

FRIENDS OF HULLETT

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - HELD AT EXETER TOWN HALL 29 March 2016 7:30 PM

Present: Mike Cardinal, Dale Ann McKichan, Mat Shetler, Duane Inkpen, Wade Beaudoin, Bill Dineen, Ryan Bayne

Guests: Diane Schwier MNR, Scott Austin, Mike Leach of Huron Fish and Game Club Conservation Association.

Mike Leitch spoke on the Youth Pheasant Hunt and how these young people are given an introduction to shooting (trap), hunting pheasants, and how to clean what they shoot. It's scheduled for the 19th November. He asked the BOD for permission to use the HPWA for the Nov 19 hunt.....granted.

The Huron Fish and Game Conservation Association donated \$1000 for startup funding towards the Hullett Marsh Youth Waterfowl Introduction Clinic to be held the weekend of Sept 16-18/16. Both the Youth Pheasant Hunt and the Youth Waterfowl Hunt.

Meeting called to order by Duane 7: 52 PM

February minutes reviewed. Adjustments to meeting minutes will be made and forwarded to all directors and OMNR staff before the April, 2016 mtg.

Treasurers Report

Mat went over his report with the Board and pointed out the key items.

Marsh Report -

- 1.** A short discussion regarding the **8 month technical position**. Interviews scheduled for Friday 1st of April.
- 2. Wood Stove Installation** - Stove operational now and proving to be very efficient. Total cost was \$2,135.
- 3. Canada Summer Jobs funding** - depending on what grants given, could be 2 people. If so, a maintenance co-ordinator and recreation and event co-ordinator could be one and training money could be available through a grant. Scott will look into this. There are a lot of opportunities possible for partial and full payment of part timers.

4 . DUC Spring Operational Mtg. - FOH submitted their input to MNRF by the 4 March deadline.

5. ONT3D Archery event scheduled 17 - 19 June - we don't want to do anything regarding food for participants. They can talk to local entrepreneurs for food. Maybe Lions club, or scouts, etc. for a food concession. We prefer someone local to do this but that would be their choice. Decided that we will not be active on this, just observe in case we may want to do it next year. The Archery organization should have an idea about how this would work out. Hullett will also have a trailer there and promote Hullett including memberships. Pheasant challenge tickets could be sold on site. Promote memberships.

6. Walnut tree by pheasant pens removed today.

7. Budget 2016 - Scott spoke of things we are going to need this year - We need at least 2 sets of chain saw safety equipment (head to toe), including head gear, safety pants, gloves, etc. Another small chainsaw could be beneficial. Other equipment include a new weed wacker, bug nets and coats. This equipment is necessary so when we have more help we can be more efficient and get much more accomplished. Maybe there could be funding to finance some of these things. Scot will prepare a wish list and estimated costs for the next meeting.

9. Grocery Fundraiser - This idea was presented by Scott for kids do packing for grocers and have fund raising sign for Hullett.. School children could get their community hours through this. It would involve talking to a school and the grocery store manager to set this up. It's a good opportunity for fund raising.

10. Large DUC Signs - Frame work is mostly completed by Logan and Drake.

11. New 4 X 8 FOH Signs for office complex have not been pursued as the HUG map this year has new hunting stakes and maps are not yet up to date.

12. April Events

- 2nd April - Big Buck Day (Seaforth Arena) manned by Bailey and Scott

- 5th April - HTA Bus Tour scheduled

- 19th April - Hullett School "Earth Day" (clean up property litter).

13. Private Land Signs - many signs have been place and some landowners doing their own work

14. Waterfowl Nesting Structures..

Crews out every weekend in March and used their ice training. Lots of help. All structures are done, fresh and ready to go. Some boxes need numbers corrected...renumbered, relocated, and mapped.

Maybe youth day, the mallard tubes could be checked and possibly should be

rotated and refreshed over the summer.

Dan Foster is coming on board and he soliciting duck and goose calls and giving lessons.

We need to get some of the junk out of the marsh - old poles, stakes, rotted off stuff, etc. Some attempt to remove this junks. What would work? Jacks of some kind?

16. AGM keynote presenter - Lynn Eves of the Bluewater Centre for Raptor Re-habilitation has confirmed her commitment.

17. Charity Dinner / Auction - The donations have been incredible. Some items will have to be held back for other events due to our limited 60 seat capacity.

