

FRIENDS OF HULLETT
MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – Zoom Meeting
22 September, 2020 7:30 PM

Present: Mike Cardinal, Bill Dineen, Ryan Bayne, Duane Inkpen, Wade Beaudoin, Jim Bayne, Mat Shetler, Chris Ambrose, Steven Zingaro

Guests: Scott Austin, Alex Morrow

Meeting called to order: 7:35 PM

Review August Minutes: Adopted as circulated

Treasurer's Report – The big thing is our savings and investing. Scott's being proactive in our finances. There are some things Scott will do to keep things as they should be. Some discussion on expenses and what we could and will do. Wage COVID subsidy; did we apply for this? Our accountant is aware of this, and will deal with it. COVID subsidy, submit to CRA.

Marsh report:

Geocaching – when Cassie was around she had set up some of these devices around the Marsh. We've had several geocaching enthusiasts that use these around the Marsh.

-All the Turtle Nesting Boxes are out of the marsh now. A fair number were successful hatching locations. There's not a lot of data recorded on these hatches. In the future we can make note of this to publish. Cassie said, just before hatching there is a scent put out and that can lead to predation. It is a successful program and is worth continuing. In the future we will collect the data more than we have.

-Our storm insurance claim - there's a pause on this. Alex is still on it to make sure nothing is missed.

-Handicap Blind – there is an application for this spot. It is booked for opening day. We will notify CO's about this handicap application.

- We have a request from a senior who wants to ride his horse in a section of the Marsh. He requests that our regulations be changed to accommodate this. Lorraine should be who deals with this. (or Al Murray)

-Gravel – Is the gravel deal we had done now? Could we buy some? Scott spoke to the gravel pit people and asked if we could buy some. Two dump truck loads were dropped off with no charge.

-Muddy parking lot - We may have to put a large amount of gravel into it, to do anything. There is also flooding there. This is something to consider in our capital funding for this muddy spot. Maybe we can look at a cost for this.

- We have a pheasant hunt for Derrek Jefferson scheduled, this is a hunt that was sold in the 2019 Auction/Dinner and not claimed as Derrek had hip surgery.
- Trappers – we have two good trappers and some are not living up to our expectations. Do we need more trappers? We could use one or two guys on this subject. We need to get together with the Conservation Officer for some of us to discuss this problem. Discussion followed about the number of beavers caught recently. How should we go forward on this with the CO's and trappers? There is a communication problem with some of the trappers and we have others' interested in trapping for us. We'd like to bring in some new younger trappers. We need to make this trapping worthwhile for them. In order to do this, we may have to offer bounty fees. In order to change the agreements, this has to go through the MNR and us.
- Discussion on Opening Day of Duck Season – regarding porta potties, and our onsite washrooms. It is decided to cancel the porta potties and clean and wipe down our permanent washrooms daily or as often as possible.
- We will open our viewing stands as it is not a confined space.
- Cormorant Hunt – discussion – We've never had an inquiry before. We have no information on this opening day request from MNR or DUC.
- Web site – all is well.
- User guide – all is well.
- Newsletter – Our next newsletter will be in January.

New Business:

- How many will be at the Marsh on Opening Day? We can't be sure but we expect a big crowd.
 - Scott will block anything that we don't want people entering. There will be signage posted for this.
 - Next Meeting – 27 October (Duane, Mike and Alex will not be available).
- No further business was brought forward, meeting adjourned 8:36 PM.