

FRIENDS OF HULLETT
MINUTES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Virtual Meeting

29th March 2022 7:30 PM

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

Absent:

Guests: Scott Austin, Amber Frak

Meeting called to order: 7:30 PM

- Minutes from the previous Friends of Hullett Board of Directors meeting were reviewed and approved. One minor spelling error.
- Zone A proposal discussed \$18,600
 - Whistler Pool - Cleaning along the East side of the dike from the boat launch to the water control.
 - Bluebill Pool – Clean from the boat launch access past stake 6 & 7
 - White Tail swamp was discussed to place a drain trench through allowing water to drain but also allow and maintain water levels during years that it would receive higher levels of precipitation.

Treasurer's Report

- Chris Ambrose has not received January books, so he was unable to provide monthly financial report.
- Year-end journal entries and adjustments were completed – there were 2 invoices for payment, reforestation hold of \$6500 and a top off capital asset reserve fund (snowmobile purchase)
- There were 2 GIC's purchased at \$20K each

Marsh Report

1. Lotto Licence Revenue

- Financial discussion needed and Lotto licence is in hand

2. Fishing Charter/Cottage Auction

- The auction item created bidding and the winner was awarded the auction item. We want to thank the sponsor for contributing this auction item.
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3. Staff Hours

- Scott is behind on hours (slowly catching up) and Amber is about even
- Hours will be circulated to BOD on Monday March 28

4. Central Huron Donation Fund

- Application was submitted for HUG production money, road grading and trail maintenance tools

5. High School Co-op Students

- Students were a great help in completing the waterfowl nesting structure work

6. Seaforth Big Buck Show

- The show is April 2 in Brussels with Scott and Amber to attend and represent FOH.
- Youth will be encouraged to register for the YWC, User Guide distribution, member promo and Pheasant Challenge tickets will be goals of the day

7. Career Interview

- Scott did a half hour video chat with an online class in the Huron-Perth Catholic School Board speaking about environmental job opportunities on March 23

8. 2022 Memberships

- 80 memberships processed so far in 2022 that includes 10 new 1st time members
- Revenue is \$4425 (average of \$55.31 per membership)
- Not everyone is filling out the member form, so tax receipts and decals are mailed out with the unknown expectations

9. Mallard Tubes

- All tubes have been installed except for Sat pond 10 due to high water

10. Duck Boxes

- All boxes were completed with 6 or 7 screech owls were encountered this season
- Successful hatching seemed minimal compared to other years
- Amber is compiling the data and will have a report out soon

11. Workshop Firewood

- Staff and students have spent some time cutting firewood for workshop from the logging operations leftovers

12. Privy Door Handle Repair

- Tanner Merner is in the process of replacing privy door handles. As of March 22nd a new industrial deadbolt and handle was observed on the Summerhill Privy

13. AGM

- Currently we only have one member application for a Board position to date.

14. Vanessa Palmer Award

- April 15 deadline with only one applicant to date.

15. 2022 Pheasants

- The invoice of \$11,065 was paid for 1000 birds at \$10.50 per bird and a \$500 delivery charge

16. Takalo and Burt Accounting

- Tax box was picked up and dropped off in Goderich on March 3

17. Logging Project

- Project is completed except for fuelwood logs awaiting trucking from the landing zones at Sugar Bush and Front Road (wee bit at gravel pit and Burns Line)
- As mentioned in # 12 above there are butt ends, short logs etc. that will remain
- Staff and students have cleaned up the Sugar Bush parking lot with rakes and it was surprisingly clean after the saw logs were trucked
- Flynn's hay at the Homestead will be the next cleanup
- Amber has all the details on logging paperwork

18. Reforestation

- As promised Greg Urquhart has provided guidance to Amber and Duane for the tree plantings and planning
- Amber is currently researching this program <https://forestsontario.ca/en/program/50-million-tree-program>

19. First Aid/CPR Training

- Part time employees will be completing their certification in April.

20. Chainsaw Certification

- Amber and Lucas are awaiting details for an upcoming course

21. Interpretive Center Demo

- Cleanup is scheduled for March 29-31 dependent upon weather
- The biggest issue is small pieces of the spray foam have blown over about 2-3 acres of the complex
- Scott has been communicating with Al Murray to make sure the clean-up is done completely

22. Pheasant Challenge

- We are expecting tickets to be printed by March 25
- 1500 tickets were ordered...we discovered that prize values did not determine the # of tickets

23. Blue Trail Hydro Poles

- Poles have been ordered from Stella-Jones and paid for with delivery soon.

24. Youth Waterfowl Clinic

- Are we planning a full 10 youth event this year? Should we remove vaccination status?
- Mike Moynihan (**Rondeau Waterfowlers Executive**) suggested that perhaps we should consider 2 youth and 2 mentors per hunt stake? Parent, youth, and mentor?
- This would simplify the logistics of the hunt itself if we did have 10 youth registered

25. Photo Contest

- March 31 is the deadline for submissions, to date we have not received as many entries as last year.
- We will set up the GOOGLE vote form after March 31 as in past years

26. FOH Financial Files

- Files older than 2013 were destroyed and some older files saved.

27. Trail Ranger Program

- Staff are planning a recruitment active volunteer to help with the trails. We will need to re-engage the volunteers after the COVID-19 pandemic. Certain trails will need major work this year after the completion of logging.

28. Kal Tire Funding

- Amber completed a small funding application for a \$1500 gift card for a new set of tires of the winner's choice. This funding is for non-profit use to sell in a raffle or auction.

29. WSIB Rebate

- It seems we may get an automatic rebate to our account in April 2022 due to a surplus of funds with \$1.5 billion going back to employers

30. OFAH Donation

- Zone H executive passed a motion at their last meeting to donate \$500 to FOH
- Cheque and letter were received stipulating that the funds are to be used for conservation and informing OFAH where they will go
- Receipt has been sent to OFAH allocating the funds to our Phragmites program

31. BOD Meeting Venue Options

- It seems that the REACH center is not an option for in person meetings given the location as compared to the Exeter area
- Crabby Joes in Exeter have been contacted but they do not have a meeting room
- Town hall in Exeter has been contacted and this is their reply
 - **“We will no longer be renting the Verity Room to any outside organizations. We have renovated our upstairs and the Verity Room is now our meeting room for municipal staff.”**
- The town did suggest Dashwood or Crediton community halls as alternative options
- Scott spoke with Jenna Bilcke at the Rec. Center in Exeter, and she said both locations are available for \$29 per hour for FOH
- A real estate type key box will allow us access in the evening hours
- Availability is subject to other bookings ahead of FOH
- **Crediton is booked for April 26 but as of March 16 Dashwood Hall was still available**

32. Interior Roads

- Roads have been closed until they dry up

New Business

- Youth Waterfowl Hunt
 - Discussion of returning to the full capacity of 10 youth
 - Mentors will be required, those that are interested should contact the FOH.
- Mike mentioned the BoD should try to return to in person meetings – **ACTION** - Scott will review and investigate (mention of meeting at Exeter Game Club)

Meeting adjourned 9:20 pm.