**OVFC Board Meeting**

**Minutes**

**Monday November 14, 2022**

**1:30 pm**

**Via Zoom**

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

Regrets: Cheryl, Cara, Emily, Sarah

**1. Meeting Administration**

* The agenda was approved.
* The minutes of the October 4 meeting were approved.

**2. Order Review**

* Cheryl reported that sales for October were $9,752.68 compared to $12,773 last year. 71 customers ordered from 39 producers.
* 15 people signed up and 1 paid and ordered.
* Break-even point for sale is now higher than $10,000/month due to increased costs.
* Ashleigh mentioned that the Deep River orders are so large that they just fit into Ashleigh and Chris’s vehicles. She will investigate obtaining a trailer to help with the delivery.

**3. Making your Food Dollar go Further**

* There was some discussion on this topic. The next newsletter should have an article on how to make your food dollar go further.
* Ashleigh reported that the Paula Recipe Book will have a section on intelligent food buying.
* One suggestion was: keep your vegetable peelings to make broth.

**4. Financial**

* Joanne presented the financial report for the 3rd quarter 2022. The loss to date is around $9,000, but grants are still coming in, so it isn’t as bad as it looks. We are still spending more than we make.
* The Career Fair will not cost us anything due to grants and other support.
* The Open Farms Day will cost a little.
* Our bank balance is low but we should be in a better position by November 30.
* Local Food Market is increasing their prices. Joanne looked at other firms offering similar services but they are more expensive than LFM.

**5. Tourism**

* The Culinary Tourism Workshop will take place on November 23 at the Eagle’s Nest. Connie and Dianne will attend on behalf of the Co-op.
* Chris will sign us up for membership in the Ottawa Valley Tourism Association.

**6. Board Recruitment**

Marshall stated that since the Co-op has a good reputation now, and since food is important and a good topic of discussion, there are a number of good reasons for people to join our board. We should start advertising for new board members now.

**7. Event Planning**

Connie suggested that we should have a Co-op Community Event in the spring. This event could have:

* producers showing off their wares
* entertainment (Perri-Rae’s brother is a possibility)
* allow people to meet and great the board and other members.
* discussions on growing your own vegetable garden
* a guest speaker on issues around food production in Ontario.

Suggested date and place are: Saturday March 18 at the Eagle’s Nest in Eganville.

**8. Career Fair Video**

* There will be an event to launch the Career Fair Video, possibly at Fellowes High School. Marshall has contacted Sandi Theilheimer regarding this. The target audience is people who were involved in organizing and attending this event.
* This video can also be shown at libraries around the county. The more showings the better.

**9. Next Meeting:** Tuesday January 10 starting at 7:00 pm.