

FRIENDS OF HULLETT

MINUTES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Virtual Meeting

29th JUNE 2021 7:30PM

Present: Duane Inkpen, Mat Shetler, Ryan Bayne, Chris Ambrose, Mike Cardinal, Jim Bayne, Steven Zingaro and Trevor Latta

Absent: Wade Beaudoin

Guests: Scott Austin, Amber Frak

Meeting called to order: 7:35 PM

- Duane was experiencing technical issues therefore Mat called the meeting to order.
- Minutes from the previous Friends of Hullett – Board of Directors meeting were reviewed and approved with some minor spelling and grammar updates.
- Amber confirmed BOD mailing addresses for the OFAH insurance.
- Treasurer's Report
 - Ryan provided the FOH financial update with a current surplus compared to 2020 at this time.
 - Revenue has increased while 2021 expenses have remained about the same. Ryan provided some options to invest the surplus funds and then the directors discussed cashable GICs.
 - Motion by Mat to invest \$25,000 into a cashable GIC
 - Seconded by Chris
 - Motion – Carried
 - Scott, Ryan, and Chris will work with the bank to transfer funds into the investment. Note: interest rates are extremely low however the interest should contribute and assist to cover bank fees.
- Duane led the discussion with the Election of Board of Directors. Current positions reviewed, and nominations/position filled:
 - Chair - Duane Inkpen (standing)
 - Vice Chair – Matt Shetler (standing)
 - Treasurer - Ryan Bayne will step down and remain on the BOD. Chris Ambrose accepted the position for treasurer. Action: Chris required to provide signature to the bank.
 - Scott will forward e-transfers and cheques to the BOD for annual computer related expenses.

Marsh Report:

Scott Austin led the marsh report conversation/discussion:

- Water level discussion and implementation of DU adjustments based on their assessment. i.e. Baited area behind office (Sat pond #14) will receive some boards to bring up water level.
- Dyke repairs completed to the Woodie Pool and rock spill ways along with finishing the interior Bluewing dyke.
- Beaver dams at Conservation Road bridge and at concrete dam west of Mallard pool have been removed.
- New Beaver dam is blocking the water feed to the Whistler Pool – Amber and Scott working to remove bank beavers.
- Ag access improvements to Conservation Road allowing agriculture implement access with BOD comments in agreement that the road widening was a success.
- Gypsy moths – high pressures in certain areas specifically on poplar trees.
- Burns Line/southern access roadway and canoe launch to Butterball Pool
 - Quotes received from 2 companies (Vandriel's and Merner)
 - Discussion of splitting up the quotes to ensure business with both cooperators
 - Motion to move ahead with Merner's proposal with road and parking lot work at a cost of \$22,285.
 - Motioned by Mike

- Second by Mat
- Motion Carried
- Contract work to be completed by Sept 1, 2021 – Confirmed with Merner’s June 30th via Scott
- Road access to southern Burns Line during contract work to be closed until work is completed

Computer/IT issues

- Scott discussed the office internet and potential to move to a “Cloud-based’ server. Savings of approximately \$10/month however the internet connection requires an upgrade.
- Scott to further investigate and connect with Tucker-Smith to review potential upgrades with the antenna to increase band width. Concern of losing FOH email address when changing providers. The old system is slow and has a monthly fee however Scott will further review and prepare potential solutions to improve band width (internet speed) with an opportunity of savings for the FoH.

Website & User Guide Update

- Feedback was received from FOH members providing suggestions for the user guide updates and recommendations. Kate will lead the project implementing updates to the 2022 Hullett User Guide based from the feedback received.
- Newsletter – completed and forwarded to FoH members.
- Social Media continues to be an efficient way to provide information in a concise timely manner. A current example of this was the recent bear sighting.

Pheasant Challenge

- Great momentum with selling online tickets, a direct donation was received.

Youth Waterfowl Hunt

- 2021 Youth Hunt - Mentors will require a police background check and must be provided to the BOD prior to mentoring at the event.
- Provincial guidelines regarding COVID-19 restrictions are still under consideration prior to the 2021 event.
- Consensus was to pursue a list of 5-10 youth and continue to pursue as planned for the 2021 Youth Waterfowl Clinic.

New Business

- Discussion of maintaining a student on for longer term to help with additional workload – Scott and Amber to continue to pursue a potential candidate during the summer months.
- Tree plantation work
 - Many of the trees are progressing well, removal of rose bushes to help deciduous trees, discussion was to continue and maintain annual effort to plant and maintain trees. Proposal to have school support/students to help with the annual maintenance.
 - Duane has looked at the fields of the contiguous forest and found the trees to be in better condition than expected with some browse noted. Autumn Olive and Multiflora Rose has been cut back but more is required. Duane plans to talk to Mr. Gibson about planting large trees in the fall of 2021.
- Duane will be on vacation gone the month of July, Mat Shetler (Vice Chair) to support in his absence.
- Scott to follow up with Exeter Town Hall for FOH BOD monthly meetings to see if we can resume face to face meetings at this location.

July 27th next BOD meeting

Meeting adjourned 9:00PM

Minutes submitted by: Trevor Latta

Approved by:

