

FRIENDS OF THE FARM (P.E.I.) INC.

ANNUAL MEETING

Farm Centre, University Avenue

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

7 P.M.

1. Call to Order

Chair, Lane MacLaren called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. The members of the Friends of the Farm Board were introduced.

2. Approval of Agenda

Laura Lee Howard moved, Sylvia Poirier seconded the approval of the agenda. Motion carried.

3. Approval of the minutes of the 2016 annual meeting, November 7, 2017

Sylvia Poirier moved, Valerie Beer seconded the approval of the minutes of the previous annual meeting on November 7, 2017. Motion carried.

4. Review of the years activities

Lane MacLaren, chair, reviewed the activities of the Friends of the Farm of the past year. He reported that the Friends of the Farm Board met regularly to carry on the business of the Friends of the Farm.

Lane noted that the farm land is being used for research for organic crops and the status is stable.

The Board is working on a project, with Connie MacKay Carr taking the lead, that would provide signage for the Premier's Grove and that signage for the individual trees has been updated.

He highlighted the Crown Garden which was planted again this year. He expressed thanks to the staff of the Experimental Farm for planting the garden, to the City of Charlottetown for watering and to Board members who tended the garden through out the summer. The Crown garden is the Friends of the Farm major expense.

The Clean up the Farm Day was held in May with great success. It is held in conjunction with the PEI WI Roadside Cleanup. He noted that each year there is less to pick up.

5. Financial Report

Nora Jenkins, Secretary Treasurer, circulated the compilation of finances statement for the year April 1, 2017, to March 31, 2018. Thanks was expressed to the accounting firm of Arsenault, Best, Ellis, Cameron for providing the Financial Review and found to be in accordance with the Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations.

Nora Jenkins moved, Steve Knechtel seconded, the acceptance of the Financial Compilation as presented. Motion carried.

Nora Jenkins moved, Bert Christie seconded that Arsenault Best Cameron Ellis be asked to provide a financial compilation for the year April 1, 2018, to March 31, 2019. Motion carried.

6. Membership Report

Gertie Purdy, Membership Chair, thanked members for support and reported that there are 87 paid up as members of the Friends of the Farm. She noted that the annual meeting marks the beginning of a new year and that memberships for the upcoming year are now due. She thanked those who renewed their membership. Gertie Purdy moved, Libby Martin seconded the adoption of the membership report. Motion carried.

7. Future of the Crown Garden

Lane MacLaren explained the history of the Crown Garden and how the Friends of the Farm revived the garden a few years ago. It has been successful with the plants coming from VanKampen Gardens and the Research Station staff planting. There are 133 dozen plants required and this year cost \$917.00. Donations of \$300.00 were obtained from the City and \$150.00 from the MLA office of Robert Mitchell. Because of the work and the cost, the Board wish to consider the future of the Crown Garden. Lane invited comments from those in attendance.

Several expressed the wish for it to continue. Sponsorship was suggested. Kali Simmonds pledged \$200.00 a year and it was suggested that the City might consider a long term commitment. A meeting with the incoming mayor was suggested.

A Crown garden committee was suggested but none offered to be a member.

It was asked that the Board inform the membership before making any changes.

8. Nominating Committee Report

The nomination report was presented: Chair, Nora Jenkins, Vice Chair vacant, Secretary, Libby Martin, Treasurer Connie MacKay Carr, Directors Gertie Purdy, Lane MacLaren, Catherine Hennessey, Sylvia Poirier, Laura Lee Howard, Sharon Larter, Linda Thomas, Valerie Beer.

Mr MacLaren called for nominations from the floor. There being none, the report was accepted.

Thanks was expressed to Lane MacLaren for his contribution as chair of the Friends of the Farm.

9. Introduction of Guest Speaker

Sharon Larter introduced the guest speaker PEI WI president Doreen Wall, who spoke of the history of the annual road side clean up and gave an interesting description of this important annual project of the PEI WI.

9. Presentation of the Janice Simmonds Award

Lane MacLaren thanked Doreen for her interesting presentation. The PEI Women’s Institute was presented with the Janice Simmonds Award which was established by the Friends of the Farm (PEI) Inc. to honour an individual, group, or agency who/which has made a significant contribution to the creation, protection, preservation, or management of public green spaces on Prince Edward Island, including but not limited to the land within the City of Charlottetown commonly referred to as “The Experimental Farm”. Presenting the Award was Percy Simmonds, Kali Simmonds, Nara Simmonds and Frank MacEachern.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Lane MacLaren

Nora Jenkins

Chair

Secretary