

FRIENDS OF HULLETT
MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - HELD AT EXETER TOWN HALL
28 August 2018
7:30 PM

Present: Mike Cardinal, Bill Dineen, Duane Inkpen, Wade Beaudoin, Chris Ambrose, Ryan Bayne, Wayne Hanson, Jim Bayne, Mat Shetler.

Guests: Scott Austin, Greg Urquhart

Meeting called to order: 7:34 PM

Review July Minutes: as noted

Treasurer's Report:

No big expenses or changes since last meeting. Wages and projects funded are separated out on the report for contract work. Scott explained some banking details. Explanations on the expenses relating to the phragmite project were also discussed.

Marsh Report:

2. The new User Guide is now at the printer and should be here within a couple of weeks.

5. Goose Barn - the scrap metal removed from there was more than we thought it would be. The steel removed was 4,260 lbs bringing in \$226.90.

11. Cassie's recent event was a great success, and further expanded our social network. In total there has been 13 interpretive programs completed.

10. Phragmites Application: We believe we've looked after at least 75% of the phragmite. Strategy discussion - maybe we could do some of these small left over areas on foot before moving to another spot. We will include the strategy in our operations meeting. This should be put on a list for the new year's plan. Comments were made that there doesn't seem like there is much being done about this problem throughout Southern Ontario.

- There was some discussion on Greenwing Pool and the water level control. They are treating it as like Woodie pool, where the water flows in and then flows out. Tomorrow, Greg and Duane are taking out the beaver dam.

12. Duck Opening day 14/15 September - who will be around? Discussion regarding selling 50-50 draw tickets. Is there anything left that can be given for the ticket sales draw? Scott has a few things. Maybe have a share the wealth prize. Maybe a shotgun. Scott will have the over and under gun to put on display for the pheasant challenge day.

Are we going to do a hay ride? Should we drag the parking lot to smooth it. Talk of spraying the parking lot. Wade can level the lot with the bucket on the tractor. There will be a porta potty ordered for opening day situated at the same location as last year.

16. Duck box update - short report by Scott regarding duck box training and finding successfully hatched eggs in some of the boxes.

19. Summerhill Privy – discussion regarding grading - what kind of surface? Gravel, stone dust, or a mat? So it will be wheelchair accessible. Maybe a wooden ramp but should be graded first. A 1:12 grade is needed. So the ramp will have to be around 25 feet long. We have lots of room, so shouldn't be a problem. Further discussion on the layout of the pad and how to do the handicap access. The inside of the privy should be painted.

22. Short discussion regarding Trillium Ontario Funding and our attempt to be registered for this.

23. Bluebird boxes – have been very successful this year. Pictures have been taken and posted. We are ensuring these boxes are cleaned out and sanitized. We will be keeping records for these now to know what is successful. Maybe our volunteer trail people would look after this as well as writing reports. They will be approached for this possibility.

27. Bird Banding update regarding Paul Menary as his present location has no water. He will be coming to the marsh to check out a suitable area.

- We have received a cheque for \$4500 from the feds in advance. It was not indicated what it was for - only a project number.

28. HSP/Species at Risk Funding was turned down for our Meadow Restoration project for the Western Chorus Frogs that was submitted last winter.

- Discussion on trappers and those who are not honouring their contract. We should be looking at new people. It is decided that we talk to Deane regarding how to go about this.

- Discussion about tool box safety talks by employees and volunteers each day. An example was using the parking brake in addition to putting the vehicle in park, especially when working around a running vehicle. We should regularly talk about safety issues.

- Scott mentioned employee mutual evaluations of each other. This was done and he passed around the paperwork for us to look at.

- Meeting between Steve Flynn and Duane....very good conversation and a there apparently had been a misunderstanding from 2017 regarding tiles and drain repairs which is now cleared up. Duane said he'd stand by the gentleman's agreement made last year. His plan is to harvest it this year. We will pay him for his time. The agreement is clear now. He's responsible for drains and repairs. He planted everything that was in wheat - presently harvested and will plant clover. Discussion on what the yields have been. He does not keep track. We would prefer he kept track to evaluate the value of the land. Duane asked him about access and are there any problems....no, and, if he needed anything to call Scott. He praised Scott and his staff for how they have been regarding help. Duane asked, if we were able to do some tiling – where would be the best place? He said, He said the most benefit would come from #03 (directly beside the overflow parking lot on Summerhill and # 08 which borders Jamie Ryley's property on Burns line. Duane recommended a tiler and Mr. Flynn will get a quote.

The question arose: Is there any funds in the township for tilling - no, not in this case.

Duane asked Mr. Flynn if there is anything we can do for you - he asked about selling the property next to his place. Duane did not feel the Ministry would sell it. It's not very likely. When asked if he was retiring soon....he answered: probably not. He is a happy tenant and will continue to stay renting from us.

Nick Courtney - meeting - hour long. very informative. Lorraine knows him and is confident with him. talked about cost and revenue. steps are \$60 an acre or \$60 an hour per man. The second step is to get a prescription...we have four or five

lots. They can be bid separately or together. Nick will get a prescription and will give that to us so we are aware of what he will do. He comes highly recommended. After agreeing, then tendering and \$500 per tender. We will suggest who to pick to do the work and we get final decision. The idea is there is value in the timber. Right now we've spent in fees, \$150 for a visit, and a second at the same. If they do the work, the site visits are subtracted. \$10,170.00 is the tendering cost. Duane asked Lorraine if we are going ahead with this, for safety and bush health. As far as funds coming back, we will market this under the FOH. We would get the money and pay for our costs and what funds are left goes to re-forestation, etc.

When we go into the old growth bush, there are so many regulations for this...he won't even look at that because of the management plan. It's also mostly maple. They will harvest other species as well as the ash. That will be in the prescription...that could be denied by the ministry.

Rare trees will be marked and avoided. All these trees will be stated in prescription to protect these trees.

Motion by Wade - "\$15,000 dollars for the prescribed tree plan for the lots there and that the lots be identified...150 acres approximately with the condition that written consent be provided from the MNRF prior to signing the contract with GWG Resources." Seconded Ryan, passed.

- Reports from OMNRF/Duck Unlimited, Lorraine not here so didn't get this.
- Website, Newsletter and User Guide - in progress being printed, newsletter will be right after youth hunt.
- Pheasant Challenge - Scott to send out another email to volunteers. OFAH insurance has been taken care of - that happens in February.

New Business:

- Wayne - roof on the viewing stand at the Pintail location needs work. Wayne has shingles that will work for us which he will donate. We just need volunteers to do it.
- Jim asked about fixing our compressor - Greg will bring up his Grandfather to look at it.

Adjourned: 9:27

- Next mtg Thursday 20th Sept 7:30 PM at the Hullett office.