

FRIENDS OF HULLETT
MINUTES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Dashwood Community Centre

August 30th, 2022, 7:30 PM

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

Absent: Wade Beaudoin, Jim Bayne

Guests: Scott Austin, Ben Elliott, David Denyes

Meeting called to order: 7:40 PM

- Minutes from the previous Friends of Hullett Board of Directors July meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Chris Ambrose provided the treasure's update.
 - No full report available currently, net income is up due to logging revenue
 - Annual printing expenses have been provided to active BOD
 - Inclusion of a bank statement with monthly financials moving forward.
 - Discussion of the finalized expenses owing to the crown for logging and scale use at Steve Flynn's to complete all outstanding payments

Marsh Report

1. GIS and Wildlife Technician Position

- Ben Elliott has jumped right into his position with FOH with both arms and is doing a great job
- Ben will be at our Aug 30 meeting to meet everyone; Ben was on holidays from Aug 22-26 and will make up his hours in September.

2. Phragmites Spraying

- Aug 18 and 19 were the first 2 spray dates of the season, Scott is cutting access trails to spray locations
- **ACTION** - Trevor to follow up with the chemical "Habitat" which is registered for water application.

3. Memorial Donation

- Jim Bayne has donated \$1000 in memory of his wife Cathy

4. User Guide (HUG) Production

- Final edits (from the BOD) have been sent to the printers
- We are waiting for the 5th revised version
- Final revenue is \$4250 with \$2250 in ads and \$2000 funding from Central Huron
- 2021 revenue was \$4290 with \$1800 funding from Central Huron
- We are only waiting for one ad to be paid for...Parker House Motel
- **ACTION** – Scott to review and finalize V5 approval prior to printing.

5. First Aid Training

- Both Ben and Hudson completed their training on the evening of Aug. 12

6. Chainsaw Training

- Ben and Hudson will be taking an in-house all-day training course on Aug 30

7. 2022 Memberships

- 139 memberships processed so far in 2022 that includes 18 new 1st time members with revenue of \$7178.

8. Blue Trail Bridge

- Many compliments have been received by users regarding the new bridge

9. Geocaching Volunteer

- Our 8 FOH created registered geocache sites create lots of visits to Hullett as recorded by the login in emails we receive
- We have found a new volunteer who is going to visit each site a few times a year and update the containers

10. Summer Students

- Laney did not accept the 2-week extension offered to her and completed her hours early in August
- Lucas has accepted his extension
- Lucas and Hudson will be done soon however they need to complete their hours prior to leaving.

12. Dog Club Events

- As discussed at our last meeting Steve coordinated the mowing south of Conservation Road and the job is done.
- The Golden Retriever club will be sending out their Sept 10/11 event details soon for Board approval.
 - **Action** – Scott will mention to the Golden Retriever Club and provide user guides and an opportunity to sell memberships and pheasant challenge tickets.
- They have rented Kinburn Hall for the weekend and no conflict of areas used and dates between the clubs.
- Scott cut approx. 8 ac off front line near the front parking lot to help accommodate the club's request.

13. Mallard Tubes

- All but 2 tubes have been collected by Lucas and Hudson, tubes are all labelled, and data will be collected soon.

14. Baiting Permit

- No baiting permits will be issued in Ontario this year.

15. Pheasant Challenge Sales

- Approximately 250 tickets have been sold to date.

16. DUC

- Jeff Krete has been informed that the dykes are cut if he was planning to complete a site visit, no word on a site visit to date.

17. Excess Logging Funds

- Further to ideas presented by Mat and Steve via email on Monday Aug 22 I would like the BOD to consider the purchase of a used 45-60 HP tractor
- As Mat mentioned habitat improvement would be a good use of the funds
- This tractor could be used with our John Deere 709 3-point rotary cutter that has been sitting idle for many years (minimum 45 HP required)
- This small tractor would be a great set-up to maintain the forestry plantings and accessing tight areas
- With Ben an experienced operator and BOD volunteers 2 tractors could be performing habitat work in the late summer early fall periods
- It would also be good for many other applications and as a back-up tractor should the large 93 HP tractor be down for repairs

18. Zone A Excavator Work

- Both Merner's and Vandriel's will be working on the canoe channels
- Vandriel has been in to see the Bluebill ditch as well as the Whitetail drainage
- Vandriel will need 2 excavators to complete the work as well as the timber chewer machine
- **Action** – Scott to mention to Vandriel's and Merner's that we are interested in Whitetail Swamp work in 2023.

