**Dufferin Marsh Nature Connection**

**Executive Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 8th, 2015**

Present: Brenda, Jen, Mary, Sheila, Joe, Eric, Greg, Kathryn McLellan (Environmental Stewardship Coordinator for the Township of King)

Regrets: Liz, Nadia, Charles

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 pm.

1. **Minutes of June 9th Meeting**

The minutes were reviewed with no comment. Moved by Mary, second by Joe. Carried.

1. **Bird Box Workshop**

We have ten kits and the Lions have twenty that we can use so we have plenty for the workshop. Brenda, Mary, Eric and Joe will attend. Coffee, juice boxes, and cookies will be provided.

1. **Goose Rope**

The goose rope over the SWM pond has served its purpose and should be taken down. (see New Business)

1. **Website**

Kathryn will check if King Township is still ok with us using their maps for the Bird Feeder Trail.

1. **Hats**

Item deferred until spring.

1. **Hughie’s Cathedral**

Joe and Mary will work on the bigger idea of linking the natural spaces and adding possible new trails. Hughie’s Cathedral (at the end of Rosalena) will be part of this.

1. **Beer Tasting**

With the change of ownership of Sheena’s Kitchen, the new owner Christina may not offer us such a good deal as we have enjoyed in the past for wine tastings. Mary will talk to Garth about possible dates October 24th or November 14th. On a related note, Kathryn will look into booking the Cold Creek Education Centre for the AGM on Sunday, November 8th.

1. **Memorandum of Understanding**

The Township returned the MOU with proposed changes. Some changes are fine, except:

* Section 1 – “approval” is now required for projects. This is an unacceptable change, we would have to get their express approval before doing any work. Who do we even contact? Proposed new sentence: “The DMNC Executive will assist the Township in developing, updating and delivering projects, programs and events for the Marsh consistent with the Management Plan. Appropriate approvals will apply.”
* Section 6 – The added sentence is odd. It is our opinion that the original sentence needs to be softened, as the Township may see it as mandating that they provide staff even when they have none available. New sentence: “The Township may provide staff when mutually agreed on to assist the DMNC with developing and restoring the Marsh.”
* Section 8 – New structures may be built in the future, so the word “existing” needs to be removed.
* Section 12 (new Section 11) – We are not comfortable with the expansion of the potential use of funds should the DMNC cease to operate. In section 11, we decide where our funds are used but this new section allows them to be distributed to almost any use.
1. **Vests**

Mary moves that Jen update the old heron logo with the new name and distribute it to the executive. The font and exact layout is left to her discretion. Second by Eric. Carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Phragmites**

Mary reports that the Phragmites is as strong as ever. Mary, Eric and Sheila will meet at 10am on September 9th to work on cutting it back. It was decided to remove the goose rope on the SWM pond at the same time. Kathryn has spoken with Lake Simcoe and Region Conservation Authority about chemical controls but the Invasive Species specialist has left the organization so she is trying to determine the appropriate contact. She will continue to work on this.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50pm. Next meeting is **Tuesday, October 13th at 8:00pm at The Grackle**