

**Minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting**  
**Fraser Valley Gleaners Society**  
**Held April 30, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.**  
**At 85 Winson Rd, Abbotsford, B.C.**

(1) Fred Loewen, board chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and welcomed all members and guests.

(2) Abe Heinrichs gave the **invocation** and led in prayer.

(3) The **Agenda** was approved. MSC: Jack Weyh / Peter Funk

(4) The **minutes of the 2010 AGM**, included in the member packet, was presented by Chairman Fred Loewen. Minutes accepted. MSC: Bob Spyksma/Ed Klassen

(5) The **President's Report** was presented by chairman, Fred Loewen. Fred gave an overview of his written report included in the member packet. The Report was accepted. MSC: Fred Loewen / John Fast.

(6) The **Plant Manager's Report** was presented by Carl Goosen. Carl gave an overview of his written report included in the member packet. Carl responded to a members question as to whether demand for our product was growing by noting that almost all of the 11 million servings produced in the 2010 year have already been shipped away and we have a list of applicants requesting our product. Carl noted that we establish a relationship with new applicants by giving them smaller amounts to confirm their ability to distribute the product and provide good reporting of how the product is being used. Report Accepted. MSC: Carl Goosen/Peter Letkeman.

(7) The **Facility Committee Report** was presented by Wally Unger. Wally gave an overview of his written report and noted that the Committee could also be classed as the building maintenance committee because its work is never done. He and Henry Schulz work together to deal with the challenges as they arise. Report Accepted. MSC: Wally Unger/Walter Braun.

(8) The **Financial Report** for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010 was presented by treasurer, Karyn Santiago. Karyn thanked the MCC for their continued support of the Fraser Valley Gleaners over the years, especially for providing our facility at minimal cost. She also noted that our annual financial reviews have been done in the past by the accounting firm of Henry Dick and Stephen Wiens, but that Henry 'went to be with the Lord' this past year. Stephen has kindly volunteered to do the review by himself this year. She expressed our appreciation for the work done by Henry Dick in the past and for Stephen's willingness to carry on that tradition by himself.

During the discussion one of the members noted that FVG's use of the MCC property was not wholly free, but was negotiated with MCC for the MCC to receive 30% of FVG's finished product in lieu of rent. He also suggested that the cost of production be included in future reports. Report Accepted. MSC: Karyn Santiago/John Fast

(9) A **Future Property Considerations for FVG** presentation was given by Jack Weyh. Jack introduced Wayne Bremner of MCC to the society membership and noted that he was here to answer any questions about MCC's interest in today's decision. Jack noted that today is a cross-road in the life of the FVG's and we need wisdom in making this decision. He quoted from James, saying that if anyone was looking for wisdom James says we should pray to God for it. Jack then led in prayer.

Jack then went through a power point presentation that illustrated the information given in the information letter distributed to the membership prior to the meeting. He noted that the Board of Directors is looking for permission to talk to MCC about purchase options and that a later meeting will be called to get authorization to purchase and at that time subdivision options and prices will be presented.

#### **Questions and Answers:**

i) Q. Peter Letkeman asked what our actual cost of production is and how that impacts FVG's actual annual payment to MCC.

Ans. It was noted that our cost of production per serving as reported to the government is \$.06 per serving. Last year our cost of production for 30% of our product is therefore valued at \$180,000.

ii) Q. John Fast asked Wayne Bremner of MCC, FVG's & MCC both have the mandate to feed the world's hungry. So, what has changed? What is wrong with extending the lease?

Ans. Wayne advised that right from the beginning MCC hoped that the FVG's would mature and offer to purchase the property. At this time MCC needs money to offset debt incurred in other programs.

iii) Q. John Reimer asked Wayne Bremner of MCC, "Can you give us a history of the property as to how and why it was acquired?"

Ans. Wayne noted that the property acquisition predated his presence on the MCC. However, historically the property was used as a facility for working with mentally challenged youth.

iv) Member comment: For the FVG's this is an issue of wisdom and stewardship. For other organizations there is a natural progression (for church groups especially) to progress from rental to ownership of property. Now the time has come for FV Gleaners to determine what is the best stewardship of its resources: rental or ownership.

v) Q. Peter Letkeman re-iterated John's question to MCC, "how come the change?"

Ans. Wayne explained some of the current MCC program priorities and the need for funds to offset debt.

vi) A society member asked MCC why is there an initiative to subdivide the property?

Ans. Wayne explained that MCC sees subdivision as possibly being mutually advantageous as subdivision may allow FVG's to acquire property at lower cost and may allow MCC to continue programs on the property it may retain.

vii) A society member asked what time constraints are there?

