

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

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors  
March. 15, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.**

**PRESENT:** Dianne Caldbick, Dell Durnin, Blaine Marchand, Randy Taylor, Shirley Ewen, Janice Tayles, Elizabeth Atkinson, Heather Webster, Eric Jones, Robert Stuart.

**GUESTS:** Donna Pape, Holly MacDonald, Mark Vigder.

**ABSENT:** Chantale Neapole, Richard Hinchcliff, Cheryl Hutcheson.

**AGENDA:**

- **MOVED by Randy and SECONDED by Blaine THAT the agenda be adopted. CARRIED.**

**MINUTES:**

- **MOVED by Blaine and SECONDED by Randy THAT the minutes of the February, 2023, meeting be approved. CARRIED.**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Eric**

- Projects are listed on the agenda as a reminder of progress towards goals, and to invite shared participation as desired.
- The Board is elected by the members at the AGM, although we're allowed to add during the year; Officers will be selected by the Board after the AGM.

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

- Randy reviewed the financial statements for February, 2023 noting that February had been a quiet month. GST reimbursement will be approximately \$4,700. FCEF received a grant of \$1,066.00 from the Eric & Louise Moore Foundation. The books have not been selling and we must look at ways to sell them. The audit team will begin next Tuesday.
- **MOVED by Randy and SECONDED by Janice THAT the financial statement for February, 2023, be accepted. CARRIED.**

**PROJECTS UPDATE:**

- **Garden tours**  
Rob will continue to look after the tours. Blaine has identified tour guides from the garden team leaders and Donna has also drawn up a list of other volunteers. A training session will be made available to the tour leaders. A group of Inuit people have asked for a tour of the peonies.
- **Tree Donor Program: Elizabeth, Eric**  
The CelebriTree package is being set up. FCEF will purchase twenty trees to begin this program. AAFC will select the trees, plant and maintain them and select the sites. A donation of \$1000 will be the price to sponsor a tree for 10 years. The tag will contain the name of the tree, the donor and a QR tag.  
**MOVED by Elizabeth and SECONDED by Blaine THAT the sum of \$3,500 be set aside for the CelebriTree program. CARRIED.**
- **Improvement of the Woodland-** nothing new to report

- **Tree Book - Eric**

Progress is being made on the eight walks and trees in the book. Kat Bauer, the designer, has created a new format. Printing will take place in 2024.

- **Annual Beds Brochure** – Blaine

This brochure is being designed by Kat Bauer so all pamphlets will have the same look. Cost is \$180. A suggestion was made to have the brochure suitable for viewing on the phone.

- **Master Garden Lectures** – Donna

Ninety-seven people registered and about seventy-five attended the first ZOOM lecture. A link to the lecture will be forwarded to all who attended. Proceeds were \$3,500 with half going to the Master Gardeners.

- **Greeting Cards** – Dell

Sales have dropped off. A suggestion was made to have a table at the Ontario Horticulture Society conference on July 21-23.

### **AGM, May 10, 2023**

- Alex Henderson from the Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington, Ontario, has agreed to be the guest speaker and Riley Brockington, city councilor, will participate. A dry run will be done prior to the meeting. An e-mail notice will be sent to members plus a notice will be included with the next Newsletter. Members and others will register on the website and they will be sent an e-mail with the link prior to the meeting.
- It was suggested that a special meeting be arranged with Chantale and Mark and others interested on the topic of event registration procedures.

### **VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT** - Donna

- The session for new volunteers will be held on April 1, 10-11:30 a.m. in the garage. The garden team leaders will attend and sign up volunteers.
- The bookkeeper position has been posted.

### **EVENTS:**

- **Book Sale** – Donna

This event has been postponed until the fall. The sorters will be in to decide which books to donate, dispose and keep. A book drop-off will be arranged in the spring.

- **Plant Sale** – Dianne

Seventeen vendors have paid the fee for a table. The Board and members will be asked to provide baking for the refreshment table. Businesses will be approached to provide free coffee for the event.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**Janice

- Current stats are 394 FCEF memberships which represents 509 people.
- Janice reported that we had 203 receipted donations in 2022 with 11 over \$500 and 8 between \$250 and \$499. A letter signed by the president is forwarded to each donor with the CRA receipt. There was a brief discussion on other suggestions for recognition, however no further action at this point.

### **BOARD MEMBERSHIP** - Eric

- This needs to be firmed up prior to the AGM.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Blaine will discuss with Jeremy how many tulips they could plant.
- **MOVED by Blaine and SECONDED by Rob that we purchase a number of tulips for 2023 based on Jeremy's recommendation. CARRIED.**

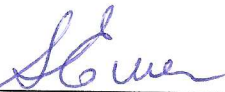
**NEXT MEETING**

- The next FCEF Board meeting will be held April 19, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.



Eric Jones, President



Shirley Ewen, Secretary