**Dufferin Marsh Nature Connection**

**Executive Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, March 10th, 2015**

Present: Brenda, Mary, Joe, Greg

Regrets: Jen, Liz, Nadia, Sheila, Charles, Eric

The meeting was called to order at 8:12 pm.

1. **Minutes of February 10th Meeting**

The minutes were reviewed with no comment. Unable to accept due to lack of quorum.

1. **Community Skate**

During an extremely cold day, approx. 100 people attended. The 24 hot dogs and one small bag of marshmellows both ran out. It's better to have leftovers than run out, recommend we buy more next year.

1. **Earth Hour (March 28th)**

There will be no telescopes, Mary will bring hot chocolate and cups, Joe will bring marshmellows. Donna will be holding a lantern building workshop prior to the event at 7pm, Brenda and Joe will assist, Nadia also expressed possible interest? Greg will help Mary set up the DM site. Mary will think up some games and make a sandwich board sign to place on the roadside.

1. **Social Media Involvement**

Jen, Mary and Charles still planning to meet to discuss in March. The muskrat article that Mary wrote (and received lots of response to) was posted on the website.

1. **Schedule**

Cleanup day is the 18th not the 19th. Mary will send all the new dates to Eric.

1. **DMC Tent**

Eric purchased a new one from Costco for $338.00. The new one is green so it is unlikely to get mixed up with someone else's as happened with the old one. Mary will investigate the possibility of sewing up the old one so we have a spare.

1. **Vests**

Brenda will talk to Jen about the logo and lettering to be used.

1. **New Grant**

The Township of King's Trails Master plan is in the first draft. We want to be involved in the process as we try to link Schomberg's natural areas.

As for the Trillium grant, they won't be issuing new protocols until summer, so nothing can happen until then.

However, there is a King Township grant for community groups. The maximum is $750 and deadline is March 31st. Mary will apply on our behalf.

9. **Anti spam**

No update

10. \***moved to after New Business**\*

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **New Program**

Donna wants to do a monthly Nature and Art program in the Marsh. This will be for kids (accompanied by an adult). Joe's aupère may be interested in helping as she is an art student.

1. **Membership**

This used to be maintained but now very few people pay. We may need the funds (see the MOU discussion below). It should still be free for active volunteers and perhaps we could offer discounts to volunteers for different events (such as programs or a future wine or beer tasting). Perhaps Nadia (Membership Secretary) can come up with new ideas?

1. **March 9th Council Meeting**

A hearing was held on the proposed development at Dr Kay & Cooper. It is now proposed four townhomes occupy the site which is currently zoned Commercial with an Environmental Constraint and sits partly in the floodplain.

Mary and Charles attended and spoke, recommending that a 15 metre setback be mandatory to avoid extra impact on the Marsh. Also, nothing should proceed while the salt issue remains unresolved.

Greg Locke (CCKT) mentioned several other issues, such as the developers have not met their obligations on the existing property (such as deicing rules).

The proposal was sent back to Township staff for further review.

10. **MOU and Constitution**

1. **MOU**
* **#5**

We need new liability insurance. This was previously covered by the Township but we can't guarantee that will continue, and they will insist we have it. We also need director's insurance. The Schomberg Community Farm was quoted $800/year so we will be similar. Brenda noted we don't have enough funds at this point. Mary will get a quote for both types and notify the executive by email.

* **#8**

There are currently no services but if a water tap or power is eventually installed, this item will be useful.

* **#9**

“a staff person”

* **#11**

After “Marsh”, add “and other natural spaces in Schomberg”

1. **Constitution**
* **Introduction**

After “ Dufferin Marsh”, add “and other natural spaces”

* **Values**

Move last point to third position for better flow and cohesiveness

* **Objective**

Remove “adjacent”, add “and other natural spaces in Schomberg”

* **Executive**

Number of executives now proposed to be 6

* **#11**

Add agenda as well as minutes

* **#13**

Both conditions should apply, so “and” rather than “or”

* **Duties of Secretary**

Add maintaining correspondence, as determined at last March's executive meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35pm. Next meeting is **Tuesday, April 14th at 8:00pm at The Grackle**