Ans. Short answer: 5 years (until current lease arrangement ends) More complex ans.: Sooner is better as property values rise and make acquisition more expensive and difficult v.s. subdivision could take a lot of time and expense.

viii) Member Comment: Ray Lepp noted that the FVG's growth process is good. Now there is passion by the membership to look to and plan for the future, the next generation may not be as committed. NOW is the time to invest in this to maintain the mandate "to feed the hungry".

ix) Member Comment: Jack Friesen noted that the lane access covers the water main from the Abbotsford municipal water supply. If the subdivision plan does not include that part of the

roadway we will need to get an 'easement'.

x) Member Comment: Dennis Travers noted that subdividing will give substantial 'access' problems and may incur large costs for road relocation, engineering etc.

xi) Member Comment: Ben Doerksen suggested carry on with this discussion with MCC as part of the negotiation process: please 'call the question'.

xii) Jack Weyh noted that the BOD has decided that they needed an 85% majority in favour to consider the motion binding.

**Motion:** Jack Weyh made the motion: "I move acceptance of the BOD Recommendation to Membership regarding the MCC-BC property on Winson Road". The motion was seconded by Ed Klassen. There being no further questions the society member were requested to fill out their ballots which were then collected for counting.

(10) The **Hospitality Committee Report and the Celebration Committee reports** were presented by Ann VanderMeulen as distributed in the membership packet. Reports Accepted MSC: Ann VanderMeulen/Jack Friesen

(11) The **Sourcing Committee Report** was presented by Ed Klassen as distributed in the members' packet. Ed noted that we received 1.8 million lbs of product this past year, some of it un-solicited. Global Grains in Manitoba heard of us and sent us almost 90,000 lbs of dried beans, excellent protein for our soup mix! Report accepted. MSC: Ed Klassen/Bob Spyksma.

**Proposal Vote:** The count was made and of 90 ballots issued, there were only 8 negative votes, and the motion was therefore carried in sufficient amount to be binding. A motion to destroy the ballots was approved. MSC: Fred Loewen/Peter Funk

(12) The **Publicity Committee Report** was presented by Richard Loewen as distributed in the members' packet. Richard thanked Jack Friesen for the many years of diligent service in promoting the FVG's. Report Accepted. MSC: Richard Loewen/Jack Weyh

(13) The **Proposed Budget** was presented by Karyn Santiago as distributed in the members' packet. She noted the budget was operational only and did not reflect any income or expenditure for major purchases or property acquisition. MSC: Karyn Santiago/John Fast.

(14) The **Nomination Committee Report** was presented by Ed Klassen.

i) A motion that Bob Spyksma and Wally Unger be re-elected for another two year term was approved. MSC: Ed Klassen/Jack Weyh

ii) A motion that Ann VanderMeulen be re-elected for another one year term was approved. MSC: Ed Klassen/Bill Boesterd.

iii) A motion that Abe Heinrichs be elected to a two year term was approved. Ed Klassen / Richard Loewen.

iv) A motion that Fred Loewen's position not be filled at this time and that the board of the FVG's consist of 9 directors for the 2011-12 fiscal year was approved. Ed Klassen/Bob Spyksma

(17) Carl and Elaine Goosen reported on the partners who took our product in the past year and provided it to the needy in 18 different countries in the past year. Some of the 'Partners' listed were: Lesea, Starfish, Global aid, Changing lives for Jesus, Seeds of Hope, Master's Foundation

and Global Neighbours. Their power point presentation showed us partners' activities in Cambodia, Guatemala, Haiti, Kenya, the Philippines, Zambia, Ukraine and Burma. In all cases, God is honoured by the food we produced and was distributed by these partners.

(18) **Volunteer Appreciation.** Carl noted that it is such a joy for him to see the enthusiasm of volunteers in processing the food and the appreciation of the people all over the world who receive the food. Volunteers need to recognize that their service is service to God primarily and secondly to the needy. Also appreciated are the volunteers up north and in other provinces who provide the peas, the lentils and the beans that add so substantially to the protein content of our soup mix. Also the diligent work of people we don't see so often, such as our truck drivers who come on short notice and put in long hours picking up product from all over the lower mainland. Praise God for all these opportunities to serve!

(19) Jack Weyh then made **closing remarks** on behalf of the Board of Directors, thanking everyone for coming out to this important meeting, for their excellent expression of support to the ongoing work of the Gleaners organization. He noted, "The best day of the week for me is a day at the Gleaners. And the best of the best, is when we get a testimony from one of our partners who reports on food delivered to the needy in Jesus' Name!" Jack then closed in thanksgiving prayer.

(20) The meeting ended at 12:00 P.M. and Ann VanderMeulen explained how lunch was being presented. A very congenial barbeque lunch and social time was enjoyed by all!