**OVFC Board Meeting**

**Minutes**

**Wednesday, July 6 2022**

**7:00 pm**

**Via Zoom**

In attendance: Chris, Connie, Marshall, Dianne, Perri-Rae, Joanne

Regrets: Emily,Sarah, Cheryl, Ashleigh

**1. Meeting Administration**

* The agenda was approved.
* The minutes of the April meeting were approved.

**2. Order Review**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Sales this year** | **Sales last year**  | **No. Customers** | **No. Producers** |
| May | $9,263.06 | $10,541 | 74 | 33 |
| June | $9,858.99 | $11,388 | 79 | 36 |

16 new members signed up during the period. Of these, 5 paid and ordered. How they found out about us:

2 – Word of mouth

1 – Facebook

1 – Website

1 – Other

**3. Election of Officers**

Chris conducted the election of officers. The following people were elected:

**President** – Marshall

**Vice President** – Ashleigh

**Treasurer** – Joanne

**Secretary –** Chris

**4. Update on the Agri-Food Career Fair:**

Emily submitted the following report:

As you know, the career fair was successful! We had around 35 students take part from the Fellowes Green Industries class, hospitality classes and SHSM programs.

Brief re-cap: It ran on June 7th, 8th and 9th at six farms (Stone Farms (Valley Bio), Pinnacle Haven Farm, Hedgeview Farm, Brooker's Cider, Ottawa Valley Farm to Fork and Fepro Farms (Klaesi Dairy Farm) across the county and we had 3 different speakers - John Espadero who spoke on the topic of Bee Keeping at Fellowes High School, Jenn Dolman who spoke about Agronomy at Opeongo and Murray Boer who spoke about Bee Keeping at Opeongo.

We were able to collect data and feedback from 20 students who took part in the career fair and are now working on a report that documents what happened, who was involved etc. so that we can run further career fairs in the future. This report will be shared once complete.

Cameron Montgomery, special projects coordinator at North Algona Wilberforce, is going to turn our formal report into a report that will get distributed as a newsletter to the county. She would also like to make a book (a longer version of the report) that highlights the event and brings awareness to the industry through interviews with professionals, as well as articles written by individuals involved.

Marshall added that a video is being made of the event and will be uploaded to YouTube when it is finished. Emily is helping Cameron with the final report. She was paid for her work on this project which will be covered by the grant.

**5. Farms Open Report**

Dianne reported that:

* 1 site has volunteered already.
* Application forms are being distributed both at farmer’s markets and on-line.
* After completed forms have been received, potential sites will be visited by members of the team.
* Renfrew County will look after advertising for this event. The committee will produce an advertising plan.

**6. Summer Student Status**

* Applications were received for our summer student position, but all applicants have since withdrawn.
* Marshall will investigate the possibility of hiring somebody for one month.

**7. Sale of 210 Queen St., Eganville**

Marshall reported that: while we do have a lease for our sorting space until the end of 2022, the building owner is actively trying to sell the building which could result in an increase in rent. North-Algona Wilberforce could rent us sorting space once their building is renovated, but that will not happen for a while.

We should keep our eyes open for another sorting centre.

**8. COVID Policy**

**Motion:** On delivery day, volunteers will be required to wear masks for the foreseeable future. Testing is not required anymore. Moved by Connie, Seconded by Perri-Rae, Carried.

**9. Pembroke Multicultural Festival**

This is scheduled for August 20. The board decided not to participate this year. Chris will inform the festival organizers.

**10. Other Business**

* **Food Labelling:** At the March meeting of the board, mention was made of a producer who was not labelling their produce correctly. Marshall had a discussion with this producer and they are now following the law regarding product labelling and are selling through the co-op again. There was some discussion about this.

**11. Next Meeting –** Chris will send out a Doodle Poll for the date of the next meeting.