

Minutes of the Farmers Institute Directors Meeting held on Monday, November 20, 2023 at 7 p.m. in the Youth Hall located at 3565 Watson Avenue in Cobble Hill, BC

Those present: Roger Painter – President; Roy Davies – Vice President; Robin Brett – Treasurer; Russell Dann; Gord Dickenson; George Baird; Jayne Shaw and Gerry Giles – Treasurer.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm with the acceptance of the agenda by consensus.

Moved/second

the October 16, 2023 minutes be accepted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

Business from the Director's Minutes:

- AGM – Next Monday, November 27th 2023 – President, Secretary and 4 Director positions up for election.

Moved/Second

Acceptance of the Executive Minutes of October 23, 2023.

MOTION CARRIED

Business from the Executive Minutes:

- 1. Underground wiring – this item was explained in considerable detail to the directors as it will improve the lighting at the Cenotaph as well as be part of our grant commitment.
- 5. Proposed Fair Entry Increases for 2024: Adults \$12; Seniors \$10; Juniors \$7; Family \$30. It has been almost a decade since the entry fees have been increased so after consideration the executive is suggesting the above to the Board for their approval.

Moved/second

The entry fees to the Cobble Hill Fair be increased as follows for 2024:

Adults \$12; Seniors \$10; Juniors \$7; Family \$30

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence

- Thank you card from the Legion expressing gratitude for the wonderful meal catered to them by the Farmers Institute on October 26th 2023.

President's Report – Roger reported he has been kept busy with the following items. Rotary has expanded its bottle drive to include the Stu Armour Hall location and he monitored it to ensure the grounds stayed clear. The proceeds from the bottle drive go to the CMS Food Bank so it is a very worthwhile cause and the Farmers Institute is pleased to help out. The meat pie program is going strong, and he is grateful to see volunteer support for this program increasing. The Wet Chem report has been done. A lot of leaves were removed from the grounds by a volunteer, and many truckloads of wood chips have been brought into the horse field by local tree trimming companies, which helps both us and them. The trophies and trophy night are a topic needing follow up and more discussion before the Fair catalogue is printed next year. He said he still needs to locate some trophies. He also said the turn out on Remembrance Day was terrific and as always it is wonderful to see.

Treasurer's Report – Robin said she is happy to report the Farmers Institute's financial position is in better shape than it has been in quite a few years. The chequing account is stable going into the new fiscal year and we have paid our large insurance bill and the funds are already set aside for our insurance bill for 2024 and the 2024 fair floats. We have funds to finish off the Fair Technical Reserve Project by going underground for the gate electrical. Why is the gate electrical important? It will rid us of some big tripping hazards on Fair Day. We are also starting to build our fund for the new hall floor.

When we look at how our Current Earning for the year have accumulated, on the income statement we can see that Catering, Cobble Hill Fair, and Meat Pie program have all made a profit. Smaller programs

like the Show and Shine and Seedy Saturday also showed profits. As mentioned, we still have money left in the Technical Upgrade program for the Fair. Hall and grounds is in an expected loss position because rentals never equal repairs on the property and buildings, however the loss on the Main Hall addition is simply the expected money we owed on the project, over and above the Federal grant we received. And what an addition! It has saved volunteers so much time and energy in the Meat Pie Program, Catering, South Cowichan Seniors, and Fair Day; right through to dealing with rentals because we now have the convenient storage of tables and chairs. It's had a positive effect on pretty much every aspect of our hall and the programs.

Once more, thanks must go to the many wonderful volunteers that give so generously of their time and expertise in all of these programs. I am one volunteer. There is value in one. But I think we have demonstrated in what happens when you have the power of many, supporting each other in a common purpose. My thanks to all of you who have joined in that purpose.

Robin then presented the 2024 budget for the Board's consideration while noting this budget needs to go to the AGM for the Society's approval.

Moved/second

The SCHFIAS 2024 budget be accepted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved/second

The treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Secretary's Report - Gerry said we have another catering job on Friday, December 1st. It is for the CVRD Electoral Areas A, B and C's for their APC and Parks appreciation dinner. She also reviewed the rental sheets for November and December noting the last event in December before the regularly scheduled closure will be the 11th which will be the Seniors Lunch event. She said South Island Mechanical were in today servicing all of the heat pumps plus the hot water on demand in the Cobble Hill Hall. The technician noted the filters in the Stu Armour Hall are very dirty and need to be cleaned. A scissor lift is needed to do this because of the height of the ceiling.

Moved/second

All reports be accepted as presented.

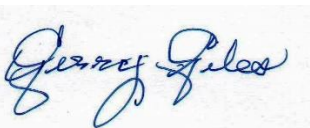
MOTION CARRIED

Next Directors meeting – December at the call of the Chair

Annual General meeting – November 27, 2023

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Submitted by,



Gerry Giles
Secretary