

FRIENDS OF HULLETT
MINUTES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Dashwood Community Centre

November 29th, 2022, 7:30 PM

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

Absent:

Guests: Scott Austin, Ben Elliott

Meeting called to order: 7:30 PM

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

Treasurer's Report

- Chris Ambrose provided treasure's update.
 - Updated with 2 new GIC's with opportunity to receive higher ROI
 - Closed out reserve funds – Zone A liability, Capital assets – snowmobile purchase, replacement trees
 - Deposit of Ag check in November a month ahead of the deposit in December
 - **ACTION** - Should Forest income be moved over to liability to improve access of funds?
 - Duane inquired if we need to set funds aside for tax payment for logging income. Chris confirmed that since FOH is a non-profit there is no tax liability.
 - Reviewed asset management plan should be good for 8-10 years. The upcoming years 2027 to 2030 will be a noticeable demand as in these 4 years \$240K could be incurred to keep our operating assets up and running.
 - There were multiple discussions on updating assets within the next year.
 - Replacement of Scott's laptop
 - Purchase of additional tractor
 - Trevor made a motion for \$50K as an initial investment/starting point to initiate attaining a second tractor. Should the investment be higher than this the BOD will need to discuss and approve additional funds to secure the purchase of the tractor. Jimmy second, Motion carried.

Marsh Report

1. 2023 Spring Charity Dinner and Auction

- Bluewater Golf Course is very excited to have FOH back, as the 2020 dinner that was cancelled was set for Sat. April 18
- Therefore, in working with the Golf Course the availability of our chef Devon from Bon Vivant the proposed date would be Saturday April 22, 2023.
- Please remember that we have a \$1000 credit deposit paid to Devon from 2020
- **ACTION** - Help is required from the Board members canvassing auction items as we move ahead with this event
- **ACTION** – Scott to confirm the following:
 - Plated cost
 - Confirm time with Bluewater Golf Course and Bon Vivant for April 22, 2023
 - Once confirmed Scott to circulate the details to BOD for approval and begin ticket printing.

2. Phragmites Review 2022

- Final bill from ABCA was \$2865.68 including HST
- DUC has paid us the \$1000 lump sum contribution
- MVCA has paid us the \$1381 funding
- FOH cost was about \$400 (HST rebate) cash plus staff time
- Mowing access to sites took 5 hours
- Ben's time on all project details was 40 hours

3. Pheasant Release

- 800 birds have been released to date with 200 birds to be released on Nov. 29, 2022.
- The final release will occur after the 2nd controlled deer hunt
- **ACTION** – Scott to discuss with the current pheasant supplier (Sarah Jackson) on her business and supplier confirmation for 2023 with 1200 birds.

4. Snowmobile Club

- Staff will be meeting with Lawrence Bergsma to review and sign the annual Landowner Agreement and discuss any issues.
- Signed and approved Nov 29, 2022 for the 2022/2023 winter season.

5. Ice Safety Training

- Ben will take the online course.

6. Habitat Mowing

- Thanks to Ben's quick adaptation to operating the tractor and mower he was able to assist Scott and complete many fields late this fall.

7. Forestry Plan

- Site prep was started as instructed by Greg Urquhart however the snow came, and the mower had to be exchanged for the snow blower on the tractor
- As it stands now the site will be chopped down in June of 2023 and again in the fall with plans of planting in 2024

8. 2022 Memberships

- 230 memberships processed so far in 2022 this includes 36 new 1st time members
- Past year end figures – 2018 \$5450, 2019 \$ 6165, 2020 \$9520, 2021 \$11,106 - 2022 is currently at \$11,299

9. General Donations

- To date there is currently \$3327 in general donations.

10. Duck Boxes

- A few Zone B duck boxes have been completed teaching Ben the program

11. New Tree Watering

- Each of the 24 new Kentucky Coffee and Tulip Trees have received 75 to 100 gallons of water each by using a donated water tank from Hill & Hill Farms
- This was a time-consuming task but very important for the survival of the trees

12. New Snowmobile

- The sled will be picked up from Delta the week of Nov 28th

13. Pheasant Program

- Current contributions of \$1995 to date.
- Direct Donation - A generous donation from Tim MacDonald with another \$1000 cheque. The FOH and BOD would like to thank Tim for his contribution to the pheasant program.
- Pheasant Challenge Tickets - Over 725 tickets have been sold to date and we are currently ahead of last year's ticket selling.
- Youth Pheasant Hunt - Youth Pheasant Hunt was cancelled on Nov 19 due to weather and tentatively re-booked for Dec 3

14. DUC Contracts

- All work has been completed and DUC will be invoiced for the final 16 units of the water structure contract this week.

15. Water Control Measuring

- Ben has completed his first set of Zone A water measurements with the data and photos submitted to DUC and a separate submission to Dave McLachlin as he requested in communications with Duane.

16. OFAH Funding

- Ben has completed and submitted the final report to receive the second \$4,000 of funding

17. Staff Hours

- Scott will circulate staff hours before the meeting.

18. Homestead Access

- The chain was installed on the blocks closing access for the winter before the first deer firearm hunt

19. FOH Guide Participation

- As in the past few years, we have renewed our advertisement in the Central Huron Community Guide - [Experience our Nature 2022.](#)

20. Financials

- As we move forward better methods have developed to manage the lotto account requiring less work
- Janice will have more hours in 2022 than before with this account and tracking our investment interest earnings

21. Updated Asset Management Plan

- Scott will get these out to the BOD on Nov 24.

22. Steve Flynn

- Duane had a meeting with Steve regarding outstanding fees that may be owed by FOH, understandings and services.
- **ACTION** – Ben to confirm if the prairie grass is cut and what fields

23. Future Board Meetings

- Scott suggests that we use ZOOM for the months of January, February given potential weather issues.
 - It was confirmed the BOD meetings for January and February 2023 will be held via zoom.
- Scott requested if we want to continue with Dashwood Hall and I will book 2023 meetings.
 - It was confirmed that the Dashwood Community Hall will be the meeting place for the 2023 year.

OMNRF/DUC

- Nothing to report
- **ACTION** – Duane will work to secure in person meetings in April of 2023 with OMNRF and DUC

New Business

- ACTION – BOD to review draining of the Whitetail Swamp and come prepared to the meeting in January.
- Dinner and Auction plans were discussed
- Tractor was previously reviewed

Meeting adjourned 10:37 pm.