THAT the Board approve the financial report as of May 2021. CARRIED.**

PROJECTS AND FRIENDS

- **Bench Project: Deborah** - A second cycle of bench purchases will not take place as discussions with AAFC are necessary prior to the order.
- **Pumpkin Patch Event:**Susan –A meeting of the work group has taken place. The tentative date selected for the event is October 2, 2021. Vendors will be approached in August if the event does proceed.
- **Book project:Richard** – Work is progressing.
- **Woodland improvement:** Eric–An inventory of plants is underway.
- **Garden tours:-** Rob will work on a strategy for distribution of the brochures. A copy of the brochure to be given to AAFC.
- **The Tree book:** no activity at the moment.
- **Master Gardener lectures:** Donna – The lectures are over until the

fall.

- **Greeting Cards: Dell**– Six photos have been selected for the summer series. A suggestion was made to ask members for photos and include a picture of the month in *Farm Notes*.
- **Creation of pathways** between the gardens to facilitate visiting by the elderly and the handicapped – long term project, needs a champion.
- **Upgrading of the arches at the entrances** to and the fencing along the Heritage Rose Garden - long term project, needs a champion. Blaine will approach Fiona Cowell to see if she is interested.

MEMBERSHIP –Deborah

- A total of 366 memberships, which includes 459 people.

SALE OF CRABAPPLE SEEDLINGS

- Sold out very quickly on-line.
- Blaine raised Skinner lilac seedlings that could be also sold on-line.

TOH NEWSLETTER ARTICLE

- The article was discussed and a few revisions recommended. It will also be posted on the website.
- A Community Information Session for The Ottawa Hospital Master Plan which will be held on June 29.
- Deborah will set up a section for hospital information on the FCEF Facebook page.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Water Feature Plaque – Blaine has not been able to contact Jeremy to finalize the size of the plaque for the water feature. He will call this week if Jeremy does not respond to the e-mail.
- Julie is out-of-town and will continue with all duties except mailing and curbside pick-up which Deborah will take on.

NEXT MEETING

- The next virtual FCEF Board meeting will be held on July 21, 2021 at 1:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Eric Jones, President

Shirley Ewen, Secretary