



AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY elections were part of the annual meeting Monday. Seated in the centre is the newly-elected president Brent Marshall, with secretary-treasurer John Rowe on the left and first vice-president Brian Evans on the right. Four new directors on the board of 18 are pictured with them, Maggie Hall, Bill Lasby, Irene Swackhamer and Earl Steckley.

Brent Marshall heads fair board executive

Brent Marshall was presented the president's plaque Monday night as he was elected president of the Acton Agricultural Society. He has been vice-president for two years.

Past president Russell Murray formally handed over the plaque. First to congratulate Mr. Marshall was his grandfather, R.L. Davidson, a life member who has been

attending fair annual meetings for 39 years.

Brian Evans was named first vice-president and Bill Yundt second vice-president.

Newcomers to the board are Irene Swackhamer, the fair's secretary-treasurer for many years, and three associate directors, Maggie Hall, Earl Steckley and Bill Lasby.

Others returned to office are Stephen Lister, Keith Ait-

ken, Paul Thompson, Cathy Lasby, Murray Wallace, Brian Hammond, Rae Swackhamer, Robert Murray, Ted Brown, Bert Robertson and Garry McEachern.

John Rowe will again act as secretary-treasurer, with his salary to be reviewed at the end of next year and increased if possible.

Assistant ag. rep, Mark Leahy conducted the election.

Deficit, 'B' status face fair board

Acton fair's new status as a "B" fair and the \$7,428 loss incurred this year were main subjects of discussion at the annual meeting of Acton Agricultural Society. The meeting was held in Knox church hall Monday evening.

The challenge of the "B" fair, requiring certain high standards, and the problems of the deficit produced pride and promises from directors as they reported on the year.

Changes were promised by incoming president Brent Marshall. We lost a lot of money in 1977, he said, and we can't hide the truth of the issues. The executive committee will be closely concerned with money.

He said he felt other organizations in town which benefit from the fair are not aware of the board's problems "They make hay on our sweat. We're helping them but they're not helping us. They are not really aware of the financial picture."

He said one group will be helping with a big fundraising dance in the spring, to try to offset the deficit.

The new president ad-

vocates raising prize money. "We can't stop now."

He said he would also expect a lot more of the ladies' board.

He challenged the older members to keep up with what they call "the young people". He hopes to generate excitement among a hard-working group.

"We are not a small time fair any more," said outgoing president Russell Murray. It takes organization, thinking, arguing, trying to decide what is best.

He pointed out classes and prize money must still be revised and reports "made before Acton officially is Class "B". We're the best of the Class "C" fairs; now we're at the bottom of "B" fairs!

Secretary-treasurer John Rowe said Acton has qualified for three years in a row for "B" status with \$7,428.50 prize money in breeding classes. New grants will cover half the prize money.

Mr. Rowe was congratulated on the excellent financial report prepared,

which included recent capital expenditures as well as all the current figures.

Actual expenses for 1977 totalled \$54,758.50 and receipts \$47,330.00, making a deficit of \$7,428.50. This includes the provision of some capital assets.

The annual report included 17 pages of figures.

Additions this year, amounting to \$3,112.16, include poultry pens, bus repairs, purchase of a mimeograph machine, cement for poultry barn, supplies for the horse pull and wiring, as well as over \$700 spent for wood for different projects.

Grants totalled \$4,712.50. With a bank loan, all prize money has been paid.

Past president Ken Murray wants each member to bring a name of a next meeting. He told the "young people" to thin how long the fair would last without the past presidents! The fair keeps getting bigger with fewer people to do it, he declared.

We've finally done it, Irene Swackhamer commented on "B" rank. We've thought about it for many years.

Ladies' board president Carmela Cobham said the

women had decided the next prize lists would do for two years, and asked for more members.

Speaking for the Spot in the Park, Steve Lister said despite its loss this year, it should be carried on. \$10,000 was handled, but rain on two days was unfortunate. If expenses could be trimmed, it could be profitable.

Brian Hammond pointed out the fiddlers' contest is "finally starting to grow."

Ken Murray reported cattle was one area that had to grow for class "B". Facilities and room are needed.

Overcrowding in home-crafts and hobbies concerned director Bill Thompson. He wondered what could be done to house all the school work.

