**DUFFERIN MARSH NATURE CONNECTION**

MEETING Minutes

Wednesday, June 21, 2017

Attendees: Eric, Mary, Charles, Jen, Dave, Sheila, Brenda

Regrets: Joe, Angela

Time: 7:40 pm

1. Review minutes of May 10, 2017

Move: Mary

2nd: Dave

Approved.

1. Turtle Signs

The new signs seem to be effective. There is a lot of chatter on Facebook about turtles.

One sign at east end needs to be fixed.

**Action: Mary** will fix the east sign.

1. Garlic Mustard

Five or 6 people came out to the garlic mustard pull. Five bags of plants were removed. There are a few hot spots that we will need to focus on for next year.

1. Bird Watching May 28

The bird watching was great but no participants showed up. Mary thinks that she forgot to send out an email about the event. She suggested that she may do another bird walk in fall.

1. Letter of Support

A letter of support was forwarded to Grackle Coffee to help in their project to put in a sidewalk patio for the summer.

1. Treasurer Report

The balance in our account is $ 3671.66. $ 750 is for the Hughie’s Cathedral Project.

Dave mailed in the payment to Township for the tree seedlings.

1. Upcoming Events

Swift Night Out – July 20

Dragons and Butterflies – July 29

Mary is waiting for posters to advertise these events.

A possible beer tasting was discussed. The two critical tasks are to confirm that Garth can do the event and to get a venue. November 4 or 18 were suggested as dates. Providing food is a concern. There will need to be a vote by the executive if the event moves forward. As we break for the summer, this will need to be organised by email.

**Action: Mary** will contact Garth.

 **Charles** will check Community Hall for dates.

1. Water Quality Review

The Conservation Authority has the water quality data. Dave expressed an interest in working on the data as well. To continue monitoring we need to buy more test strips.

**Action: Mary** will give data sheets to Dave.

  **Mary** will get a quote

1. Security Cameras

It was decided not to follow up on this for the time being. However, we need to get rid of the graffiti.

**Action: Mary** will contact Township

1. Insurance

There has been no action on acquiring the insurance.

**Action: Mary** will follow up on the insurance quote.

1. Hughie’s Cathedral

The first sign is in draft. There were a few comments but everyone seemed to like the sign. It was decided to circulate the sign to the Parks Department and the Historical Society before making any changes.

**Action: Mary** will forward text edits to Jen and circulate the signs to others.

There is a presentation about the new development west of the woodlot at 7 pm on Thursday June 22 at the Library. Mary and Charles plan to attend.

1. Vests

Dave is still working on these.

1. Bird Feeder Trail

defer

1. Bird walk in fall

After some discussion it was decided that we do not have the expertise to do a fall bird walk.

1. Library bags

Mary heard about the idea to have nature pack packs that can be loaned from the library. If we want to take the lead on this we could partner with the library, Nature Conservancy, and Sustainability King. There may be grants available. The backpacks would be themed based on activities such as insects, flowers, birds, and astronomy, and contain guidebooks and tools to facilitate the activity. Maps could also be provided showing places to go.

**Action: Sheila** will talk to the Library.

 **Mary** will contact the Nature Conservancy.

1. Vandalised Signs

New welcome signs are needed as they are looking tired and have been vandalised. This can be an action item for the fall. Jen advised that the shorebird sign at the Trisan Lookout has been water damaged.

**Action: Jen** will chat with Tom about replacing sign

1. Kits for bird feeders – September 17

New bird feeder kits are needed for September. We will also need to advertise the event before our next meeting.

**Action: Charles** will contact Lions.

 **Mary** will advertise.

Volunteers will be sorted out at the next meeting.

Adjourn: Dave

9:33 pm

**Next meeting – September 6 @ 7:30 pm**