**DUFFERIN MARSH NATURE CONNECTION**

Thursday January 12, 2017

Attendees: Mary, Brenda, Eric, Angela, Sheila, Jen, Dave.

Regrets: Joe, Charles

Start: 7:15 pm

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1. Review of November 8, 2016 Minutes

No comments.

Moved: Eric

2nd: Brenda

Approved.

1. Chestnuts

The chestnuts were very expensive this year ($300 for 55 lbs) so the charge was doubled. As a result we made an excellent profit (+/- $500) however the chestnuts were harder to sell. Both Foodland and Il Mondo (stationd down near Grackle) were giving them away. Because it took longer to sell we were a little short on volunteers; however, Charlie and Dave stayed at the booth until the chestnuts were gone. A special thank you to them.

1. Great Backyard Bird Count

The GBBC will be held from Feb 17 to 20. Mary proposed to do a public bird walk on Monday February 20 (Family Day) at 10 am. We need to advertise this (poster, facebook, website and email blast)

 **Action: Mary** will ask Donna for a poster.

1. February Skate

The skate is proposed to be held on February 11 at 3 pm. Currently the ice is fairly smooth but we do not know how thick it is.

 **Tasks list**

 Mary - hot chocolate, table, fire pit (sand, paper, matches, water), fire permit, cups, napkins, membership stuff, email blast, poster, facebook

 Sheila – carpet, cream, sugar, wood

 Eric – ad, wood (co-ordinate this with Sheila)

 Charles – benches, camera

 Brenda – hotdogs, buns, condiments, coffee, table

 Assessment of ice conditions and volunteers for ice clearing will be dealt with at the next meeting.

1. Review of up-coming events

 Eric confirmed event dates to May.

 Earth Hour – March 25

 Frog Monitoring Workshop – April 6

 Dufferin Marsh Clean-up – April 22

 Frog Night Out – May 4

 Bird Walk – May 28

1. Website Review

Our Weebly account is scheduled to expire at the end of January. Jen recommends that we stick with Weebly and renew it for one year.

 Moved: Mary

 2nd: Jen

 Approved

 **Action: Mary and Jen** will watch for renewal prompts from Weebly and renew for one year.

1. Financial Statement

Eric reviewed and checked the financial statements for 2016, 2015, 2014.

Dave Eric and Brenda are in the process of switching over signing authority at the bank. Two signatures are required so they will be Dave’s and Eric’s. The bank needs a letter of direction from the DMNC executive. New incorporation papers are required to be filed to reflect the new list of directors and officers.

 **Action: Mary** will file update for incorporation papers.

 **Mary** will forward Incorporation number to Eric.

 **Eric** will email past financial statements to Dave.

 **Eric** will draft letter for Bank.

1. Security camera – deferred
2. Insurance

 Mary advised that she is meeting with Ken Orr (Orr and Associates)on Monday to discuss insurance needs and to inquire about umbrella insurance for all community groups.

1. Paypal acknowledgement.

**Action: Mary and Jen** still need to work on this.

1. Hughies Cathedral

Mary identified a conflict with the proposed zoning on the woodlot property. She has requested a meeting with Sarah Allin, the Township planner to discuss this issue.

 **Action: Mary** will confirm meeting and report back.

1. Vests

The logo and “volunteer” still needs to be put on the vests.

 **Action: Brenda** will forward the information and vests to Dave

**New Business**

1. Mary has been circulating the correspondence with the Township and the LSRCA about the water quality issues associated with the permitting and draining of the storm water pond at the rear of the Brownsville Junction Plaza. At this point the matter is sitting with the Manager of Land Conservation, Brian Kemp, at the LSRCA. We are waiting to hear if there is any mitigation possible or if a change in process will prevent future issues of this type.
2. There was a long discussion about the date and time for executive meetings. It was decided that after February the meeting will be on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm.

**Next meeting Thursday Feb 9 at 7:30 – Grackle Coffee**

Move to Adjourn by Mary – 8:36 pm