



**Location:** Brussels Four Winds Barn

**Date:** Thursday, November 17, 2022

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

## Brussels Agricultural Society General Meeting Minutes

### In Attendance

Peggy Aitchison, Joan Bernard, Sandra Cable, Cathy Cardiff, Jeff Cardiff, Murray Hoover, John Lowe, Sandra Machan, Zoellyn Onn, Mary Ann Thompson, Lori Vader, and Reg Vinnicombe.

**Regrets:** Monique Baan, Dorothy Cummings, Mary Douma, Pauleen Kerkhof, Crystal McCallum, Marie McCutcheon, Pam McLellan, Sean Mitchell, and Maggie Speer.

**NOTE:** Quorum NOT achieved (11).

### Approval of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed. The motion to approve the agenda (J. Cardiff) was seconded (L. Vader) and passed.

### Approval of Minutes

The previous meeting minutes were reviewed. The motion to approve the minutes from the October 19, 2022 meeting (M.A. Thompson) was seconded (M. Hoover) and passed.

### President's Report

Z. Onn shared that she is looking forward to the Annual General Meeting in January.

### Homecraft President's Report

Absent.

### Treasurer's Report

J. Lowe provided the following financial report:

**President:** Zoellyn Onn  
riversidefuneralhome@hotmail.com  
519-887-6336

**Secretary:** Crystal McCallum  
crystal\_semple@hotmail.com  
519-955-0888

**Treasurer:** John Lowe  
lowe17@bell.net  
519-887-9799

Item	Amount	Notes
TD Canada Trust	\$12,265.01	
Manulife Advantage	\$13,749.53	2.35%
Manulife GIC #1 0358	\$6,637.21	2.75% matures Mar. 1, 2024
Manulife GIC #3 7268	\$4,300.73	0.85% matures Dec. 18, 2023
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$36,952.48</b>	

J. Lowe added that in September he moved \$10,000.00 from the Manulife Advantage account to the TD Canada Trust account to cover costs associated with the fall fair, and that at the end of October he transferred back \$2,500.00 of unspent money. Once all fall fair expenses have cleared, additional funds may be transferred to the Manulife Advantage account while maintaining a minimum balance of \$10,000.00 in the TD Canada Trust account.

As for the Brussels Fall Fair, J. Lowe reported the following income *estimates*:

- Tuesday donation stations: \$693.20
- Wednesday donation stations: \$537.00
- Basket raffle: \$2,400.00 (we sold 1,469 of 1,500 tickets)
- Memberships: \$210.00
- Northwoods Elementary School: \$250.00 to go towards luncheon for the school program

He also reported the following expense *estimates*:

- Prize money: \$3,700.00
- Judges: \$740.50
- School program: \$1,025.00
- Fiddlesticks: \$500.00
- Brussels Four Winds Barn rental: \$904.00
- Dog show: \$175.00
- Snippetty the Clown: \$675.00
- Inflatables: \$2,875.00
- Expenses from C. McCallum: \$863.31

J. Cardiff asked if there was any income from the food booth at the fair. J. Lowe stated that there was, although he didn't have the number at his fingertips. He noted that it was not substantial. J. Cardiff further asked about the funds donated by Northwoods to offset the cost of the school program, noting that it was lower than in previous years. Z. Onn agreed with J. Cardiff's observations, adding that she was unaware if the School Program Sub-committee negotiated a cost or if it was left to the school to decide on the amount to donate. **J. Lowe to check with L. Garland who was on the Sub-committee and in communication with Northwoods for further insight and will report back to the Society at the next meeting.**

J. Lowe added that we recently received the following income, not fair related:

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- District 8 funds for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) venue: \$150.00

Recent expenses, not fair related, included:

- Brussels Four Winds Barn rental for the District 8 AGM: \$734.50
- District 8 AGM tickets for Society members: \$550.00
- Miscellaneous District 8 AGM expenses: under \$100.00
- Donation to the Poppy Fund for a Remembrance Day wreath: \$85.00
- Annual OAAS membership fee

Regarding the outstanding Auditors Report from the January 2022 Annual General Meeting, J. Lowe shared that he was not yet prepared to share the report as he has yet to obtain it from the accountant. **J. Lowe to email the Auditors Report upon its receipt.**

The motion to accept the Treasurer's Report (P. Aitcheson) was seconded (R. Vinnicombe) and passed.

## Ambassadors' Reports

On behalf of M. Speer, Z. Onn reported that the Ambassadors will be participating in the Bayfield, Seaforth, Blyth and Brussels Santa Claus Parades, and that they will be using Junior Ambassador P. Ribey's mother pickup truck to do so.