19. Youth Waterfowl Clinic

- Swag has been purchased for the kids and we have received a wonderful donation of high-end head lamps from Trevor Latta

- Sat pond # 12 will host the decoy demonstration, canoe safety, waterfowl blind set-up, retriever demonstration etc.
- There will be 2 meals at the office as well as clay bird shoot and Mallard tube stuffing

20. OFAH Funding

- We have received the full \$8,000 request from OFAH for the canoe channel dredging
- The Zone A project was applied for showing a cost of \$18,600 with \$10,000 coming from FOH
- **Action** – Scott will maintain the cost at \$18,600 and will update the BOD on the status of the work allowing for a response from the BOD to increase funding based on the progress of work completed.

21. Staff Hours

- Scott will circulate staff hours before the meeting
- Scott has used some accumulated OT the week of Aug 22-26 as he recovers

Ducks Unlimited/MNRF

- Scott provided an update to DU that the dykes have been mowed and access for the site assessment is completed.

New Business

- **Action** – ALL – Newsletter topics and articles due to ASAP
- **Action** - Duane & Scott to meet with Steve Flynn to review outstanding topics (grading main parking lot) and discuss prairie grass field and future progress
- Website updates
- **Action** – Scott/Ben - Removal of the F1 & F2 parking signs from the main parking lot prior to opener of goose hunting as both fields are soybeans and are not accessible for field hunting, an update notice will be published on the website also.
- Youth Waterfowl Hunt – will proceed on Sept 17th as a waterfowl training day.
- Opening Day Migratory will proceed as a normal lottery draw
 - **Action** – Scott/Ben to reach out to attain Fleming students to help with bird identification and data collection.
 - Meeting will be Sept 22nd @ 7:30 at the FOH main office.
- Whitetail Auction Hunt
 - **Action** – Ryan, Chris and Trevor will run a fully guided hunt (promotion, newsletter) auction in October.
- Managing logging funds – Below is a list of project proposals
 - Replanting of logged areas through the Maitland & Million Tree project
 - **Action** – Duane to review purchasing a second tractor with front end loader and cab as an opportunity to increase additional mowing maintenance to managing the new tree plantings.
 - Pollinator habitat was proposed as a consideration to mowing between rows
 - Cut overgrown fields, prescribed burns with new plantings, purchase a Mulch head to help manage overgrown areas
 - **Action** – Steve to follow up with an opportunity of a consultation with the Ruff grouse & Woodcock society to review funding opportunities.
 - Accommodations – Northlander – wait time is 18 mos. upon day of order, residence is \$174,000 and septic, hydro would place the total investment to approximately \$225,000. The work trailer model is like our current office and comes at a cost of \$47,000.
 - Constitution – Matt presented the proposed update:
 - Draft updates to be reviewed and presented for approval in May 2023 at the FOH annual meeting
 - Section L
 - Submissions for board members – Matt discussed with Ken the opportunity to maintain MNRF or Ducks Unlimited involvement with the FOH. (Applications will go to the MNR liaison for review)
 - Section O
 - Cheques need to be signed by 2 people; all other payments need to be shared with BOD monthly
 - Purchasing policy – more than \$2000 must be approved by the BOD.
 - Section R
 - Responsibilities of Office
 - Proposal – To attend meetings and participate in discussions on a regular basis
 - Act in the best interest of the FOH and Hullett provincial area.
 - Treasures responsibilities
 - Arrange annual statements for tax purposes
 - Prepare for annual review at the FOH annual meeting.

Meeting adjourned 9:47 pm.