

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

**Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors
January 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.**

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

ABSENT: Randy Taylor

AGENDA:

- **MOVED** by Shirley Ewen and **SECONDED** by Blaine Marchand **THAT** the agenda be adopted. **CARRIED.**

MINUTES:

- **MOVED** by Donna Pape and **SECONDED** by Robert Stuart **THAT** the minutes of the December, 2021, meeting be approved. **CARRIED.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- FCEF has agreed to stay away from Bldg 72 until Covid conditions change.
- CFAC will review the management plan when AAFC process is ready.
- Blaine will explore possibility for speaker at our AGM on May 11, 2022.

TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCIAL ISSUES -

- Randy is working on the reports required for the end of year 2021 review.

OFFICE BUSINESS - Donna

- The ad for the office manager position will be placed in Farm Notes, the Charity Village website, on FaceBook and the FCEF website, when finalized. Julie and Deborah will train the new person. The terms of the position will be for 15 hours a week, with a starting salary of \$19.
- It was agreed that Julie's salary will be raised by \$1 on Feb. 4, the anniversary of her employment.

PROJECTS AND FRIENDS

- **Bench Project:** - Shari Haas reported that the benches have been ordered and the installer notified. AAFC will select seven sites for the benches and indicated that some sites may not be in the Arboretum. The Board will ask Shari to discuss site and installation questions with Jeremy.
- **Building Book:** Richard - \$4,612.00 proceeds to date; 346 books have left the building, some have been sold and others in book stores.
- **Garden tours:**
 - Blaine has received requests for four peony tours. Rob and Blaine will explore a schedule of tour options, preferably at times when flowers are in bloom.
 - Eric is willing to arrange a tour of the flowering crabapple trees.
- **Woodland improvement:** Eric - nothing to report.

- **The Tree book:** no action.
- **Master Gardener lectures:** Donna – registration is on-going.
- **Greeting Cards:** Dell – sales are slower following the Christmas period.
- **Creation of pathways** between the gardens to facilitate visiting by the elderly and the handicapped – long term project (Blaine). Note: priority to be checked with AAFC.
- **Upgrading of the arches at the entrances** to and the fencing along the Heritage Rose Garden - long term project (Fiona). Note: priority to be checked with AAFC.

MEMBERSHIP –Deborah

- A total of 382 memberships which includes 489 people. We are attracting new members but some older members are not renewing so the total is stable. Fifty-nine members have joined in 2021.
- Total Donations for 2021 are \$50,000.

RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

- A small team has been set up to consider how FCEF might recruit younger volunteers. They will prepare a pamphlet that will be circulated to the board. Also the need for volunteers will be placed more prominently on the website.
- Donna has a possible volunteer for one event, Art on the Farm.
- A volunteer will organize a walk on the Farm through the app Meet-up.

DONATED ART

- Blaine has made several attempts to contact Walker's Fine Auctions but has not received a reply.

EVENTS- Plant Sale, May 15, 2022

- Invitations are going out to nurseries and to vendors who produce art for the garden. In the past there have been thirty spots but that could be increased. It was suggested to have live music at the event.

NEWSLETTER REDESIGN – Richard

- A proposal for the redesign of the Newsletter was presented and approved. Richard will follow-up.


OTHER BUSINESS

- The plaque for the water feature will be ready in February.

NEXT MEETING

- The next FCEF Board meeting will be held February 16, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.


Eric Jones, President


Shirley Ewen, Secretary