

FRIENDS OF HULLETT
MINUTES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Dashwood Community Centre

June 28th, 2022, 7:30 PM

Present: Matt Shetler, Jim Bayne, Ryan Bayne, Mike Cardinal, Chris Ambrose, Steve Dalrymple and Trevor Latta

Absent: Duane Inkpen, Wade Beaudoin, Chris Ambrose

Guests: Scott Austin, Amber Frak

Meeting called to order: 7:30 AM

- BOD Elections and positions were confirmed for another term - Duane Inkpen will remain as the Chairman, Mat Shetler will remain as Vice Chair, Chris Ambrose will remain as treasurer and Trevor Latta as secretary.
- Minutes from the previous Friends of Hullett Board of Directors May meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Chris was not in attendance to provide a financial update.

Marsh Report

1. GIS and Wildlife Technician Position

- As of June 23, Amber has accepted a new career opportunity in the agricultural sector...Congratulations Amber!
- Scott will be posting the new position ASAP in hopes of attracting potential candidates
- Given the current labour and housing shortages, there was a discussion for the BOD to consider offering temporary or long-term free housing in the office trailer to the new staff member as a hiring incentive.
- Further discussion regarding housing included a new employee staying at the location would be provided with a Taxable Benefit of \$400/month for the use of accommodations.
- Discussion included the opportunity to add additional accommodations i.e., trailer and the validity of this as a solution and or an investment for volunteers. Mike Cardinal will pursue attaining further information and report back to the board on his findings.

2. Annual Service for Kubota's

- All 3 machines have been serviced and picked up

4. User Guide (HUG) Production

- Staff plan to produce the guide earlier this year to free up time in the busy August season, Blyth Printers has confirmed their production once again
- 5000 guides will be produced as per our funding request from Central Huron and their \$2000 donation towards production (this has been our production # for the last few years with minimal guides left over)
- Laney has been aggressive reaching out to past and potential advertisers securing about half the ads at this point and we have also received 2 payments
- Drew has provided new MNRF CO wording to Laney
- Ryan Bayne has provided wording to Laney regarding the Zone A hunting parking in closed Migratory bird seasons
- The membership has been asked to provide HUG improvement input
- If the BOD and members would like to see changes to the user guide, please provide your input to Laney at fohoffice@tcc.on.ca by July 8th, 2022.
- There was discussion prior to July 8th to relocate stake 5, 4, 3 in the mallard pool to ensure that the updates are captured in the 2023 HUG. It was decided to postpone this until 2023 with the potential for excavator work in the mallard pool could influence stake placement.

5. High School Co-op Students

- Both St. Anne's and CHSS have shown great appreciation for FOH hosting their students
- Staff will be interviewing a CHSS student on June 27 for a 2022 first semester morning co-op
- We also have a GDCI student seeking a fall co-op

6. Logging Leftovers

- Mat suggested that the butt ends of the poles would be useful for barricades in ATV issue spots...we have placed a few of these in some trouble areas.

7. Trail Rangers

- We have recruited 6 volunteers who are helping with trail maintenance.

8. 2022 Memberships

- 124 memberships processed so far in 2022 that includes 14 new 1st time members with a current revenue of \$6375.

9. Blue Trail Bridge

- Drake Jefferson visited the site on June 19 with Scott advising on how to get the hydro poles into the bridge location
- An attempt will be made on June 24 to move the poles with the tractor

10. Jim Downie

- Payment for custom made knives has been made as requested by Duane. As a token of appreciation one knife will be shipped to past BOD Steven Zingaro for his contribution to the FOH.

11. Canada Summer Jobs

- CSJ Summer staff have been hired
- Laney Hayter started June 13 as our Event Coordinator and she is a huge help with the day-to-day operations having gained FOH relevant skills in her co-op with us last spring
- The HUG, Youth Waterfowl Clinic (planning and administration) and work with youth groups will be her major events of the summer
- Lucas Preszcator is our Grounds Maintenance Supervisor and Hudson Allen is our Grounds Maintenance Worker...they both start June 27...
- All 3 jobs are for 8 weeks at 35 hours per week and all CSJ staff are on our FOH auto insurance policy

12. Cheques

- We have received more cheques from Janice to stock up and will be brought to the meeting for signing.

