

FRIENDS OF HULLETT
MINUTES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Friends OF Hullett – Dashwood Community Centre
April 30th, 2024 @ 7:30 PM

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

Absent: Barb Orchard, Ryan Bayne

Guests: Scott Austin, Ben Elliott

Meeting called to order: 7:35 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 prior to the meeting for review.
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 - 2023 year end submission is complete and ending balance as of Dec 31st, 2023, is approx. \$161,000.
 - 2023 is the first year as a "Review Engagement", the year was as expected with a small increase in accounting fees to cover the new changes of "Non-Profit Act".
 - There was a small discussion on surplus funds and future employment opportunities that will be covered off within the in camera session.

Marsh Report

1. Ten Year Office Gas Appliance Inspection

- See April 5/24 email for details, in summary inspection was completed and approved.

2. Funding Applications 2024

- Mat has completed and submitted a Huron County SLED grant Supporting Local Economic Development with help from Ben.
- Ben received a funding tip from the Huron County Warden **Glen McNeil** that we will be putting on our radar <https://sunsetcommunityfoundation.ca/>.

3. Charity Dinner and Auction Report

- The event flowed well thanks to all who helped, as you will notice on "**Item List**" lines 85 and 86 the Pineridge BBQ donation really helped with the profit along with line 91 big pheasant hunt.
- Profit was almost identical to 2023 dinner; guests were happy with the event.
- Over 200 hours of staff time went into planning & organizing the event which aligned with previous years time commitment.

4. TCC Fibre

- We are close folks, route across lawn has been marked and neighboring properties have had trenching done.

5. Memorial Donation Updates

- A total of \$1165 has been donated to FOH in memory of Laverne "Butch" Harburn of Hensall.
- Laverne's name is being added to the memorial plaque right now. Laverne's widow Elaine will be attending the AGM and wants to be present for the planting of the memorial yellow birch tree.

6. 2024 Memberships

- 128 memberships have been processed in 2024 with 20 "new first-time members."
- 56 of these memberships are from the dinner.
- Membership revenue is \$4024 as of April 24/24

7. 2024 Pheasant Challenge

- Lotto license is in hand and tickets have been printed.
- Ticket Sales - Staff have sold 66 tickets, Clinton Sporting Goods has 200 tickets, Mike Leitch picked up 40 tickets.

8. Seaforth Buck Show

- Well attended show:
 - Ben and Jesse recruited youths for the YW Clinic.
 - 3 hats were sold.
 - \$120 in membership revenue.

9. Vanessa Palmer Award

- No applicants for 2024

10. Photo Contest

- Lots of good pictures coming in for the new HUG cover with contest closing April 30.
- GOOGLE survey gizmo will be then set up for the voting.

11. Agriculture Contract

- Lots of interest in the contract with competing bid(s) being submitted.

12. Commercial Safety

- The landscape trailer was safety checked on April 24.

13. 5 Large Yellow Birch Trees

- Trees will be picked up in Wroxeter on May 3 for planting. Mat has selected the sites for the trees and provided Ben with waypoints.

14. GIS Layer Update

- This performance indicator is quite involved and will take some time. Ben will elaborate at the meeting if you have questions.

15. Annual Kubota Service

- The final vehicle is in Hensall for service (orange diesel UTV)

16. 100 People Who Care Huron County

- Scott did not win the vote for FOH, habitat for Humanity was the winner presented by Cheryl Jefferson.
- Good exposure for the HPWA and FOH was a benefit of the presentation.
- Cheryl Jefferson made a \$100 donation to FOH a few days after the meeting via the FOH Canada Helps platform.

17. Ontario Community Involvement Fund (2023 application)

- We found out on April 25/24 that we were not successful on the funding.
 - Application Case #: 2023-04-1-2260896494
 - Organization: Friends of Hullett
 - Project Name: Forest Health

18. 2024 CSJobs Staffing

- To our disappointment we have only received funding for 1 of the 3 job positions. In the last few years, we have always had 3 positions funded.
- Ben placed effort into the recruitment and interview process since this past January (we have about 80 staff hours combined in this process)
- Emily will be starting with us on April 29/24 under a modified job description with CSJ to include her event work with the Maintenance Supervisor position.
- We are hopeful to have volunteers fill the gap so that we can accomplish the goals for 2024.

MNR/DU

- MNR
 - No updates
- Ducks Unlimited
 - Email summary from Duane April 10th
 - Bluewing pool woody growth south section from Bridge Road. Nick stated that the woody growth would have to be impacting the structure of the dyke. After reviewing the location it was decided that it would be looked at during the Bio-tour in August or September.
 - The question of a multi year plan regarding drawdowns. Nick stated moving forward that a Bio-tour would take place in late August or early September, the actions from that tour would be communicated to us and the action would take place the following April.
 - Pintail pool water level hampering fall baiting. The benchmark at the water control will be verified and possibly take a shot at the roadway to verify drop. Regardless of results level can be dropped to allow better access.
 - Partnership Liasson moving forward? David will continue in the role.
 - Also asked OMNRF about some of our older fading signs on the property. They have taken some pictures of the signs in question to determine if they need to be replaced with the same design.
 - The rest of the tour consisted of the woodie pool, green wing pool, the mallard pool cement diversion control, Sat pool #5.
 - Aug/Sept 2024 they will provide an update and announce the following year's plans.

Web Site/HUG/Newsletter

- Newsletter will be going out May and prior to the AGM.

- HUG – maintain the existing extra page to include additional advertisements.

Pheasant Challenge/ Youth Waterfowl

- **ACTION** – Ben to contact Drew Pegram to inquire about the 2024 migratory bird opening date to schedule the youth waterfowl the previous weekend.

New Business

- **ACTION** – Scott & Ben to organize the food and beverages for lunch the day of AGM. AGM DATE – May 26th, 2024.
- **ACTION** – Ben & Scott to talk to the municipality regarding the Hullett signs and next steps to repair or remove.
- **ACTION** – Ben & Scott to talk to the municipality to grade the internal roads at Hullett.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:52 pm.