

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

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors  
August 16, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Dell Durnin, Elizabeth Atkinson, Heather Webster, Eric Jones, Donna Pape, Christina Fiedorowicz, Shirley Ewen, Janice Tayles, Cheryl Hutcheson, Dianne Caldbick  
**ABSENT:** Chantale Neapole, Mark Vigder, Linda McLaren

**AGENDA:**

- **MOVED by Christina and SECONDED by Elizabeth THAT the agenda be adopted. CARRIED.**

**MINUTES:**

- **MOVED by Donna and SECONDED by Cheryl THAT the minutes of the July, 2023 meeting be approved. CARRIED.**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

- The recent tree tour was well attended.
- A letter was submitted to City Council regarding the proposed Carling Avenue towers. FCEF needs to get a clearer understanding of its position in discussions with AAFC when the licensing agreement is renewed in 2024.
- Eric, Linda and Donna have responded to the incident reported by one of the garden teams. Christina and Donna plan to meet with the team this Friday to see if further action is required.

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Heather**

- FCEF is still in a strong position. Amount of cash on hand is down due to purchase of the trees, brochures, and tulip bulbs.
- FCEF needs to find new sources of revenue to fund future expenses.
- **MOVED by Heather and SECONDED by Cheryl THAT the financial report be accepted. CARRIED.**

**PROJECTS UPDATE:**

- **Garden tours – Linda**  
Tours for 2024 to be planned well in advance. More tour leaders are needed.
- **Tree Donor Program — Elizabeth**  
The website development is well underway and expected to be on-line first week of September. Administration procedures have been set up. The program is expected to be announced in early September and e-mails will be sent to interested persons. An event will be held in early October to celebrate the program. **MOVED by Elizabeth and SECONDED by Heather THAT \$5,492 be allocated for the CelebriTree program. CARRIED.**
- **Improvement of the Woodland — Eric**  
AAFC staff will assist with the removal of the Buckthorn and other invasive plants. Trees and shrubs are expected to be planted in 2024.
- **Tree Book — Eric**  
Eric and Richard have been reviewing grant sources but the focus needs to be narrowed. Cheryl has been researching publishers. She has suggested that we could print-on-demand so we do not end up with a stockpile of books.

- **Boutique Sales**

Three puzzles were sold in July. COSTCO to be approached to see if they will sell the Blooms book over the Christmas season.

**EVENTS:**

- Book sorting has started with three new volunteers. Many of the usual volunteers are still gardening and will be available shortly.
- Brainstorming meeting to be set up to discuss 2024 events. There may be a need for another meeting for strategic items as membership, license with AgCan, etc.

**MASTER GARDENERS LECTURES**

- Questions were relayed, but no response yet from the Master Gardeners.

**GARDENS:**

- Staff meeting will be held in October.

**VOLUNTEERS: Christina**

- A bookkeeper has been found and will begin in September.
- A candidate to assist with membership has been found and will be interviewed.
- Suggested date for the volunteer luncheon is Oct. 5.

**MEMBERSHIP: Janice**

- 403 FCEF memberships, which represents 512 people.
- Non-dinner invitation will be sent out to all members and volunteers. More online payment options are desired. In the longer term, Mark will look into this.

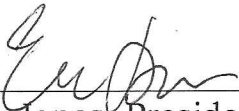
**FCEF LICENSE with AAFC** – to be discussed at a later date.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

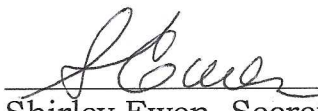
**NEXT MEETING**

The next FCEF Board meeting will be held September 20, 2023, 1:30 p.m.

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



Eric Jones, President



Shirley Ewen, Secretary