

Notes of the Shawnigan Cobble Hill Farmers Institute Board of Directors meeting held on June 15th at the Youth Hall located at 3565 Watson Avenue Cobble Hill.

Those present: Roy Davies – President, Gerry Giles – Vice President, Bill Wikkerink, Kathy Pringle, Guy Kendall and Anna Bonney. Also present was Ann Baty.

As a quorum was not present an official meeting could not be held therefore only notes could be taken for the meeting which was called to order by the president at 7:06 pm.

1. Two items were added to the agenda under new business: Updating Signing Authorities of the Society and Abiding by the bylaws of the Society.
2. The agenda was approved as amended.
3. There were no minutes available for the previous meeting.
4. Reports:

- Presidents Report

The Band Stand is on schedule for opening in July. The CVRD is not interested in having WiFi coverage provided by the Farmers Institute; however, SCHFIAS will continue to provide it for Music in the Park if desired. The stage at the back of the hall has been temporarily repaired but it needs a lot more work before it is safe. This will be covered under maintenance. Bill Wikkerink posed the question why only two 4-H Clubs were participating this year and Roy responded Mary Nokes and Claire Tompkins were in charge of that area so he didn't really know.

- The Treasurer's Report was unavailable.

- Ann's Rentals Report is as follows:

The regular dog club and 4H club meetings, clinics, showing practices were held. CUPW meeting (postal union) met in the Youth Hall. The Cowichan Valley Craft Market was held in the Main Hall the Youth Hall and on the grounds. A wedding was held in the Main Hall. The Cowichan Green Community held a fundraiser dance, and two Senior Lunches were held. Thanks to Roger and Guy for all their work with custodial, furniture movement and technology.

- Maintenance Report: Guy's report focused on the stage at the back of the hall and the need to do something about the condition it is in. While the surface of the stage is in poor shape also questionable is the foundation. SCHFIAS continues to spend money to repair the surface of the stage every few years with no permanent solution being found. The question was asked whether we need a stage that large. Ann said she would ask the Highland Dance group what size stage they require for their show.

- Seniors Lunch Report: Gerry indicated all is going well with the seniors lunch. The speaker on elder abuse, fraud prevention and scams is being very well receive and the speaker is very vibrant so she holds the seniors attention. On another note, Gerry said

she had filed the required CVRD Grant report seeking \$33,050 for the year but had not heard back so checked today and everything is in order and no further information is required. She read the last paragraph, which stated this grant had been approved by referendum vote of Cobble Hill taxpayers in 1985. Something the CVRD seems to have forgotten.

- Show & Shine – Gerry said posters are out and the ad and article will be in Valley Voice in July's edition.
 - Roger sent in the following Fair Report: The Catalogue is complete and will be going up on-line in the near future. It is also being sent to the printer for the hard copies. Total sponsorships will be \$27,750 with \$22,200 submitted so far. Excellent response from our business community. We continue to work on vendors and Food Vendors. 4-H is in good shape. All the usual applications and approvals are either done or pending. We have St. Johns Academy to provide us with bus service to replace Kerry Park. Aside from the usual entertainment we will have the Miniature Horses, Sheep Dogs, Company of the Blue Dragons, Raptors, and all our usual entertainment. Our new Volunteer Coordinator is working hard and is a great addition to our committee. Emily and company are doing a great job on social media. I urge the Board members to check out our postings and forward these posts to people you know. Particularly on Vendors and Volunteers. This is not hard to do. We are working on putting together two new items. A Child-related Zucchini race, similar to what Saltspring does and possibly a tug-of-war involving the Fire Departments.
5. Old Business – Both trees and stage repairs have been either looked after or covered
 6. Updated signing authority:
 - as Roger is no longer a member of the board of directors the CVRD will not accept him as a signing authority and therefore this should be changed at the bank and other institutions.
 - The Society is a member driven society and as such we are not abiding by our own bylaws. Our bylaw as approved by the membership and passed by the province state we should hold 4 membership meetings a year. We did not hold any last year except for the AGM and this year we have not held any. If Roger is amenable, it is suggested we hold one in July talking about how exciting this year's Fair will be.
 - Ann brought up the possibility of a bursary for a student graduating from Francis Kelsey School in the field of agricultural studies. It was noted as this would be a budget item for 2027, it should be brought forward at the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm

Notes kept by Gerry Giles