



BRACEBRIDGE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
March 9, 2017

The Bracebridge Agricultural Society met for their first Board of Directors meeting of the year on March 9, 2017 in the Knox Presbyterian Church, Bracebridge. The meeting was called to order at 6:59pm by President Dave Nichols.

In Attendance: Michael Barnes, Josh Campbell, Jennifer Glover, Heather Hurren, Bill McBride, Dave Nichols, Arla Rebman, Carole Ruttan, Sheila Stratton, Lynn Wilson, Donna Wallace, Paul Sisson, Thelma Marrin, Lynda Nicholson, John Wilson

Absent/Excused: Heather Stevens

Guests: Gary Simmonds for presentation

Secretary/Treasurer Pat Munroe confirmed there was a quorum with 15 of the 16 Directors present.

Additions to the Agenda

Additions were made to the agenda by Sheila Stratton re: 150th Canada Day display and Lynn Wilson re: new shirts.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of February 9, 2017 had previously been distributed. It was noted that Lynn Wilson, John Wilson, Paul Sisson and Sheila Stratton do not have access to internet and would receive their copies before the start of each meeting.

Motion 1: To accept the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of February 9, 2017.
Moved by Sheila Stratton, seconded by Josh Campbell. M.C. (25-03-17)

Woodcarving Demonstration

Guest Gary Simmonds made a presentation/request on his and Jim Armishaw's behalf. He made reference to the interest in handcarving in Muskoka started by Jack Webster. He informed us that there are over 100 carvers in the Parry Sound / Muskoka District, including 7 groups, of which 3 are in Bracebridge. He questioned what the fair had to offer of interest to men and suggested a carving demo. Gary advised that they would require a 6' – 8' table space back against a wall with electrical power for their dremels. They would have a protective plexiglass barrier for safety to keep hands away from the equipment and knives. They would have the demo going all weekend long, and include examples of birds, chip, character and cottonwood bark carvings. They would provide their signage and obtain their own sponsorship. They would not be attempting to sell any items. Gary was thanked and excused from the meeting.

Thelma Marrin questioned the availability of space, and a number of reorganization suggestions were made. It was agreed that a display/exhibit review would be made after the building was emptied of storage.

Motion 2: To approve a woodcarving demonstration in the Exhibit Hall.
Moved by Thelma Marrin, seconded by Donna Wallace. M.C. (26-03-17)
Pat Munroe to advise Gary Simmonds.

Other New Proposed Attractions

Lynn Wilson and Carole Ruttan highlighted the opportunity we have been missing by not utilizing the horse ring on Friday and Saturday nights. They feel that there is sufficient lighting available in the ring to hold some additional attractions after dark.

Lynn reported that the Muskoka Archery Club and the Highland Games were both potential options for the Saturday night. The Muskoka Archery Club would come at no cost. The Highland Games would come for 2 shows at a total cost of \$1,000 to cover travel expenses. They would also assist with parking.

Motion 3: To approve an archery demonstration in the horse ring on Saturday night.
Moved by Sheila Stratton, seconded by Heather Hurren. M.C. (27-03-17)
Lynn Wilson to coordinate and obtain contractual agreement.

Motion 4: To approve 2 shows of highland games demonstrations in the sand ring on Saturday afternoon and evening at a cost of \$1,000, and in return receive parking assistance on Saturday.
Moved by Lynda Nicholson, seconded by John Wilson. M.C. (28-03-17)
John Wilson to coordinate and obtain contractual agreement.

Josh Campbell has a personal connection and suggested the possibility of bringing in Michelle Wright for the Friday night. Lynn Wilson advised that we may have an open-sided trailer available to us for a stage. Bill McBride cautioned that we would need to ensure proper electrical requirements were available.

Motion 5: That Josh Campbell proceed to investigate the availability and affordability for bringing in Michelle Wright on the Friday night.
Moved by Bill McBride, seconded by Lynn Wilson. M.C. (29-03-17)

Correspondence

Outgoing –

1. Peerless Security – notice of revised keyholders and alarms contacts.

Incoming –

1. District #11 – suggestion that we push back the start time of our Friday judging to 2:00pm to accommodate sharing judges with the Sundridge/Strong fair. It was decided that we would keep to our current schedule.
2. Peerless Security – receipt of security cards for new alarm contacts.

