

FRIENDS OF HULLETT

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Zoom Meeting

23 February 2021 7:30 PM

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

Absent: All present.

Guests: Scott Austin, Amber Frak

Meeting called to order: 7:30

Review February Minutes: Adopted as circulated.

Treasurer's Report: Income down because of fund raiser covid restraints, but an overall increase because we've cut back on expenses. There has been a net positive for the year. We started out with \$37,000 more than last year. We have a healthy bank account this year.

An issue with how we manage tax receipts and what we can and can't do. We have made some corrections in what we do after gaining knowledge on this. We should bring this to the attention of our accountants and consulted on this. We aren't sure if rules have been changed from the past. What should we do and how far back should we go to check on this? Discussion on what we should do. We need to have a meeting with our accountants to get this straightened out. We have a lot of questions on how we've been doing things. Chris would accept taking on our financials though there are things we need to consider. We need to broach this question with our accountants. Overall the costs could be less. We need to make sure what we do isn't a conflict of interests. Mat feels it would be good to have one of us do the books, but it would be good to talk to more than one firm on what we should do with our books. We have a responsibility to do our

own books prior to accountants taking it from there. Do we need to do an audit? We don't think we do. Some discussion on how we've done things in the past. Mat makes a motion to use a new firm to do our taxes. Seconded by Steven Zingaro. All in favour. Passed.

Marsh Report:

Concrete blocks for use in parking lots, etc, weighing one metric ton each. Discussion on how to move them, whether we could do it or get someone else. We would use them in parking lots. We've been repairing parking lots regularly so blocks could be used to keep people out of certain places, etc. We need a couple at the Homestead lot. Two pairs on Wildlife Line. Has had a lot of vandal damage there. Maybe cement blocks or metal concrete filled bollards would be good to use like what is around the privies. Then auger holes which is a lot of work for bollard installations. Discussion on this. Can we look at the costs for the bollard work? Blocks may be easier to use. Maybe we should get four blocks for two parking lots to look at how that works.

Patrolling the trails (snowmobiles) Discussion on snowmobile abuse. They need to check people at night. We have OPP and CO presence in the marsh regularly. We've also got the people who do not abuse the privilege. Why punish the ones who are doing it right? So, what to do? Maybe a zoom meeting with Drew would be good. We don't want to punish the good people who snowmobile according to our rules.

Dog Training Request. Scott had discussion with this group. They have put a plan together. They will need to provide their Covid protocol and prepare a paper outlining this, submitted to Scott. We don't have an issue as long as they follow regulations. If they need a washroom, they will have to supply their own. They offered Hullett a donation for the use. Date: 1-8 May. There are three dates they ask for in all. We used to charge \$2.50 per day, per dog, to organized groups for

training and events. If they have a number of cars, they can't be parked along the road. They were told that there would be turkey hunters out there too.

Front road parking lots; There has been a lot of vandalism; signs shot up and spray painted. Let's gather signs and posts for that repair job. Prepare a list of needs and what needs to be done. Get a dumpster, and volunteers to put it back the way it should be. We could block that road so we can make repairs. We have to ensure access to Flinn so he can do his haying. The road needs to be graded properly.

We have people living at the sugar bush. We have spoken to the police. They have been there regularly since last July.

Conflicts within the Marsh: Some discussion on hikers encountering hunters. Is there a Hiker's Sheet available that should be read by hikers. Some discussion on the goose hunting this weekend. B-zone hunting will be open. Harassing legal hunting is illegal and hikers should be made aware of this. Maybe we should make a new article in the user guide. We tell people that there are hunters during all seasons in the marsh. Hikers should wear blaze orange and put a bell on their dogs.

Mr. Gibson has been recently talking about trees to Duane again. Talked about some of the varieties of trees and the food they can supply for wildlife. We need to be looking at what will make the new trees flourish. Compost could be used from the Clinton Mulch Pile. The earlier we get in there, the better. Scott said Hydro can give us wood chips for the dog park. How much it would cost to plant trees? If someone calls in and wants to do something for us; maybe supplying a tree to plant would be a good suggestion. Guessing that \$50 would get a tree into the ground. It's a good way to get people that want to donate, and trees are a good thing. We should do some write ups about this tree planting. Is the

government going to supply trees for planting? Maybe the logging money will get us started to do mowing and getting other projects on the go. Right now we want to get as much mulch as we can so volunteers can spread this around where needed.

OMNRF – Duane talked to Al Murray and nothing has changed. They talked about the gypsy moth problem and whether the ministry would do any spraying. That would have to be discussed. Weather has been good to control their population. Could we spot spray if we see a concentration of moths? Homemade traps can be made to kill the moths as well.

No correspondence available from the Ministry.

Newsletter is out ,looks great.

Website – been updated.

Auction is in its second week and things are being sold.

Pheasant challenge on track– as is the youth waterfowl hunt this year. We'll talk about that in the fall.

Police check on volunteers - discussion.

Scottt thinking of getting a loto licence. Is there a time frame?

New business.

Mat – regarding communication with the lawyers on purchasing the property we have looked at. Nothing back from the three lawyers. Mat to meet about the property purchase. There will be fees – because we're non profit maybe they will cut a deal for us. Some more discussion about the property.

Duane will have a conversation with the township regarding the property.

Taxes – should Ryan talk to a few other places to do our accounting. Chris will send Ryan a contact so he can follow up on the accounting for our taxes.

Next meeting 20 March.

Meeting adjourned. 9:20.