13. Instagram Auction

- Revenue for 2022 is only \$1460 so far, we have been receiving very little donations of items to sell

14. Baiting Permit

- At this point all baiting permits are on hold due to avian flu, the FOH will be notified when and if we are able to apply.

15. Daily/Weekly Circle Check Vehicle Logs

- Staff have created logs for all vehicles and will be implemented on June 27.

16. Grass Cutting

- Staff have been cutting the grass this year to date. All dikes have received their annual June cut and half of the trails, roadsides, and parking lots have been done

17. Water Measurements

- Amber has completed the 2nd round of measurements in both Zone A and B
- Laney and Kirsten accompanied her helping with the brushing and weed removal at each structure

18. Training

- Both Amber and Lucas received "in-house" chainsaw safety training on June 6 at a cost of \$590 to FOH including HST.
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19. Turtle Nesting

- Weather and staff availability have affected the nest protector box placement but about half of the boxes have been placed on the western Bluewing Pool dyke

20. DUC

- Invoicing for dike and water structure work will be done when time permits

- A meeting with DUC/MNRF operations and FoH has agreed to set up virtual meeting for June 15 from 9 am to 1030 am with Ken Cornelisse, Jeff Krete and Scott Austin - if any BOD want to participate, please contact Scott and he will ask Ken to add you in the meeting.

21. Reforestation Trail

- Brushing and pruning has started on the access trail (off White Trail) to improve access for the forestry project

22. White Trail Mud Hole

- 3 dump wagons of gabion stone have been hauled and placed in the large wet spot
- Gravel will be top coated to improve the trail as well as access for the forestry plantings

23. Zone A Excavator Work

- Ryan Bayne has completed most of the “Zone A” work plans and Scott has received hourly quotes from Merners and Vandriels for the work. (Outlined below)
- Motion was made by Ryan to proceed with Zone A excavator work 1) Whistler Canoe Path 2) Bluebill Canoe path 3) South end of Whitetail Swamp drain, second by Jim. Motion carried. The request for work is to be completed within the month of August if possible.
- Discussion of 2023 Marsh priorities for excavator work 1) Mallard control structure 2) white tail swamp 3) south baited area 4) Butterball path – potential for budget discussions will be held later.
- Excavator Hourly quotes
 - Vandriels: 20 tonne machine:
 - We are please to offer the following budgetary quotation for the following long reach excavator with operator
 - \$170/hr plus fuel surcharge
 - Float move \$180/hr
 - Merners: 35 tonne machine
 - Hitachi Long Reach ZX350LC 60 'boom
 - 1.5 yd ditching bucket.
 - \$210 hourly.
 - Would be \$500 to float it in and another \$500 to float it out

New Business

- Scott provided a motion to extend Laney’s 8-week Canada Summer Job position by 2 weeks from August 8-21. The two-week extension will be funded entirely by FOH at a cost of \$1155 not including MERCS...35 hours per week at \$16.50 per hour. The motioned was provided by Mike, second by Jim. Motion carried.
- Steve was approached by Jim Baker of the NAVDA group about running their dog trials on Labour Day weekend - 3 days from Saturday through to Monday. Action - Steve will champion communications with NAVDA and provide information and requests to the BOD for review and discussion prior to commitments.
- Discussion was to remove the verbiage within the Hullett User Guide from “Baited Areas” to “No Entry”. Trevor made the motion to edit the verbiage, motion was second by Ryan. Motion carried.
- Discussion of BOD attendance at monthly meetings. Action – Mat to review the FOH BOD guidelines and report back in the July monthly meeting.
- Action - Scott to provide an exit interview with Amber Frak since she is leaving the FOH to pursue an alternate career in agriculture.

Meeting adjourned 9:26 pm.