Minutes of the Farmers Institute Directors Meeting held on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 7 p.m. in Cobble Hill Hall and via Zoom.

Those present in the hall: Roger Painter - President, Robin Brett - Treasurer, Lynne Pohynayko, Nellie Poelman, Jayne Shaw, Russell Dann and Gerry Giles - Secretary and those present via zoom: Blair Herbert, Brenda Burch and Roy Davies.

The meeting was brought to order at 7 p.m. with a call for additions to the agenda. The topic of centennial celebration events was added under new business after which it was

Moved Lynne Pohynayko Second Jayne Shaw

the agenda be accepted as distributed and with the addition. MOTION CARRIED

Moved Robin Brett

Second Lynne Pohynayko

the April 19, 2021 minutes be accepted as distributed. MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence: a card from Barry & Annie Fisher was received and included a \$2,500 donation to the Farmers Institute. Our appreciation goes to the Fishers for their donation.

Business from the Director's Minutes:

- Constitution and Bylaw on hold
- Tecky expanded internet service provisions on hold pending funding.

President's Report - Roger reported the focus has been on the outside grounds, which were cleaned with the help of 10 Rotarians and some members of the Farmers Institute. Jim is keeping the fairground side mowed and cleaned while Allan has cut the lawns around the hall. Roger is keeping the fruit trees watered. He and June are looking after the gardens.

Treasurer's Report - Robin gave the following verbal report as well as reviewed the previously distributed Financial Statements. Since the pandemic started, my thought has been to get and keep the Institute on an even keel financially. Those of you have had financial difficulties will understand just how heavily this can weigh on a person's mind.

Last fiscal year we had good rentals from November to the middle of March, and then Covid shutdown stopped all rental income completely. This fiscal year there have been no normal rentals, so overall rental income is down even more substantially. Thus far the CVRD grant is also half of what it was last year at April 30<sup>th</sup>. Despite those issues and by making money a bit here and there, we have had some money coming in we have been staying afloat. The Red Cross Program made \$2370 and we have been earning money making meat pies, plus we've had substantial donations for the Centennial Fund. Mostly however, without sacrificing upkeep and repairs that needed to be done, we have been doing a good job of keeping expenses to an absolute minimum.

Last fiscal year, we were spending an average of \$6064 on expenses every month. This fiscal year we are spending \$2875, which is more than a 50% drop. As a result, last year our Current Earnings were in a Net Loss of (\$22,751) at the end of April and this fiscal year we have a Net Profit of \$29,626. Some of that profit is because of the donation to the Centennial Fund, but even without that, we are still in the black. If we continue small earnings and keep to our spending restraints, we will weather this pandemic until it is over.

Moved Russell Dann Second Jayne Shaw

the Farmers Institute open a BC Gaming account and name Robin Brett, Gerry Giles and Roger Painter as the signing authorities on that account.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved Lynne Pohynayko Second Nellie Poelman

the treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Secretary's Report - Gerry provided a written update on the Centennial Project.

Fundraising Committee - the question was asked whether we wanted to provide the pot pies once a month during June and July. After considerable discussion it was

Moved Robin Brett Second Russell Dann

that meat pies be made by volunteers and sold once a month during June and July.

MOTION CARRIED

Rentals Report - Gerry reported rentals are slow and that is not likely to change until 2022.

Maintenance Report - no update.

112th Cobble Hill Fair - Blair provided information on the 2021 Cobble Hill Virtual Fair. He indicated the entry section of the catalogue is now posted on our website and that entertainment is being lined up for the Saturday, August 28, 2021 family concert.

Moved Jayne Shaw Second Russell Dann

the secretary, rental, fundraising, maintenance and Fair reports be accepted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

## **New Business:**

- 1. David Cherry's idea about selling a coin to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Cobble Hill Hall was brought forward for information. His company will pay for the 100 coins produced and he will arrange to sell them on August 28<sup>th</sup> at the concert.
- 2. Items like the coffee table book, colouring contest and other events celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Cobble Hill Hall were brought forward. As there were no offers to coordinate the coffee table book, it was not pursued. However, the colouring contest can easily be added to the Fair Catalogue. Also, it was thought the August 28<sup>th</sup> concert was part of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

The meeting was moved adjourned by Russell Dann at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by,

Gerry Giles, Secretary