Financial Report

Cash Flow Statement –Pat Munroe presented the Cash Flow Statement for the months of February, 2017, highlighting key revenues and expenses. She reported no changes in the Savings Account or investments.

Motion 6: To accept the Treasurer's Report.
Moved by John Wilson, seconded by Lynn Wilson. M.C. (30-03-17)

Pricing Review

Insurance – Pat Munroe advised receipt of the insurance premium notice from Co-Operators Insurance. She advised that it was all-inclusive of commercial, liability, accidental and Directors & Officers liability insurance coverages. She highlighted the commercial premium amount in comparison to the past provider.

Motion 7: To pay the Co-Operators premiums totalling \$5,728.32.

Moved by Lynda Nicholson, seconded by Donna Wallace. M.C. (31-03-17)

Horse Pulls – Paul Sisson requested an increase of \$25 for first place prize winnings for each of the Light and Heavy horse pulls. He advised that the increase will bring us more in line with other local horse pulls.

Motion 8: To increase first place prize winning amount to \$300 for each of the Light and Heavy horse pulls.

Moved by Paul Sisson, seconded by John Wilson. M.C. (32-03-17)

Concessions – The current pricing for concessions was reviewed, and as per Concessions Manager Lynn Wilson's recommendation, pricing will remain unchanged.

Gate 3-Day Pass – The advantages/disadvantages of pre-selling admission by way of a 3-day pass was reviewed. Pat Munroe advised that only 38 were sold in 2015 and 42 in 2016, most of which were to the campers. Only 2 were sold from the store uptown.

Camping – The current pricing for camping was reviewed. Camping prices were decided to remain the same, with a change of wording for admission.

Motion 9: To eliminate the 3-day passes and change the camping agreement to refer to a \$20 per person admission charge, in lieu of the 3-day passes.

Moved by Josh Campbell, seconded by Carole Ruttan. M.C. (33-03-17)

Pinecone Treadlers Request – Pat Munroe presented a request from Pinecone Treadlers for receipt of remuneration of \$85 to recoup the cost of their 2016 fair expenses, and further to request some sort of payment for their demonstration display for the 2017 fair and going forward. It was determined that we could not go back to 2016, but would consider payment for this and future years as a crowd drawing attraction.

Motion 10: Not to pay the Pinecone Treadlers for back 2016 expenses, but to pay \$150 for the 2017 fair.

Moved by Arla Rebman, seconded by Jennifer Glover. M.C. (34-03-17)

Provincial Convention Reports

Delegates Lynn Wilson, Carole Ruttan and Pat Munroe presented their reports on their attendance at this year's Provincial OAAS Convention in Toronto.

Lynn's report focussed on her findings at the tradeshow, obtaining the pig race contract, confirming the dog show space requirements, confirming the Dirty Dishes entertainment group and obtaining new designs for ribbons, tattoos and stickers. She reported the successful renting of one large grandstand style bleacher for \$725 + shipping + tax, for a total of ~\$1,730, with an option to purchase later in October.

Carole presented some resource material that she picked up and/or ordered at her own cost for distribution at the 150th Canada Day display. She outlined some other ideas that could be done locally to encourage farm and agriculture education. She also confirmed that the trailer coming from the Egg Farmers of Ontario. She reported on her Code of Conduct seminar and will forward to the Constitution Committee.

Pat Munroe presented her report on the convention including total expenses, awards, speakers and items of note. She reported that many items going beyond local fairs to District and Provincial levels are being disqualified due to non-adherence to rules or incorrect labelling. She highlighted a couple of additions to our meeting agendas and their rationale. Pat also clarified the membership requirement vis-à-vis a code of conduct, advising that committee members and other volunteers do not have to become members, but that they are to be included in a volunteer database that tracks hours and are also required to sign a code of conduct form. Pat will provide a proposed form for review.

