

Mitchell & District Agricultural Society  
General Meeting at the Crystal Palace

**February 28, 2018**

Winnie Linton called the meeting to order at 8:03pm and thanked everyone for coming. For those who have not heard, Lorne Fell passed away February 2. Our condolences go out to the family.

22 members were in attendance as follows: Winnie Linton, Robert Norris, John Miller, Sheila and Winston Jibb, Lisa Rapien, Bev Louwagie, Jacquie and Steve Mohr, Jean Gloor, Cheri Bell, David Kemp, Bert J Vorstenbosch, Gordon Diver, Ron and Carole Gethke, Pauline and Laura Skinner, Sharon and Spencer Dunsmore, Marion McKay and Janet Williamson.

Winnie Linton presented the agenda for approval and added two items for new business.

*Motion to accept the February 28, 2018 agenda: Jean Gloor, Winston Jibb, carried.*

The General Meeting minutes from January 20, 2018 PM session were presented.

*Motion to accept the January 20, 2018 General Meeting minutes: Lisa Rapien, Jacquie Mohr, carried.*

**Treasurer's Report:** A list of current assets and liabilities was presented with our cash on hand at \$813.20, TD operating account at \$20,705.70, Scotia Lottery account at \$1,097.60. There is \$1,214.75 deposited in the TD account from BDO Dunwoody for some unknown reason, which they will reverse again when they figure out it is not suppose to be there. Three GIC's are: \$5,868.77; \$20,127.69; \$25,000. Accounts receivable - \$3,591.64; deferred revenue - \$4,486.05; prepaid insurance - 4,091.44. A list of cheques paid since January 1 was presented as well as a three year comparison of the Ladies Night Event which profited \$2,332.57.

*Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report: Gordon Diver, Steve Mohr, carried.*

A list of 6 outstanding invoices and expenses paid by members in the amount of \$7,402.80 was presented for payment.

*Motion to pay the outstanding invoices and reimburse members for expenses paid: Jacquie Mohr, Cheri Bell, carried.*

The Ag Society will need to purchase new software to create our Fair Prize Book.

*Motion to purchase Affinity Designer software for \$69.99: Leroy Skinner, Lisa Rapien, carried.*

**Convention 2018:** Lisa Rapien learned it is good to keep track of entries, get rid of the sections that don't get any exhibit entries. Also, new volunteers bring new ideas and has come home with resources to rejuvenate the Morenz Room. She was impressed with the interactive milking display which we can have for the fair for \$1500. The Durham Farm Connections website has got great ideas.

Winnie Linton brought home info on the Moneris Solutions, a wireless long range Point of Sale terminal that will be cheaper and easier than the ATM machines.

Laura Skinner gave us a report on her weekend and suggested we have an ambassador facebook page or insta-gram account which can be turned over to the current ambassador.

Pauline Skinner stressed the importance of modernizing the ambassador program again with social media, post secondary school bursaries, speaking engagements at schools and having a clear list of duties and expectations for the ambassador.

**Property Committee:** The new Zoll defibrillator has been installed on the right side of the entrance doors beside the stage inside the Palace. The table cart still needs to be fixed.

**Media Committee:** Gord has asked for all of your updates that you wish him to add to our website. Although Gord has resigned from the Advocate, Melissa is still there and doing a great job for us.

**Opening the Fair:** Three options were suggested; pat and Jean Sebben, Emily Gethke, Corbyn Smith. After a secret ballot, tallied by Sharon and Spencer Dunsmore, Corbyn Smith won the vote. Winnie will contact him and see if he is willing and able to open the fair for us Friday evening.

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**Strawberry Social:** No word from Margaret French on this event s yet. Winnie will call her.

**Special Events:** A Rawhide Rodeo is being planned for the Canada Day Weekend. A contract has tentatively been signed. We have until March 15 to back out of it without penalty. The team has been talking to Corporate sponsors and is attempting to get at least half of the \$28,000 fee for Rawhide by the 15, or they will back out. The two day event should bring 1000 to 2000 people each day, at \$25 per person. There will be a beer tent and dance on Saturday night.

*Steve Mohr made a motion to go forward planning the Rawhide Rodeo, seconded by Gord Diver, carried.*

A men's night is also being looked at for May 17 by some of the newer members. Possibly a steak night. Bert Jr said he would help the team organize this event.

*Cheri made a motion to go forward planning Men's Night, seconded by Steve Mohr, 12 for, 2 opposed, 8 abstained, carried.*

Cheri also would like everyone to know that the fee for an LCBO liquor license will be increasing to \$150 per day from the \$75 per event. All licenses should be purchased before the March 15 increase takes effect.

**District 8/ OAAS:** Jean reported there will be an Ambassador workshop March 31 in Seaforth

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Lions Club Request:** Leroy Skinner brought a request from the Lions Club for financial support to help maintain and update the Lions pool and park equipment.

*Leroy Skinner made a motion to donate \$250 to the Lions Club pool maintenance, seconded by Winston Jibb, carried.*

**Lottery Account:** Winnie would like to look into transferring our Lottery account and GIC to the Bank of Montreal. They are a better supporter of the Ag Society and the Moneris Solutions terminals have a cheaper transaction fee when dealing with the Bank of Montreal.

*Bert J Vorstenbosch made a motion to have Winnie look into transferring the Lottery Account to the bank of Montreal, seconded by Jean Gloor, carried.*

**Community Project Challenge:** Bev Louwagie would like to add a needle craft challenge to the fair book. After some discussion, it was decided not to make this a "Class or section" of the book but a separate challenge. It will be advertised on our web page, posters at needle craft sponsor stores, and have a text box in the Fair Book. Hand-made hats and mitts can be "donated" to the Angel Tree. They will be displayed at the fair, NOT JUDGED, but each entry will be given a ballet for the \$20 Prize donated by Lisa Rapien. All members were in favour of this new community project idea.

*Bert J Vorstenbosch made a motion to adjourn at 9:07PM*

**183 days until the 2018 Fall Fair!! SOW IT, GROW IT, SHOW IT.**

**Next General Meeting:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 8:00PM

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President - Winnie Linton

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Secretary Treasurer –Janet Williamson