

**FRIENDS OF HULLETT**  
**MINUTES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Friends OF Hullett – Dashwood Community Centre**  
**April 25th, 2023, 7:30 PM**

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

**Absent:** N/A

**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 an overview of financial reports:
  - \$63K has been placed into the reserve fund and can be allocated later.
  - The BOD reviewed the 2022 financials and had no questions.
  - Chris provided a motion to finalize the 2022 financial statements, Steve second the motion – motion carried.

### **Marsh Report**

#### **1. Canada Summer Jobs Funding**

- Funding application was successful for the 2023 season.

#### **2. Marsh Locks**

- 12 new “**keyed alike**” locks have been purchased from Sills HH in Seaforth to maintain our inventory, cost was \$250

#### **3. Charity Dinner and Auction - Saturday April 22**

- Committee is organized and met for the last time via ZOOM on April 18, Staff have been plugging away many hours.
- Denver has been involved in the planning and preparation and will be a great asset at the dinner itself
- Dinner sheet will be sent to all BOD prior to the event.

#### **4. DUC HPWA Grasslands**

- Mike Williams from DUC is the coordinator for our carbon/habitat offset projects
- Scott told Mike \$225 per hour is the rate for the mowing work to make it worthwhile for FOH. Mike felt that was reasonable and would let his client know and undecided for a site visit this year.

#### **5. Beaver Issues**

- DUC will be on site week of April 24 visiting problem areas and scheduling excavators with work beginning this week

#### **6. AGM Guest Speaker**

- MNRF, Huron Stewardship Council, Bird Atlas people and DUC are all unable to speak, no guest speaker as of now
- Perhaps a NAVHDA dog club person could do a demonstration...maybe good timing as the dog-training article from Steve will go out in the spring newsletter?
- AGM confirmed for May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- **ACTION** – Matt to reach out to Rachel White at the Stewardship Council with an inquiry to be a guest speaker.

#### **7. Forestry Updates**

- Ben will be visiting the large, logged area in south Red Trail first week of May with Bill Dineen (Red Trail volunteer) preparing for site visit from forester later in May
- Continuous forest area will be chopped down with mowers in late May if access permits
- Another dump wagon of gravel was brought into forestry trail
- Mulch will be applied around last year's plantings via both tractors and dump wagon

#### **8. 2023 Memberships**

- 109 memberships (59 from dinner) processed so far in 2023 that includes 10 new 1<sup>st</sup> time members (4 from dinner)
- Income as of April 20 is \$3490

#### **9. Lotto License Application (Pheasant Challenge)**

- License approved on April 14, Tickets will be picked up April 21 and ready for sale with sales promotion to begin next week.

#### 10. Hullett American Chestnut Trees

- Mike Malhiot has reached out regarding old plantings; Mike may have some seedling to donate to FOH.
- Staff will determine if there is any survival via UTM coordinates

#### 11. Seaforth Big Buck Show

- Both Ben and Denver attended and represented the Friends of Hullett.
- 3 youth registered for Waterfowl Clinic
- Jorge Parejo approached FOH volunteering his services for a fundraiser pig roast if FOH bought a local pig
- May be a consideration if we can hire a good event coordinator

#### 12. 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Hat Idea

- Ben proposed we promote a \$60 FOH donation and receive a membership and a FOH 25 Anniversary hat.

#### 13. New Lighting

- After a 2 year wait the planned insurance settlement project is finally complete
- Ballasts were removed and the fixtures fitted with LED tubes. The entire barn, workshop and part of office trailer now has new LED lights, we have not received an invoice yet.

#### 14. Privy Wind Damage

- Summerhill privy door hinge and swing stopper has been damaged by wind; therefore, it has been closed until repairs can be made. People do not seem to read the "Please close the door" sign.
- **ACTION** – Scott to attain a contractor to install a better door closure.

#### 15. Vanessa Palmer Award

- 2 applicants were received.
- Trevor motioned to award both applications (\$200/person) the Vanessa Palmer Award for 2023, Jim second the motion – motion carried.
- **ACTION** – Scott to notify both applicants on their success on attaining Vanessa Palmer Award.

#### 16. Photo Contest

- April 30 is the deadline for submissions, it was discussed to place the winners name on the cover of the FOH user guide.
- Ben will set up the GOOGLE vote form after April 30 as in past years

#### 17. Memorial and VP Plaques

- Both the memorial plaque and the Vanessa Palmer plaque will be full prior to the AGM
- **ACTION** – Scott to purchase a new plaque(s) or larger plaque(s).

#### 18. Annual FOH/MNRF/DUC Operations Meeting

- April 14 @ 10 am Hullett Office. Duane will provide update to the Board; Nick Krete will send minutes out.
- July/August site visit with drone work and water board assessment.
- Wade provided an observation that the unit prices be tied to fuel prices to help with fuel cost fluctuation.
- **ACTION** – Scott to book VanDriel's or Merner's to complete the excavator work.
- **ACTION** – Scott to prepare an amendment stating 2 units is an hour for mowing to ensure clarity of the contract.

#### 19. Old MNRF CO ATV

- Machine is not running and taking up valuable storage space (Leaking oil out of head gasket)
- We do not have an ownership and therefore technically owned by the Crown
- Application can be made to MTO to get an ownership if VIN is provided
- **ACTION** – Duane will contact Dave Denies seeing if FOH can sell the unit.

#### 20. Annual Kubota Servicing

- Lawn mower is done and was swapped out for the 1140 diesel bike on April 20, 2023. Small camo gas bike will be next.

#### 21. Commercial Safety

- The landscape trailer was safety checked in April

#### 22. GIS Updates

- Base layers have been changed to 2020 photos; habitat change report will be attempted this year with a hopeful completion in early 2024.
- **ACTION** – Scott - Update ag fields and forest boundaries by December 2024 in advance of ag contract renewal.

#### 23. OPP Canine Training

- Training has been scheduled for the Conservation Rd area on May 17<sup>th</sup>. As in past years this area will be closed to the public the day before for scent control. The closure will be announced to the public in advance of the event

#### **24. Grading and Gravel**

- The municipality was contacted on April 17 and have agreed to grade our roads again when they are in the area.
- They will also provide us with free ample loads of gravel delivered to our complex when the pits are opened.

#### **25. Huron Gravel Pit**

- After talking with the grader supervisor, it seems like the active life of the gravel pit will be extended
- Test holes are currently in progress

#### **New Business**

- **Prairie Grass Field**
  - **ACTION** – Approach Steve Flynn now to receive feedback on options on how to proceed with the field in 2023 and longer-term solutions to return the field back to a field habitat versus a longer-term ag field.
- **BOD Applications**
  - Discussed and overview of applications to date.
  - Applications submitted to Dave Denies for review.

Meeting adjourned 9:10 pm.