

Minutes of the Farmers Institute Directors Meeting held on MONDAY, March 16th 2020 @ 7 p.m. in the Cobble Hill Hall.

Those present: Roger Painter - President, Jason Walker - VP, Robin Brett - Treasurer, Lynne Pohynayko, Blair Herbert, Bill Wikkerink, Dave Bilkoski, Bill Dumont and Gerry Giles - Secretary.

Regrets: Nellie Poelman, John English

The following items were added to the agenda: General Membership Meeting cancellation, movie cancellation, Easter Egg Hunt cancellation, closing the buildings to the public and using teleconferencing for meetings.

Moved Bill Wikkerink
Second Robin Brett
the agenda be accepted as amended. MOTION CARRIED

Moved Bill Dumont
Second Lynne Pohynayko
the February 17, 2020 minutes be accepted as distributed. MOTION CARRIED

Business Arising:

- GST update - Robin - no report.
- 4-H agreement recommendations - Roy/Roger/Gerry - on hold.
- Website Request for Proposals - Gerry reviewed the process involved in sending out and receiving the Request for Proposals for rebuilding our existing websites. She indicated 8 submissions had been received ranging in cost from \$35,000 to \$1,700. Of the submissions received 5 were referred to a local website designer for her consideration and comment. At the end of her review she recommended Paul Mycroft of *Market 2 All* whose business is located in Ladysmith. Gerry said she concurred with the recommendation and after discussion, it was

Moved Bill Dumont
Second Bill Wikkerink
the firm of *Market 2 All* be contracted to build two new websites for the Farmers Institute at a cost not to exceed \$5,200 plus tax. MOTION CARRIED

Note: Gerry and Robin are to determine whether sufficient funds exist to develop both sites now or possibly split them and have the Fair site developed now and have the Farmers Institute site developed after the Fair.

- Heat Pump update - Gerry indicated Doug Lockhart thought the problems with the heat pump has been resolved.
- Heather Garden Recommendation - Roger updated the board on his conversations with the Heather Club and with Shirley Cooke. The stone with the memorial to Dan Cooke will be moved to one of the trees in the horse field.
- Constitution and Bylaw Review with possible name change - no report yet as too busy to connect with committee members (Gerry, Bill, Dave and maybe Morris).
- Seedy Saturday cancellation update was provided by Robin who is currently in the process of providing a refund to all of the vendors.

- Beer, Burger and a Movie night date has been changed to May 2, 2020. Four volunteers from the Seniors Luncheon group have offered to help on that evening.

Correspondence:

- CVRD advising Grant Funding dates will change for 2021 and 2022. Their letter also included our annual grant for the 2020 year.

Treasurer's Report was provided by Robin who reviewed the Balance Sheet and Income Statement by Project. She indicated the change in CVRD funding next year was going to present some difficulties unless we can somehow switch our insurance payment from its current renewal date of February to August.

Moved Robin Brett
Second Dave Bilkoski

a sub group consisting of Robin and Dave work with Capri Insurance to try to find a way to shift our policy renewal date from February to August.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved Robin Brett
Second Lynne Pohynayko

the treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

The Rental Calendars for March and April were reviewed by Gerry who indicated that all large groups have now cancelled their bookings and most of the smaller groups are doing the same.

Maintenance Report - Bill submitted a written copy of his maintenance report and indicated most of the work on the sheep and poultry barns are nearing completion. Also that several minor plumbing repairs had been carried out. Work continues on digging out the posts at the Baird Barn.

Fair Report - Blair updated the Board on the March 9th Fair meeting and referred the directors to the notes provided. He indicated the Fair Board has recommended a time change in the Fair operating hours and they will now run from 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. with a concert being held in the Common starting at 5 p.m. He also discussed GST and the requirement to register. It was agreed we would increase vendor rates to capture the GST and the Vendor Form would be amended to reflect this charge.

New Business -

1. Capri Insurance - Dave provided an update on his conversation with Robert Flume former owner of Capri who indicated all rates were going up due to the incidents of fire and floods around the world and we were lucky our increase was only \$2,000.
2. Shaw service provisions - Dave indicated he had communicated with Shaw several times but to date the response received has been unsatisfactory.
3. Movie report to February was provided by Lisa Finch and received with thanks.
4. March 23, 2020 General Membership Meeting

Moved Jason Walker
Second Bill Wikkerink

the General Membership meeting scheduled for March 23, 2020 be cancelled due to concerns regarding Covid19.

MOTION CARRIED

5. Cobble Hill Cinema

Moved Lynne Pohynayko

Second Robin Brett

the Cobble Hill Cinema be cancelled for a minimum of 3 weeks due to Covid19 concerns. The situation is to be reviewed after 3 weeks. MOTION CARRIED

6. Easter Egg Hunt

Moved Lynne Pohynayko

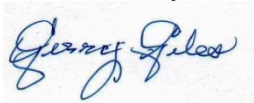
Second Robin Brett

the Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by South Cowichan Storage be cancelled due to concerns regarding Covid19. MOTION CARRIED

7. Closing the buildings for use was discussed in some detail due to the concern regarding Covid19. Although most rentals are being cancelled it was agreed the situation would be monitored.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Submitted by,



Gerry Giles, Secretary