

**Friends of Hullett**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**26 May 2019 10:00 AM.**

Present: Duane Inkpen, Ryan Bayne, Bill Dineen, Jim Bayne, Mat Shetler, Chris Ambrose, Wayne Hanson, Mike Cardinal, Wade Beaudoin,  
Guests: Lorraine Moir MNRF, Greg Urquhart, Scott Austin, Nick Courtney FORESTRY MANAGEMENT.

Thirteen members were in attendance.

Meeting called to order at 10:08 AM by Duane.

Report from the Marsh (Greg and Scott)

Scott spoke about who we are - incorporated for over 20 years.

Partnered with DUC and the MNRF.

Discussed property objectives, educational programs for students, research opportunities, recreational, hunting, and many more, as well as this year's objectives, accomplishments, and the Phragmites elimination efforts and how successful it has been. We've eliminated over 90% so far, though, there will always be some that will re-appear.

There have been some parking lot repairs done, and maintenance to our East Barn, as well as on-going maintenance to our roads.

We've completed our new Privy including installing a new tank and ramp access.

Turtle nesting project has included many hours of dedication by volunteers, and the use of protection nesting boxes to protect turtle nests from predation by skunks and raccoons primarily.

There have been some youth hikes organized as part of our education work.

We will again release 1,000 pheasants, in part for our Pheasant Challenge.

The Waterfowl Clinic is continued this year.

New equipment has been purchased this year as well.

Snowshoeing is available with instruction, and snowshoes are provided.

Our membership is now 250 plus.

We also have a health and safety program that includes safety talks to our volunteers.

**Financial Report:** Ryan reported that revenue is up, though we have a decrease in grants. Expenses are also up at this time. Our surplus is less this year, but healthy. There have been no major purchases. We are looking at some replacement of equipment. We expect an \$8,000 - \$9,000 deficit reduction.

**MNRF:** Lorraine spoke of the areas that the Guelph Office manages, which is considered Crown Land. There are 18 partial areas, including the Luther Marsh and Hullett. They will never be added to, so it is important to manage them well. They've

done a Bio Inventory which covers things like erosion, identifying what kinds of lands are in these areas, such as wetlands and forests. They have a policy perspective on activities on these properties. An atlas is being prepared for the users of each Crown Land parcel. It will be available by the Fall. Lorraine also discussed the differences between Hullett and the Luther Marsh.

**Duane:** reported on the Ag Contracts and has negotiated with the farmers who rent land from us, so now we will put out tenders to the public.

**Forestry initiative** - spoke of the emerald ash borer problem and the areas to be harvested in order to deal with the usable ash trees, and to remove any trees that are hazard risks. The money earned will go back into re-forestation.

**Wayne:** Turtle nesting plan report - there are certain high usage areas being targeted for protection of turtle nests. So far we have found 68 nests predated, so that would be about 2000 baby turtles lost to predation. There were also two large dead turtles found that would have been over 50 years of age. Most predation is by skunks and raccoons.

**Mat:** Mat Shetler presented a knife to Danica Rush for her volunteer work done at the marsh.

**Vanessa Palmer Award:** Scott presented awards to two candidates that deserved recognition for their time spent with us, and their accomplishments. They were Kayla Gauthier and Julia Beaven.

**Questions addressed from the Membership:** A member thanked everyone from the FOH and for their efforts putting on the Youth Pheasant Hunt, and our efforts to get young people involved in what we do. It was also noted the increase in women taking part in hunting in particular.

**Wade:** Took the floor to praise the work and the dedication by the Hullett staff.

Meeting adjourned: 11:18 AM

### **Board of Directors Election:**

Four names were put forward for election, and each introduced themselves to the membership. The three successful individuals were: Duane Inkpen, Mat Shetler, and Steven Zingaro.

### **Guest Presentation** - Nick Courtney, GWG Resource Services.

Nick spoke about the salvage logging that will be going on at Hullett. He spoke about the salvageable lumber from our trees that are dying due to various reasons, including the emerald ash borer for instance. Also, about the trees that are a safety hazard. He spoke of his expertise in his field of work and of the income value of these dead or dying trees.

Following Nick's presentation, everyone was invited to the food prepared by our volunteers.