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

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors June 15, 2022, at 1:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Eric Jones, Dell Durnin, Blaine Marchand, Richard Hinchcliff, Deborah Higdon-LeBlond, Heather Webster

GUEST: Donna Pape, Janice Tayles

ABSENT: Shirley Ewen, Robert Stuart, Randy Taylor

AGENDA:

• MOVED by Heather and SECONDED by Deborah THAT the agenda be adopted. CARRIED.

MINUTES:

• MOVED by Richard and SECONDED by Deborah THAT the minutes of the May, 2022, meeting be approved. CARRIED.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Eric

- Extended a welcome to Janice as guest, and Donna as adviser to the Board.
- Noted the Board had approved the new crevice plot in the Rock Garden.
- Offered condolences on the passing of Bill Wegman's wife.
- Noted changes to federal Covid guidelines, affecting volunteer requirements (Donna to confirm with staff).

TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCIAL ISSUES – No report due to Randy's absence. The Board discussed criteria for approving expenditures, and arrived at the following: 1. For budgeted expenditures, no pre-approval required; 2. For non-budgeted items of \$200 or less, proceed as necessary and report the expenditure to the Board; 3. For non-budgeted items over \$200, the Board's consensus is required before proceeding.

PROJECTS UPDATE

- **Bench Project:** -Sites had been selected by donors, and the slab installation work begun. Delivery of benches still expected at the end of June, and we're still awaiting word about replacement parts for damaged bench.
- Building Book: Nine public libraries received copies of the book.
- **Garden tours:** Tours were proceeding with the focus on gardening clubs and horticultural societies. Some parking issues had surfaced, including machines and costs at the Museum parking lot. It was suggested that we move to a set nominal fee for tours next year. There was also discussion about improving the registration process. The pamphlet was well received.
- **Woodland improvement:** The Arboretum team weeded and planted a few dozen plants and trees, in addition to trees planted by AAFC staff. More to come.
- **The Tree book:** Richard, Eric and Roman will meet to review and plan next steps, with some revisions expected.
- Master Gardener lectures: No report.

- Greeting Cards: No report.
- **Creation of pathways:**AAFC staff are very busy so nothing is happening on this project.
- Upgrading of the arches: Same as above.

BOARD POSITIONS

• It was noted that the Friends have urgent need for volunteers to fill some positions, notably Events coordinators (and director), Garden Team co-leaders, among others.

MEMBERSHIP - Deborah filed report.

• Numbers are good.

RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS- Donna

• Lots of interest in garden teams; students to begin in July.

GARDENS - Blaine

• Tool supply seems OK. Focus now more on buying plants.

NEWSLETTER- Richard

 After discussion of printed copies—how many libraries take them—and their use as hand-outs, it was decided again to print 500 copies of the Summer issue.

AUCTION of the Ode to Experimental Farm portfolio-Blaine

• Blaine will follow-up.

OTHER BUSINESS

- The Board reviewed Shelley's performance.
- New date needed for Julie's gathering.
- Board discussed email addresses used for Board members.

NEXT MEETING

• The next FCEF Board meeting will be held July 20, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Eric Jones, President Shirley Ewen, Secretary