**Annual General Meeting**

**Dufferin Marsh Nature Connection**

Nov 12, 2017

Attendees: Charles Cooper, Brenda See, Terry Lewis, Eric Leon, Mary Brady, Angela Rose, Mary Asselstine, Donna Parrish, Dave Halliwell, Jen Bedford, Elspeth Read, Nadia O’Rourke

Start - 5:11 pm

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made all around.

1. Mary volunteered to be the recording secretary.
2. Minutes

The minutes from the AGM on November 27, 2016 were reviewed. There was a spelling mistake noted in item #4 – 2nd sentence.

Motion to accept the minutes with the spelling correction.

Moved: Mary

2nd: Angela

Approved.

1. Activity Report

The activity report was presented by Eric. It was announced that our project for the signs for Hughie’s Cathedral was completed. Jen did a fabulous job. The group acknowledged the Frog Night Out was missing from the report. It was noted that we need to take the goose rope down. A spelling mistake was noted in item #7 and it was requested to spell out SWM pond as storm water management pond. There was a lot of discussion on turtle signs and it was decided that they were quite effective at raising the profile of the issue. There was a discussion about the garlic mustard pull and spraying of phragmites. It was noted that the workshop held in the fall is for making bird feeders not bird boxes. After a discussion about music at the beer tasting there was a suggestion that we do a wine tasting. Terry and Elspeth advised that they have a contact for a wine tasting. Angela noted that there were two articles about the group in the paper this year. The reference to the former Vice Chair should be deleted from the report. Thank you to Eric for his excellent report.

There was a motion to accept the report with modifications.

Move: Eric

2nd: Dave

Approved

1. Treasurer’s Report

The treasurer advised that the bank balance was up $1000 from last year. The funds have come primarily from the beer tasting, chestnut sales and Bird Studies Canada. There were a lot of in-kind donations for events. A new expense that the group has taken on is the water quality test strips. The good news is that the financial statement balances with the bank statement. The Treasurer was thanked for taking on this task. In the discussion it was suggested that the miscellaneous expenses need to be itemised. Also a membership line needs to be added to the revenue statement even if it is zero. It was noted that there was a typo in the last line.

Motion to receive.

Moved: Dave

2nd: Mary

Approved.

1. Budget

The budget was reviewed and there was a motion to receive the budget.

Moved: Donna

2nd: Jen

Approved.

1. Environmental Stewardship Report

Mary presented the environmental stewardship report. She talked about the results of the bird walks, the frog monitoring and the status of Chimney Swifts. There was a discussion about the water quality issues and the status of the residential planning application on the corner of Dr. Kay and Cooper Dr. It was noted that there were 58 volunteers involved in our 2016-17 activities.

Move: Mary

2nd: Donna

Approve

1. Media Relations

There was a long discussion on the role of the Media Relations position. Some preferred to call it Community Relations. It was acknowledged that we need a community person. It was stated that at this point many of the tasks are covered by other executive members (eg. Website, facebook, articles in paper). Terry noted that there is a group that may be of interest to us in York Region called Green Connections. Elspeth advised that we should be considering our measurable tasks or accomplishments.

**Action:** **The Vice Chair** should include this item on the agenda for the next executive meeting.

1. Future Planning

The future planning discussion was to involve recruitment of new executive members. As this was discussed above it will be deferred to the next meeting.

1. Election of Officers

The proposed slate was:

Chair - Charles

Vice Chair - Vacant

Treasurer - Dave

Recording Secretary – Angela

Membership Secretary – Mary

Media Relations - vacant

Members –at-large - Joe, Brenda, Jen, Eric

Motion to accept this slate:

Moved: Eric

2nd: Angela

Not approved.

There was a motion for new slate:

Chair: Charles

Vice Chair: Angela

Treasurer: Dave

Recording Secretary - Mary

Membership Secretary – Elspeth

Media Relations - Terry

Members-at-large - Joe, Brenda, Jen, Eric

Moved: Charles

2nd: Brenda

Approved.

1. Upcoming Events

The next event is chestnut sales at A Main Street Christmas.

**Action: Mary** will send out an email for volunteers for Chestnuts.

1. New Business
2. As approved at the last Executive Committee Meeting at donation of $82 will be given to WarAmps.
3. Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Mary

Time: 6:52 pm