Maggie Hall spoke of the need for help for Miss Acton Fair and entertainment committees. An Arts Council grant was received this year, but it's a one shot grant. She said entertainment is needed as well as the Miss Acton Fair show on the Friday night.

Others reported on good success in their categories fair weekend, mentioning need for space, good entries and rainy weather.

An unexpected bill of

\$800 for a transformer in the park was discussed and deferred.

Donations were approved: \$35 to Knox church; \$25 to the Cancer Society; \$50 to St. John Ambulance and \$10 to the Boy Scouts.

Delegates and Miss Acton Fair were authorized to attend the annual fairs convention in February in Toronto.

This year's fair dates were officially announced - Sept. 15, 16 and 17.

\$250 damages to two cars

A car driven by Sandox Himeshaji, 45 Churchill Rd. N., received an estimated \$150 damage after it was in collision with a car driven by

Agnes Miller, Norval, January 18, at 5.15 p.m. Halton regional police report. The Miller vehicle received \$100 in estimated damage.

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Municipal . . .

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The building committee passed a recommendation that the construction of the addition begin no later than 1981.

In addition, a by-law will be prepared to allocate money from lot levies the next three years.

In 1978, \$270,000 will be earmarked for the expansion from lot levies and \$291,600 from 1979 lot levies will go into the addition pot. The final year, 1980, a total of \$314,920 will be set aside.

It was also decided the town will have a policy of putting money raised from the sale of surplus municipal property in a special reserve fund to help

pay for the administration building expansion.

At the same meeting the committee rejected the idea of adding to the municipal building in stages.

A suggestion that architect Don Hallford, who made plans for expansion of the building in 1976, be requested to come up with a staging formula for expansion, was also rejected. The plan would have seen Hallford come up with a staging formula with estimated costs making engineering and planning facilities priorities for the first stage of expansion. The rejected study wasn't to cost more than \$2,000.

All recommendations will be sent to the next council meeting for consideration.

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(Continued from Page 1)

clearing and doesn't have the proper equipment or manpower to clear all the walks. He added children still walk on the road even in summer.

Serjeantson conceded there isn't much that can be done about teenagers who insist on walking on the road but little children would walk on sidewalks if there wasn't snow covering them.

In response to Serjeantson's queries Austin said it costs quite a bit for proper sidewalk clearing machines—\$13,000 to \$15,000 each.

"It's worth it," Serjeantson declared.

Councillor Mike Armstrong said council has been avoiding tackling the snowy sidewalk issue for years and could get away with it because recent winters haven't been too severe.

He noted the town has a by-law requiring property owners to clear snow off the walks in front of their homes but the town hasn't anyone to enforce it. Armstrong added it is hard to enforce a by-law like that against a senior citizen with health problems or a disabled person.

Another problem he has noticed is merchants who have their parking lots plowed out and dump snow on top of the sidewalk.

He called for an investigation of the costs of buying proper machines and manpower costs for sidewalk

clearing in Acton and Georgetown.

Councillor George Maltby joined him suggesting costing be done on snow removal operations for sidewalks which are busy, such as those leading to schools.

Pomeroy said he was sure the town could enforce a sidewalk snow removal by-law like those in other municipalities and still take into account older people's difficulties.

He warned machines and staff will be a "tremendous" cost for sidewalk clearing.

Austin noted many municipalities are rescinding sidewalk snow removal by-laws because they are unenforceable. He added many are like Halton Hills' by-laws, full of good intent but impossible to enforce.

Pomeroy said with all the people unemployed maybe the town should hire some to clear the sidewalks.

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Restrict parking

Councillor George Maltby wants the town to consider imposing parking restrictions on Churchill Road South.

He said Monday at Halton Hills works committee there are problems with traffic moving freely when cars are parked on both sides of the street.

Engineer Robert Austin will examine the situation and report back to committee.

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Police check

Halton Regional Police are on the look out for a car which left the scene of a two-car collision in a parking lot on Mill Street East Saturday.

The vehicle owned by Muriel J. Burns of 77 Bower Ave., was parked facing east, when another auto hit it on the right rear fender. The auto left the site.

Police estimate damage to the Burns vehicle to be \$100.

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