

# OVFC Board Meeting

## Minutes

### Monday, February 26, 2024

### 8:30 am

#### Via Zoom

In attendance: Chris, Perri-Rae, Cheryl K., Cheryl S., Nicole, Janice, Lynne, Cameron, Ashleigh

Regrets: Joanne, Michael

Guest: Connie

#### 1. Administration

- The agenda was approved.
- The minutes of the January 10 meeting were approved as circulated

#### 2. Orders

- January sales were \$9,728.19 compared to \$12,154 last year. 78 customers ordered from 35 producers. February sales were \$7,698.65 compared to \$10,180 last year. 67 customers ordered from 35 producers.

8 people signed up but only 1 person ordered and paid. They heard about us from Facebook.

What can be done to increase the number of customers and the order volume?

- Lynne raised the insurance requirement for producers. After some discussion Perri-Rae and Janice will investigate this issue to see what producers actually need.

#### 3. Financial

- In Joanne's absence, Janice presented the draft financial report for 2023. We had a loss in 2023 of \$483 compared to \$5,451 in 2022. We still have cash reserves of around \$7,000.
- One of the main reasons that we did well is the Harvest Dinner. We need more events such as that.

#### 4. Events

- **Bonnechere Cup** – This event didn't make any money, but it didn't lose any either.

- **On-Line Auction:**
  - Lynne circulated a inventory of stuff owned by the co-op. The board agreed that she send a list to the board for their approval of items which can be included in the auction.
  - Connie demonstrated the Co-op site on Bidding Owl. She has sent access information to the board. Board members are encouraged to create accounts on Bidding Owl, explore the site and send comments to Connie.
  - A PayPal account is required. Connie will arrange this with Joanne.
  - Contributions will be solicited via e-mail to producers. The event will be advertised by newsletter and other e-mails, plus Facebook etc. The auction is a good time for producers to advertise their products. They should be encouraged to donate products.
- Renfrew County Health informed the co-op that they need to approve any event that we hold outside of delivery day. We have to follow all the appropriate rules.
- **Seedy Sunday** – The OVFC will not attend this event formally, the White-Pine Bison will be attending and will have OVFC cards at their table.
- **CNL's Earth Week Sustainability Fair** –

**Motion:** to attend the CNL Earth Week Sustainability Fair on April 24. Moved by Janice, Seconded by Lynne, carried.

- **Pembroke Community Expo** – the feeling of those present was that this event is not useful for the board. Janice will poll board members to see if we should attend.
- **Algonquin College** (Ottawa) students are holding a food related event. The board decided not to participate in it.

## 5. Good Food Box

Lena Jensen of the Renfrew County and District Health Unit sent a message to the board about setting up a Good Food Box program using food from local producers. She would like to hold a meeting with the board to discuss this. Janice will contact Lena to follow up on this project.

## 6. Cook Book Project

The team hopes to have all the recipes input into their publishing program by the end of March. Currently it is about 120 pages long. They hope to present some sample pages to the board in the near future.

## 7. Next Meeting – Wednesday March 27 at 7:30 pm.