

**Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies  
Board Meeting via Zoom  
January 12, 2021, at 7:30 pm**



**Present:** Valerie Allen, Carol Cann, Randy Creighton, Heather Dillon, Beth Howell-Vervaecke, Andrew Icton, Rodger Lyster, Grace Mullen, Linda Murray, Liz O'Gorman-Smit, Heather Owens, Leonard Riopel, Bart Scherpenzeel, Brian Slaughter, Glen Syme, Brenda Tipping and Doug Yeo

**Staff:** Vince Brennan, Kathryn Lambert

**Absent:** Wayne Pfeffer,

**Guests:** Mike Dupuis

**Minutes**

1. Call to Order at 7:30 pm sharp
2. Welcome/Introductory Comments - Brian Slaughter
3. Appoint an Action sheet recorder – Heather Owens
4. The roll call for this Meeting is - What are you doing to encourage registration for our Convention in February? (i.e. Agriculture Societies, District Boards, Committee members and volunteers)
5. Approval of Agenda

**Motion** by Linda Murray to approve agenda as presented

**Seconded** by Randy Creighton

**Carried** Yes – 17; No – 0; Abstain – 0

6. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
7. Code of Conduct -a reminder of signature
8. Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2020 meeting

**Motion** by Doug Yeo to approve minutes as distributed for November 17, 2020.

**Seconded** by Brenda Tipping

**Carried** Yes – 15; No – 0; Abstain – 1

9. Any Business Arising from the minutes? No

10. Review Action Sheet

50-50 draw – the company wanted a \$ 30,000 fee. The original firm was a percentage of dollars raised

11. Board Correspondence - none

12. Committee Reports - motion for received committee reports

**Motion** by Beth Howell-Vervaecke to receive Committee Reports as reported

**Seconded** by Liz O'Gorman-Smit

**Carried** Yes - 17; No - 0; Abstain - 0

**Program Committees**

- Executive
- OAAS Programs
- Youth

*"The OAAS is committed to providing an environment in which all persons are treated with respect and dignity.  
The Designated Harassment Officers are Brenda Tipping and Doug Yeo."*

Terms of Reference, Training Plan Template, Draft Policies and Youth Committee Report posted on Directors' section on the website.

PowerPoint presentation by Valerie Allen – posted on Directors' section on the website

Direction for Youth Committee – questions on PP presentation

Field test the program to see how it works, i.e. 4 to 5 Ag Societies and the Committee monitor their progress. This coming year may not be the best as it will not be back to normal

Provincial program – Youth determine what they need rather than the Board saying this is what you should do. Next committee will need to create the program and have a workshop at the 2022 Convention

- Finance
- Sponsorship
- Governance

#### **Convention Committees**

- Hospitality
- Ambassador
- Registration
- Auction
- Speakers
- Competitions

#### **Ad-hoc Committees**

- 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The report posted on Directors' section on the website

Should we continue the celebration into 2022?

List of activities to put into place over the year 2021 to promote the OAAS and its 175<sup>th</sup>

- We are recommending the AD-Hoc committee to be held over for another year.
- Short clips from interviews with people who have been involved with Ag Societies for a period of time
- Each District to create a promotion video – to promote your communities – not just fair – 10 to 15 mins
- Celebrating fairs that are turning 150, 160, etc. milestones
- Create a database of past winners of competitions
- Creating a map with every Ag Society that existed from the beginning until today – Leonard and Guy creating District maps

**Motion** by Beth Howell-Vervaecke that the OAAS present a Meritorious Service Award to Guy Scott for his work on the OAAS and Ontario Agricultural Societies' history.

**Seconded** by Leonard Riopel

**Carried** Yes - 17; No - 0; Abstain - 0

Any other ideas, please send to the committee

- Judging

#### 13. Manager updates – Vince Brennan

- Updates on funding programs requests
- Waiting on several District reports for Annual Reports
- Waiting on several District Contact information reports
- The website administration has changed hands – a new person has worked out well
- Working with AssistExpo to modify the Directory module to capture Contact info for 3 people

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14. Convention Administrator updates – Kathryn Lambert

- What's up Wednesday – It started last week
- 53 paid registrations – usually 300 to 400 by this time.
- 1 logon per call –
- Each registration must have a specific email address – AssistExpo is set up for unique email addresses
- 35 service members – free virtual show trade booth normally 100 service members
- Need volunteers to help with the 8 sessions - hopefully, each volunteer will do 2 or 3 sessions
- Training sessions will be offered. Looking for at least 4 or 5 more volunteers – need to be comfortable talking, have some experience in Zoom – form online
- Auction – preview February 1; looking for contributions – gift cards or e-transfer
- Annual Meeting – will need people to make/second motions – will be prewritten
- Features – notes for facilitators
- History of Canada Packers quilt competition
- Cookbook ready to go
- Collection of Posters from fairs over the years
- Photo competition – 85 entries – on website and Facebook – available for voting 13 Districts submitted – and Grand Champion – ends January 31
- Red Ribbon celebration on Friday – Competition Awards, Fairs awards, Guy Scott presentation, Len Patterson Award – will be pre-recorded – Prepared prior to Convention
- Monday – tasty experience – beer and cider tasting – recognition for our president – District 13 and Quality Seeds. 4 companies will be promoting their products during the evenings
- Wednesday – SuperDogs – Ontario products – SuperDogs doing the program

15. Finance Report – Vince

**Motion** by Rodger Lyster to receive Financial Report as circulated.

**Seconded** by Grace Mullen

**Carried** Yes – 16; No – 0; Abstain – 0

16. Strategic Plan – Update

**Motion** by Beth Howell-Vervaecke to accept the proposal from Eric Lockheart to work with the Board on our Strategic Plan.

**Seconded** by Heather Owens

**Carried** Yes – 14; No – 1; Abstain – 0

**Motion** by Beth Howell-Vervaecke to accept the proposal from Eric Lockheart to include stakeholder consultations as necessary.

**Seconded** by Brenda Tipping

**Carried** Yes – 15; No – 0; Abstain – 0

17. Next meetings February 9, 2021, outgoing Board meeting Meeting end of Feb? March 16, April 9 & 10, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, Oct 22 & 23, November 16, December 21, January 18, 2022

18. Adjourn