J. Lowe added that D. Haanstra and P. Ribey joined him to deliver the fall fair prize money to students in each classroom at Northwoods Elementary School. Z. Onn suggested that we consider delivering fair books to students at Maitland River Elementary School and Sacred Heart in the future as a handful of students participated in our fair this year.

## Old Business

### 2022 District 8 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Z. Onn thanked M.A. Thompson and her sub-committee for organizing the venue and catering for the 2022 District 8 AGM. M.A. Thompson thanked those that volunteered to assist with the planning, set up and pie making, with S. Cable adding that the food, prepared by T. Gray, was "great".

### 2022 Brussels Fall Fair

In follow-up to the 2022 Brussels Fall Fair:

- J. Lowe reported that he is still waiting on a few 2022 Fall Fair sponsors to send him their monies. **He will continue to follow-up**
- M.A. Thompson reported that there were infection prevention and control issues specific to some of the judges who were tasting food entries. **Z. Onn requested that the incoming**

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Homecraft President speak with the Section Heads to identify any specific concerns so that they can follow-up with the respective judges

Z. Onn reiterated the request for all fair Section Leads to review their fair book write-ups and pass along any required edits for the 2023 edition to her in writing by the end of January. J. Lowe asked how decisions are made around prize amounts. Z. Onn shared that it is each respective section that makes such decisions. J. Lowe suggested that prize amounts should go up considering the cost to purchase craft, canning, and baking supplies, for example. Section Heads to review and update their prize amounts and pass along any required changes to Z. Onn by the end of January. J. Lowe also noted that there were a few new prizes that paid out this year, as there were a couple of new OAAS Competitions, e.g., honey and maple syrup. There was no prize monies associated with these prizes so J. Lowe choose prize amounts. He noted that we (Z. Onn) need to state these prize amounts in the 2023 fair book.

#### **AssistExpo Set-up and Orientation**

J. Lowe to arrange for AssistExpo software training in December. M. Baan, L. Garland, Z. Onn, M.A. Thompson, and R. Vinnicombe expressed interest in attending the training.

#### **Farm and Food Care Ontario (FFCO)**

On behalf of the Sub-committee, M.A. Thompson reported that a potential farm has been identified on which to host a FFCO Breakfast on the Farm. Once confirmed the Sub-committee will proceed with the application process.

#### **Website and Facebook Analytics**

Z. Onn reported that J. Morrison was pleased to hear that we would be proceeding with his recommendations to improve the utility of our Society's website and Facebook site. He requested that members email him materials and pictures for the website, noting that he is especially interested in obtaining information on the Ambassador program for the website ([justmorr999@live.com](mailto:justmorr999@live.com)). J. Lowe added that members can email himself, Z. Onn, C. McCallum, or M. Speer with anything they'd like to see posted on the Society's Facebook page.

#### **Brussels Santa Claus Parade Float**

Z. Onn reported that the Parade Float Sub-committee is meeting briefly after the Society's meeting this evening to plan for the float.

#### **New Business**

None.

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**Address:** Box 475, Brussels, ON N0G 1H0

**Website:** [www.brusselsfallfair.ca](http://www.brusselsfallfair.ca)

**Facebook:** @fairbrussels

## Correspondence and Announcements

- Brussels Agricultural Society Annual General Meeting: Sunday, January 29, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. at the Brussels Legion. Social time and catered meal to follow at 5:00 p.m.
- 2023 Brussels Fall Fair: September 19-20, 2023 (Bank Barns and Spinning Yarns).

Z. Onn asked Society members present if they had any ideas for a speaker at the AGM. J. Lowe suggested asking S. Mitchell or the Ontario Queen of the Furrow Maranda Kalver. The suggestion of a speaker from 4-H Ontario was also put forth, as was the Brussels Citizen of the Year (Margaret McInroy). After some discussion it was decided that **J. Lowe will reach out to M. Klaver to see if she'd be willing to speak. If she is unavailable, J. Lowe will ask M. McInroy to speak.** As for the agenda for the evening, the guest speaker will start at 3:00 p.m. followed by our general AGM business and then dinner. **C. McCallum to invite dignitaries to attend, starting at 4:30 p.m.** at which time they can bring their greetings.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by L. Vader. The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on Sunday, January 29, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. at the Brussels Legion. Details to follow.

Minutes submitted by: C. McCallum

Minutes approved by: Z. Onn

**NOTE: ACTION ITEMS ARE IN RED**

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