

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

**Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Board of Directors
Oct. 18, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.**

PRESENT: Eric Jones, Christina Fiedorowicz, Shirley Ewen, DianneCaldbick, Linda McLaren, Dell Durnin, Donna Pape, Janice Tayles, Heather Webster

ABSENT: Mark Vigder, Elizabeth Atkinson

AGENDA:

- **MOVED by Donna and SECONDED by Shirley THAT the agenda be adopted. CARRIED.**

MINUTES:

- **MOVED by Elizabeth and SECONDED by Dianne THAT the revised minutes of the Sept., 2023 meeting be approved. CARRIED.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Eric

- The Condo project at 1081 Carling was approved by city council.
- Awaiting the next CEF Advisory Council meeting for discussion on how future development proposals at the perimeter of the Farm will be handled.
- The seventh tree tour was conducted with over 30 people attending.
- Suggestions are requested for dispensation of the art portfolio.
- Solutions are needed for the website as there have been technical problems.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- CelebriTree donations will be recorded in the year they are received.
- FCEF is on track with the budget, although still in a deficit position. We have not spent the operating budget but there are expenditures which will occur later in the year. The Rogers bill has been addressed and reduced significantly.
- A newly-purchased Square will replace the notebook we've been using for credit card purchases.
- It would be timely to review investments with RBC.
- **MOVED by Heather and SECONDED by Christina THAT the financial report be accepted. CARRIED.**

PROJECTS UPDATE:

- **Tree Donor Program —**
All the trees have been assigned and now the tags can be ordered. Stories from the donors will be collected. The celebration will be held in the spring.
- **Improvement of the Woodland — Eric**
A few trees were planted but the project is now on hold until next spring.
- **Tree Book — Eric**
Eight walks will be outlined in the book. Richard is gathering the photographs of the trees in all seasons. A grant application has been made. Decision to be made as to how to publish it.
- **Boutique Sales**
Only two copies of *Our Farm in the City* remain. Donna and Heather will look into reordering

it.

EVENTS: Donna

- The Friends need a person focused on events to give this area of activity the attention it deserves.
- The volunteer luncheon was very successful with about 60 people attending. Farm staff appreciated the invitation.
- The preliminary list of event dates for 2024 have been circulated. An AAFC contact is required so we can submit these dates.
- The book sale is set for October 21-22 and lots of books available. The Board recommended an increase in the price of the books. The Board also discussed social media which FCEF could use to publicize events.

VOLUNTEERS: Christina

- Donna was asked to approach an ex-volunteer to see if she would be willing to be interviewed for a write-up for the Newsletter, and follow-up with Richard if she agrees.
- Candice Benson, a candidate for the board, will be invited to the next board meeting and has agreed to facilitate the strategy session.
- Board members are asked to submit their volunteer hours regularly to Donna.

MEMBERSHIP:

- 400 FCEF memberships, which represents 504 people. To date we have received 152 donations totaling \$26,861 (including CelebriTree donations).
- Janice encountered problems with the software and PayPal which has not been forwarding the proceeds from sales and donations.

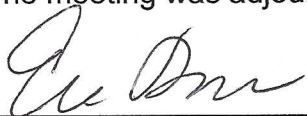
STRATEGY SESSION

- Dianne gave an overview of the session, including the agenda for the retreat, and will be polling members on possible dates. Lunch will be provided and a venue is required.

NEXT MEETING

The next FCEF Board meeting will be held November 15, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m.



Eric Jones, President



Shirley Ewen, Secretary