

FRIENDS OF HULLETT
MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - ZOOM
22 December 2020 7:30 PM

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

Guests: Scott Austin

Meeting called to order: 7:32

Discussion about rules for horses in the Marsh. Rules are written for anyone that needs to know as written by the Ministry.

The roads in the Marsh to be closed very soon.

Treasurer's Report: It's been a constant that we're spending less. We are showing an increase in savings, making it about \$4000 more. We are in good shape.

We should be looking at some capital items.

As far as budget, we projected a loss of \$18,000 this year and that didn't happen.

Report given on capital expenditures and our new budget.

Marsh Report:

- Lock down decisions are going to be depending on the situation in certain areas and according to what is mandated.

- New FOH employee – Do we hire when in lock down? Trails are not locked down.

There is work for this person – the situation will be discussed with that person, and how we will handle things regarding our mandated personal proximity to each other.

There's been 5 people considered. There is one person that is very good. Scott says maybe we should ask this one to work for a month to see if she likes the job. Scott

suggests this candidate make more than we have decided on. Another option is to offer for her to stay in the trailer for that first month. Or, maybe connect her with a local

renter. This temporary employment would give us a chance to know her better when we haven't had a proper interview. For the winter she could do certain things at home.

Several other ideas were discussed. We will leave it up to Scott as to how he wants to do it. Scott still has more resumes to look at before a decision is made. So, \$17.50 as

the normal wage but could go to \$18.00 if a very good candidate is interested.

The 30 day trial would be for both of us. Don't offer the trailer at the beginning. Scott to report back to us.

- New Hullett Users: How to educate new users. Users don't always understand the signs as they are. Prepared information sheets are a good thing to make available; Hunting tip sheets, and Hiker tip sheets. We could put them on the web site.
- Vandalism – Ideas brought forward Cameras? High in the air, camouflaged? Put up signs saying cameras are monitoring the area? Install fake cameras? Cameras will get into quite a bit of money. We could buy a couple of mid range cameras? Duane to talk to the OPP's regarding a car parked in one of the parking lots on a regular basis. These people have been staying in parking lots.
- We will repair the vandalized damaged washrooms. We don't have the keys for these washrooms.

We need to get the Sugar Bush washroom working as soon as we can.

- Blue Trail Boardwalk bridge needs repairs, in part by horses using the bridge due to their weight – Can we make horses go around the bridge? \$1500 estimated to fix this bridge. Maybe post a sign to guide horses to go around the bridge. If we get lumber from a mill and not a lumber yard, the bridge could be made much stronger.
- FOH / OMNRF – Lorraine has moved to another job. Al will follow the minutes and will have someone communicate with us.
- Duane saw some ATV machines running in the field. This guy is handicapped and is not permitted to drive his ATV on our Marsh. Duane gave him Al Murray's name for him to communicate with him. It's up to the Ministry on how to handle it. It's an operational issue decided by the MNRF.
- Proposed Logging; This is in the Ministry's hands now.
- Scott has been talking to a fellow who wants to introduce other species of trees in some areas, looking to the future. Scott will talk to him, about this and if it will work with our habitat management plan. Scott to call him for discussion.
- Website newsletter going out in January. Scott to get the pdf's for our website regarding hiking and hunting.
- Pheasant challenge – doing well on this. We have two generators in hand for our auction. Some discussion on prizes donated.
- Online Auction - to have this done online. Scott to do it on instagram. Wade reports another one doing an online auction and did not do well at all. Scott feels that he can make it work well. We want the items we have to be rid of, so this is because our fund raiser dinner will not happen. We just have to make sure if we do an on-line auction we get a fair value. Scott wants to try a few items for one week and see how it goes.

New business:

- Concentrate on mowing and parking lots to complete. We may not get as much help from the township as we are used to.
- Tractor purchase – What would we need to look for? Needs a cab, 44 to 99 hp range. \$20,000 to \$60,000 tractors looked at. Discussion on what would be needed, what it

would be compatible with. We could do with a smaller machine than we have now but needs a cab for this tractor. A small brush hog – lowest HP recommended 45.

Not suggesting to buy or lease now, as there are other projects we could look at doing. So, what should we do? Scott would like another tractor if we need to spend money on a capital expenditure. It is slow to change implements off our existing tractor if the tractor needed for something else on the short term.

Before the January meeting, make a plan with Scott's help – a plan about things we may be able to benefit from with a second tractor. Discussion on our brush work that should be done. How much can we do in a day? Even if we have another tractor, to do more things we may need to rent or buy to get things done efficiently.

- The only other thing about budgeting the planting of trees and tree maintenance. Maybe there's a programme that we could tie into for this. Would like to see some capital money spent on this project.

- Jim suggests a new or relocated water control on one of the waterways controlling Whitetail. The people in that committee should let us know what they want so we can act on it.

- Next meeting - Tuesday, 26 January.

No further business, mtg adjourned 9:19