

FRIENDS OF HULLETT
MINUTES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Friends OF Hullett – Dashwood Community Centre
August 29th, 2023, 7:30 PM

Present: Duane Inkpen, Matt Shetler, Mike Cardinal, Steve Dalrymple, Barb Orchard, and Trevor Latta

Absent: Chris Ambrose, Ryan Bayne, Mark Penhale, Dave Denys

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 then approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Chris Ambrose provided an overview of financial reports via email prior to the meeting.
- There is one GIC that is due October 27th, it is for review to see if we can move this to a higher interest rate GIC.
- **ACTION –** Chris to provide GIC options at the next BOD meeting.

Marsh Report

1. OFAH Tractor Funding

- The final \$2500 payment has been deposited into our account.

2. Habitat Mower Repairs

- Total cost for hitch repairs was \$1091 including HST, some extra parts were replaced due to years of stress before they fail. The repairs were funded through the lotto account.

3. Fundraising Dinner/Auction

- Does the BOD want to hold the event once again in 2024?
- **ACTION -** It was decided to move ahead with planning the 2024 dinner auction.

4. Baiting Permit

- Permit is in hand and the north baited area access has been mowed. Varna grain will be contacted soon to seek a corn donation.

5. Pheasant Pen Removal (Northeast Flight Pen)

- Job is 99% complete with some grading is still required.

6. Mallard Tubes

- 2/3 of the tubes have been retrieved with most re-stuffed and ready for the 2024 breeding season, 2 different volunteers have helped with the project.
- **ACTION –** All mallard tubes are to be pulled prior to Sept 23rd. there is approximately 10 left to retrieve.

7. Accessible View Stand Roof

- The vegetation has been cut and cleared in preparation for the work to begin, Ben has completed inventory on materials required and hope to complete project by Thanksgiving.

8. 2023 Memberships

- 173 memberships processed so far in 2023 that include 34 new 1st time members (18 from dinner)
- Income as of Aug 23 is \$5760
- We have 2 recurring monthly PayPal memberships...one is \$5/month and the other is \$50/month from a generous member...\$600 a year!

9. Pheasant Challenge

- Sales picking up a wee bit with 254 tickets sold as of Aug. 23
- Mike Leitch has sold 40 tickets of this total and Clinton Sporting Goods 20

10. User Guide Draft

- Please refer to email sent to you Wednesday Aug 23 for draft version # 4
- Please provide input, grammar, edits and comments to staff via email by Aug 28th at the latest

11. TCC Fiber Internet

- Work has begun on Hydro Line with the conduit, bored under the road at the office gate and we anticipate hook up before the new year.

12. 25th Anniversary Hat Sales

- Hat sales are at 53 for an income of \$1317.
- Ben has created a great platform on PayPal for buyers to select from the 4 styles.
- Customers are picking hats up on office porch as per communications between staff and buyers.

13. PayPal Issues

- Chris has resolved the issue and the money is flowing freely once again.

14. Fire Extinguisher Training

- Staff were unable to obtain training due to trainers' inability to book dates with FOH.

15. Owl and Duck Boxes

- A few boxes of each in oddball locations have been done to minimize the winter workload and expose the students to the nesting program.

16. FOH Vehicle Insurance

- Policy has been paid for a total of \$4300 including tax.
- Ben is still waiting for a comparable quote from another company.

17. FOH Vehicle Registrations

- All vehicles have been registered and license stickers purchased where applicable...UTV, s are exempt from stickers.

18. Lotto Account Disbursements

- Scott continues to spend the retained funds as per lotto corp. rules and has the balance down to \$3500.

19. Youth Waterfowl Clinic Saturday September 16th, 2023.

- Emily and Ben have done a wonderful job securing youth participant registrations, gifts have been purchased.
- Mike Moynihan and Deane Waite will be our major presenters and volunteers once again.

20. Fall Newsletter

- Staff will circulate the NL before the major hunting seasons begin.
- **ACTION** – Fall newsletter to be deployed by mid-September, BOD please forward articles within the next 2 weeks.

21. Tree Planting Funding

- Ben is working with Shannon Millar from MVCA with regards to funding.

22. Summer Students

- Students will be finishing up their hours by next week, take out lunch for summer staff will occur on Sept. 1, 2023.

23. Mowing Update

- Scott has been busy catching up with the mowing after 10 days of downtime in August waiting for parts for the flex wing habitat mower.
- Ben did some mowing in appropriate areas for the 3 point bush hog and Kubota tractor during the downtime.
- As of Aug. 23, all Zone A and Zone B dykes are complete, 70% of our parking lots and roadsides and 30% of our trails.
- Habitat mowing will begin when time permits.

24. Capstone Grassland Habitat Restoration (located north of parking 41108 Hydro Line Rd.)

- Scott has secured this mowing job at \$225 per hour.
- **Mowing cannot start until after Sept 15**
- Minimum 10 to maximum 15 hours to complete...guesstimate.
- Woody growth is heavy in spots due to lack of maintenance.
- Drake Jefferson has offered to volunteer as an operator.
- This would also be a perfect spot for Mike Cardinal's annual mowing day.

25. GRCCT Dog Club

- Cheryl Webster has scheduled a last minute trial for Aug. 27; there is no conflict with other dog clubs.
- She requires clear cuts on the same 2 locations as 2022; 3 hours of mowing is required.
- FOH will be reimbursed at \$200 per hour.
- Scott hopes to complete the project on Aug. 24
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26. Phragmites Spraying

- Spray dates and funding have been completed with ABCA spraying to start Monday August 28th.

27. Opening Days

- Let's have a discussion regarding any BOD who will be helping on the Sept. 23 (waterfowl) and Sept. 25 (small game) openers.
- **NEXT BOD MEETING** – Thursday September 21st, 2023 @ 7:30pm, location will be at the main office 41378 Hydro Line.
- **ACTION – BEN & SCOTT** to email SSFC to request if there is a volunteer to assist with waterfowl harvest identification, Remove F1 & F2 parking lot signs from main parking lot as these 2 fields are soybeans.
- **ACTION - BEN & SCOTT** – assess the wheelchair accessibility blinds for repairs prior to opener.
- **ACTION – BEN & SCOTT** - Pheasant opener contact Sarah to attain birds for release.

MNR/DU – no updates

New Business

- **Committee selected for AG Contract Review**
 - Chair – Duane
 - Mark & Ryan to support development of Ag Contract.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:00 pm.