

FRIENDS OF HULLETT
MINUTES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Friends OF Hullett – Dashwood Community Centre
March 28th, 2023, 7:30 PM

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

Absent: Chris Ambrose, Wade Beaudin

Guests: Scott Austin, Ben Elliott

Meeting called to order: 7:30 PM

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

Treasurer's Report

- Chris Ambrose provided financials in advance of the March meeting for review.
 - The BOD reviewed the financials and had no questions.

Marsh Report

1. Canada Summer Jobs Funding

- Funding has been applied for and we are awaiting approval.

2. New Kubota Tractor

- Staff will have the local welding shop on Kinburn Line weld hooks on top of the loader bucket the same as our JD tractor
- Tractor forks would be a good option in the future
- **ACTION** – Scott to review and provide quotes to purchase a set of forks.

3. Charity Dinner and Auction - Saturday April 22

- Visit to venue to drop off items and test POS and slide show on March 21
- Richard Lobb has confirmed his attendance as auctioneer
- Program draft has been started in preparation for commercial printing
- Tax receipts and thank you letters need to be issued for donations
- BOD with auction items please bring them to Dashwood meeting on March 28

4. DUC HPWA Grasslands

- Mike Williams is the DUC coordinator for our 2-energy company habitat compensation projects have been contacted by staff
- FOH staff have sent pictures of heavy woody growth in sections of the Capstone Project
- Mike has asked FOH to quote performing the grassland habitat maintenance for the site
- Scott suggests a rate of \$225 per hour for the work to make it worthwhile for FOH
- Approximately three acres can be cut per hour with a fuel consumption rate of 12 to 15 litres per hour
- BOD need to decide FOH should quote this work...discussions with DUC regarding rates are posted below from the spring of 2019
- **ACTION** - Scott to quote the business at \$200 per hour for FOH to proceed with this proposal.

5. Beaver Issues

- Mallard Pool and Pintail Pool drainage from private lands are plugged up with notice from landowner/farmer
- **ACTION** - DUC have been notified and will be responding with excavators in April

6. AGM Guest Speaker

- Scott has asked our MNRF liaison David Denyes to speak at the AGM regarding Avian Flu situation in Southern Ontario
- David will let Scott know if he is attending AGM and if he is able to speak as our guest
- Huron Stewardship Council have also been asked to speak at AGM with reptiles and amphibians of Huron County as the topic

7. Forestry Planning

- Ben has been setting up site visits for future assessment and planning
- Mat Shetler has provided a report to the BOD
 - In summary through various consultants there is a need and priority to remove buckthorn.
 - **ACTION** - Steve to call the "Rough Grouse Society" to attain advice and consulting for key habitat plantings
 - Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (Ian Jean) has agreed to a site visit, review and provide recommendations.
 - The BOD agreed to wait on spending funds until further information has been provided to make future decisions.

8. 2023 Memberships

- One hundred memberships (59 from dinner) processed so far in 2023 that includes seven new first-time members (4 from dinner)
- Income as of March 23 is \$2962

9. Lotto License Application

- Ben submitted our lotto application on March 21, 2023.
- Donations from Sommers of a generator and a gun prize from Clinton Sporting Goods.
- An additional donation of eight brand new fishing rod/reel combos were provided for the auction

10. Owl Boxes

- All boxes done

11. Seaforth Big Buck Show

- The show is April 15 in Seaforth, Scott, Ben and Denver will attend and represent FOH
- Youth will be encouraged to register for the YWC, User Guide distribution, member promo and Pheasant Challenge tickets will be promoted during the event.

12. Memorial Donations

- We have received \$670 in memory of the passing of FOH member Paul Heeley. Our condolences go to family and friends with the passing of Paul.

13. Winter Waterfowl Nesting Structure Work

- All tubes in places except for one in the Whistler Pool and all boxes are complete except for three in the Whistler Pool

14. Staff Hours

- Scott is about even on hours and Ben is ahead, hours will be circulated to BOD on Monday March 27, 2023.

15. Vanessa Palmer Award

- One applicant so far, deadline for submission is April 14th, 2023.
- **ACTION** – Scott to finalize applicants for BOD by next month's meeting.

16. Photo Contest

- April 30 is the deadline for submissions
- **ACTION** -- Ben will set up the GOOGLE vote form after April 30 as in past years

17. Waterfowl Nesting Structure Data in ARC GIS

- Ben has discovered that the data within ARC is disorganized due to the continuous turnover of FOH GIS technicians
- Ben is in the process of cleaning things up as best he can when time permits

18. Annual FOH/MNRF/DUC Operations Meeting

- April 14th, 2023 @ 10 am Hullett Office

19. Dinner Early Bird Prize Winners

- \$50 Gift Certificate CS Goods – Park Penhale
- \$50 Gift Certificate Maelstrom Winery – Bob Milligan

20. ARC GIS Base Map

- Ben will assess GIS files and attempt to update habitat layers with 2020 air photos as time permits
- Will confirm when/if he can do it by April BOD meeting as discussed at February meeting

21. Vandalism

- TO date there have been no noticeable issues

OMNRF/DUC

- OMNRF – David Denyes will be attending the upcoming DUC operational meeting.
- The FOH reviewed objectives that need to be discussed for the upcoming meeting on April 14th, 2023, with DUC.

Website/User Guide/Newsletter

- Spring newsletter is being developed and will be issued prior to the AGM
- **ACTION** – Steve to review and provide content regarding dog trials or articles for the upcoming newsletter.
- **ACTION** – Scott to include social media presence for applications for new BOD positions.
- **ACTION** – Mike to forward the 25 YEAR Anniversary summary for the BOD to review

Charity Dinner

- BOD reviewed items and tactics that need to be completed for the upcoming deadline.
- Discussed that the BOD should promote the sale of 25 Year Anniversary hats at the upcoming charity dinner.
- **ACTION** – Scott to send out meeting invite to the “Charity Dinner” committee to meet prior to event day.

New Business

- **AGM** – Jim Baynes confirmed he will cater the upcoming event
- **ACTION Phragmites** - Trevor to review HABITAT, application costs and licensed applicators for 2023.
- **ACTION Mulch for new tree plantings** - Duane will follow up with a site visit and receive consultation for next steps
- **ACTION 2023 Waterfowl Sanctuary Permits** - FOH staff will be submitting for in June/July 2023

Meeting adjourned 9:30 pm.