**Dufferin Marsh Nature Connection**

**Executive Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, June 9th, 2015**

Present: Jen, Liz, Mary, Sheila, Joe, Charles, Eric, Greg

Regrets: Brenda, Nadia

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 pm.

1. **Minutes of April 14th Meeting**

The minutes were reviewed with no comment. Moved by Liz, second by Charles. Carried.

1. **Volunteer Night Review**

Brenda, Jen and Mary attended the event at the Trisan Centre. There was a tribute to Henry Verbruggen, who recently passed away.

1. **Garlic Mustard Review**

The yellow iris in the southeast corner of the SWM pond were difficult to remove. We need to monitor for any regrowth, Liz volunteered to check on it as she walks by. The garlic mustard pull was poorly attended. Most of the forest is clear of it but there are still a few bad spots. Most of the problem is along the path. It was observed that scheduling it on a long weekend was probably responsible in large part for the poor turnout.

Mary noted that garlic mustard likes disturbed areas so when pulling it, you should be careful not to crush adjacent plants. However, in areas rife with it, this isn't such a concern.

1. **MOU Meeting with King Township PRC Department**

Mary, Charles, and Joe met with Chris Fasciano, director, and Laura Campbell, community program supervisor. The MOU was well received. Mr. Fasciano commented that it was similar to the one already agreed to with the Schomberg Community Farm. All our representatives are optimistic that the PRC will have no objections to ratifying it.

1. **Schomberg Fair Review**

Five new names were added to the DMNC email list. However, a raptor display across the path distracted people from our tent. It was mentioned that we need a large display map showing the Dufferin Marsh's location in relation to Main Street. The early morning bird walk was attended by 7 people and observed 37 different species.

1. **Social Media Involvement**

PayPal is almost set up. A launch of the new website is predicted for September.

1. **Schomberg Village Association Grant**

We were turned down for the grant because they didn't approve of the hat idea. The SVA are revising their criteria for grants, they had unspoken criteria that will be more overt next year. Mary raised the question of whether we want to purchase the hats anyway; she will get more samples and we will discuss the issue further in September.

1. **Upcoming Events**

Mary's son Garth is eager to do a beer tasting fundraiser and will provide possible dates in due course, likely the event will be in October. With the sale of Sheena's Kitchen, venue is a question. Joe suggested his front gallery may work for this purpose.

1. **Vests**

No update.

1. **New Trillium Grant**

Charles mentioned that the Trillium Information Session would take place tomorrow (June 10th ) at the Trisan Centre.

11. **Subcommittees/ Memorandum of Understanding**

No further update (see item 4).

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Insurance**

After consultation with an insurance broker, we really only need General Liability Insurance because Directors Insurance covers financial malfeasance. The cheapest quote was $600 per year. Once the MOU is approved, it was agreed we will get this.

1. **Planting**

A small group met to plant new shrubs on the top of the ridge overlooking the north end of the Marsh. We were unable to plant all of the shrubs provided by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and they took back 55 of them. They have offered to return them if we can plant them ASAP. Mary will attempt to arrange delivery on Friday, June 12th for a 5pm planting.

1. **Hughie's Cathedral**

Hugh McGuire was the former owner of the area that became the Rosalena subdivision at the south end of Schomberg. He saved the woodlot at the end of Rosalena. In honour of his contribution to the preservation of natural spaces in the village, Mary suggested we could put in boot scrubbers at each end of the trail through this woodlot to prevent the spread of invasive species seeds.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm. Next meeting is **Tuesday, September 8th at 8:00pm at The Grackle**