18. Viewing Stand Roof we have steel for it now. We need to do something or we are going to lose those stands. Is it something to do this year...yes; it's in bad shape. Concern was voiced using volunteers due to the "working at height" danger. To be further discussed.

19. Gravel Placement - It is suggested to do Burns line first - put the Burn pkg lot on the agenda for discussion including its parking lot, as it need a good gravel base due to it being in a very wet area.

20. Tree Signs. Scott hiked the Maitland Woods Trail this past week and suggests that we could also place species signs on some of our trail trees... Discussion followed how to do this...3/4 pieces of ply wood was suggested but could delaminate quickly so maybe cedar would be a better choice. Possibly this would be something the Trail Blazers may want to take on.

21. Utility Vehicle researched and it was decided that Kubota was the best model due to being durable and powered by a diesel engine. Wade suggested tracks for winter work. Will this be able to service narrow trails and enough terrain? Tracks are about \$5k, but maybe can find used ones for about 1.5k. A London supplier was the cheapest quote on the machine. We spoke of industrial tires for more money as they are more puncture resistant. Options were discussed... it needs a windshield, winch, safety lights, Mike suggests \$20,000 maximum to acquire the machine and necessary options. Seconded by Mat. All in favour. Our Mule was discussed and decided to try to get it operational.

22. Privy replacement. As we need this done as soon as possible now that the hiking season is almost upon us. Discussion followed on moving forward on it. Dale Ann suggested that Farm Credit Corporation (FCC) could possibly help financially but the project must be deemed eligible by 18 April. Another source could be from Central Huron..

Is there a director to take charge of getting quotes, etc to get this privy done?

The Privy has to be done to a certain code. It was already approved last Fall. Duane to meet with contractors on Friday...Scott to call contractors.
23. Owl Boxes was done in one day with the help of Richard once again.

Report From MNRF – Diane

Diane spoke about the list of annual activities and needs that FOH provided for the 2016/fiscal year operational work plan. A list had been provided by Friends of Hullett, Duane, Scott and Wade. The list included the following:

- Greenwing Pool Seeding
- Replacement of Sat Pond 9 water structure
- Water level management with FOH/DU Multi-year plan to include training
- Timber on dykes to be removed and long term strategy needs to be put in place
- Water control structure at stake 38 – defective boards, decreased water flow on the outflow end (2015)
- Water control structure as stake 40 – clogged and backed up with sediment causing increased water levels
- Burns line parking lot – never refurbished after major work a number of years ago.
- DUC defining responsibilities

Diane stated that she had not made contact with the rep from DUC as of yet and that this would be a priority. MNRF needs to discuss the list of priorities with DUC and ideally a budget would be established and a schedule for completing the work. She's committed to moving forward with this task as well as setting a date for the Operations meeting. Duane and Scott identified some dates that would work for the meeting (22, 28 and 29 August). There was a short discussing about FOH establishing a budget for the list of needs but then it was decided that there wasn't

enough time to do this for the current year. It was suggested that perhaps a 5 year budget plan could be established and this should be included as an Agenda item for the Operations Meeting.

Pheasant Challenge – Tickets will be printed early this year and the sponsorship will come from Ideal Supply once again as in past years.

Whitetail Swamp Guided Hunts- 1 or 2 hunts will be offered at the Auction, 1 or 2 will be offered opening weekend of duck season, 1 hunt should also be offered as an “online auction” on our website.

15 bird Pheasant Hunts – 1 to 3 hunts will be offered at the Auction based on demand

We're going to do one guided duck hunt.
Could we do three whitetail hunts, one on opening day. Two pheasant hunts.
At the dinner, two will auctioned for hunts

Newsletter, web site.....Scott is doing a good job.. Newsletter Items - AGM coming up end of may. Next AGM 26 April, newsletter items to be sent to Scott as soon as possible, but no later than 4 May.

AGM. The number of directors coming up for election or re-election is three for 3 year term and one for a 2 year term.

Proxy votes by email should be included in the minutes but need to be mentioned at a meeting for the minutes.

In Camera.....

Meeting adjourned, 10:20 Next mtg...Tuesday 29 March