

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

**Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors  
Sept. 28, 2022, at 1:30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Eric Jones, Shirley Ewen, Dell Durnin, Heather Webster

**GUESTS:** Donna Pape, Janice Tayles, Dianne Caldbick, Elizabeth Atkinson, Cheryl Hutcheson

**ABSENT:** Deborah Higdon-LeBlond, Randy Taylor, Blaine Marchand, Robert Stuart, Richard Hinchcliff

**AGENDA:**

- **MOVED by Dell and SECONDED by Heather THAT the agenda be adopted. CARRIED.**

**MINUTES:**

- **MOVED by Dell and SECONDED by Heather THAT the minutes of the August, 2022, meeting be approved. CARRIED.**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Eric**

- Eric welcomed the new guests and invited them to participate in the meeting.
- The recent Tree Tour in September went well with over 40 people attending. Another will be held in October to highlight the fall colours.
- The CEF Management Plan is being reviewed and the CEF Advisory Council met to discuss.
- AAFC personnel have changed and are new to the Friends. Need to meet with Melanie Houle.

**TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCIAL ISSUES –**

- Randy was absent so there was no financial report.
- The budget for 2023 will be on the October agenda.

**PROJECTS UPDATE**

- **Bench Project:** -Project has been completed. Maintenance to continue.
- **Building Book:** – Nothing to report.
- **Garden tours:** - Need a coordinator for the tours. Donna reported 14 volunteers interested in leading tours.
- **Donor Tree Program:** - The Friends have begun working with AAFC on a proposal for a new donor tree program. Part of the discussion has been how to label the trees, noting the pros and cons of each type. Need a leader and team for this program.
- **Woodland improvement:** Invasive plants were removed; more planting might take place this fall.
- **The Tree book:-** Projected date for the publication is Spring 2024.
- **Master Gardener lectures:** - Lectures complete for 2022. Lectures are planned to be given in ZOOM in 2023 to accommodate a larger number of attendees.
- **Greeting Cards:** Selling steadily but slowly.

- **Creation of pathways:** - Blaine reported that AAFC staff were not prepared to move forward with this project at this time.
- **Upgrading of the arches:** - Blaine reported that due to other priorities in the Ornamental Gardens, this project be placed on the back burner for the time being. Fiona Cowell is to identify which roses have been lost and need to be replaced.
- **Signage:** - A suggestion was made that we add a project for signs to help educate people about the Farm, in cooperation with AAFC. We would need a coordinator for this project.

#### **MEMBERSHIP – Janice**

- 400 FCEF members which included 515 people.
- The non-dinner invitations donations were being received.

#### **EVENTS- Donna**

- The book sale was cancelled due to a problem in the basement. When the problem has been addressed, Donna proposed to have several smaller book sales directed at specific types of books – i.e. fiction, non-fiction, art, etc. The National Gallery has offered up 2000 books and we agreed to take 20 boxes.
- The volunteer luncheon is taking place on October 5. Randy and Donna will purchase the food. Ninety volunteers have responded.

#### **VOLUNTEERS- Donna**

- Four candidates have shown interest in the event coordinator positions.

#### **GARDENS –Blaine's report**

- Water feature unveiling will be held on Oct. 5 at 2 pm following the Volunteer luncheon.
- AAFC staff and team leaders were invited to a garden team leaders meeting on Thursday Oct. 13 at 9:30 am in Building 72.
- Tool cleaning and sharpening to take place on October 27, 9:30 am at Building 72.

#### **ODE TO EXPERIMENTAL FARM PORTFOLIO –Blaine's report**

- Blaine spoke with Diana Fuller of MacLeans & Associates who will look at the portfolio and propose how to proceed.

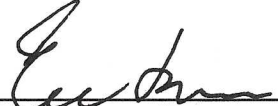
#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Riley Brockington has included the preservation of the Farm in his municipal elections promises.
- Canadensis scheduled an event for the Oct 1 weekend.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

- The next FCEF Board meeting will be held October 19, 2022, 10:00 a.m. at Building 72.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

  
Eric Jones, President

  
Shirley Ewen, Secretary