At the Annual General Meeting, delegates voted on the proposed amendments to the Provincial Constitution, which were minor in content and hence, approved. The Resolution proposed by District 12 requiring the OAAS President to attend at least 2 fairs in each District each year was defeated, but Pat advised that it was not binding and will now go to the Provincial Board of Directors for further consideration and/or amendment.

Pat thanked the Board on behalf of the delegates for the opportunity for attending the convention.

Beer Garden

Dave Nichols reported that the beer garden could not proceed with Lake of Bays as originally thought, as they do not provide a 3rd-party service offering under their licencing. Jennifer Glover and Dave will continue to pursue with the Griffin Pub, and report back at the next meeting.

Shuttle Bus

Heather Hurren reported that Hammonds apparently thought that the Town's Wave bus was going to be redirected towards the fair on the Saturday, much like it was for the Fire and Ice Festival. Further investigation will be required. She also advised that the Town bus would only run on Saturday. A Hammonds shuttle for Sunday would cost \$85/hour + tax. Heather has received consent for the use of parking lots from Canadian Tire, and Dave is communicating with St. Dominics Catholic School. Pat Munroe would ensure that Certificates of Insurance were provided to both locations.

Colouring Contest

Jennifer Glover reported that the colouring contest for the kids has been narrowed down to just a few possible winners. She plans on posting them onto Facebook and asking for votes towards the winner. Heather Hurren expressed an interest being shown by parents and kids, and Pat Munroe is awaiting the winner for the prize book covers.

Goat Show

The various options from Angee Pell's presentation last month were reviewed. Due to cost and logistics, the option of holding a full show was discarded. Discussion ensued over the other two options, but concerns about costs were still expressed.

Motion 11: Not to proceed with a full goat show, but to maintain the current display program at \$150/display and to offer Angie Pell an additional \$250 for a minimum 1 hour show/demonstration on goat milking, goat care, fun with goats and show demonstration.
Moved by Donna Wallace, seconded by Lynn Wilson. M.C. (35-03-17)

Motion 12: To remove the Goats from the list of 150th Anniversary Fair Livestock Special Awards.
Moved by Jennifer Glover, seconded by Lynn Wilson. M.C. (36-03-17)

Easter Egg Hunt

Lynn Wilson reported that the eggs have been ordered. Donna Wallace requested confirmation of the start time for communication to the newspaper. Pat Munroe advised that the notice is already up on our website and on the Facebook page. Jennifer Glover to connect with her contact at the MOOSE FM for announcing duties.

District #11 Spring Meeting

Pat Munroe advised the date and location of the upcoming District #11 Spring meeting – Magnetawan, April 22, 2017. She advised that she would need to know names of attending delegates before the end of the month in order to send our RSVP. She noted that neither she nor Lynn Wilson are included in our number of voting delegates due to their District and Provincial positions. Sheila Stratton, Lynda Nicholson and Heather Hurren expressed interest in attending.

150th Canada Day Celebrations

Lynn Wilson that there was Maple the Cow, the flyers and she was ordering a banner for the display tent for Canada Day. She was reminded that all expenditures must come before the Board of Directors for prior approval. Pat Munroe asked after the contract for Maple the Cow. It was suggested that a schedule of attendees needed to be drafted and Dave Nichols requested that everyone make an attempt to attend to provide good Board exposure for the fair.

Sheila Stratton mentioned the “seeds in a cup” idea, and asked for display ideas as examples of various fair elements. She reported that the Town was planning on placing picture boards around town and that they could be available to us for the fair. She advised that the Town was interested in partnering with us to assist in advertising and promoting this year’s fair.

Shirts

Lynn Wilson displayed samples of shirts and jackets that were available from Woods Clothing. The embroidered shirts would cost \$25 each, while the jackets would cost \$50.

Other New Business

None

Adjournment

With no further business presented, Dave Nichols brought the meeting to a close at 9:30pm.

Secretary

President

Next Meeting:

Board of Directors meeting
7:00pm, April 13, 2017
Knox Presbyterian Church
120 Taylor Rd., Bracebridge