

**DUFFERIN MARSH NATURE CONNECTION**

**MEETING Minutes**

Wednesday, January 9th, 2019

Attendees: Kate, Brenda, Charles, Joanne, Neil McGeachy, Mary, Dave

Regrets: Angela,

Time: 7:40 pm

1. Minutes from Nov. 7, 2018

Moved: Mary

2nd: Charles

Approved.

Reviewed Minutes of 2018 AGM with no comments.

1. Treasurer’s Report

Dave advised that in November we spent $280 on chestnuts and $55 on a wreath. Receipts for chestnuts was $503.00. A deposit was made for $513.00 which included $10 on-hand. The current balance is $3720.88. Dave needs to confirm the status of 2 outstanding cheques.

Moved: Dave

2nd: Kate

Approved.

1. Business Arising From the Minutes
2. Future of DMNC – Charles discussed some marketing ideas. He suggested that we need a designated person to greet people and asking about membership at each event. We need to encourage people to follow us on Facebook.

The concept of posters was discussed. I was concluded that we need to post posters in a timely fashion and investigate places to put them. It was suggested that we may try the Post Office again and the bank. The bulletin board at Trisan Centre and McDonalds was suggested. We also need to make sure we advertise consistently in the paper. There was a discussion about changing demographics and how that may be impacting the participation in our events. It was decided we need to tap directly into community groups, especially those that have young families. The Dad’s Club, Club 55 and the hockey crowd were suggested. We also need more effective communication with the school. It was suggested we meet with the school to discuss how we can best advertise there.

People wondered if we could post a list of events on Facebook. Charles thought that would be possible.

The flyer first reviewed at the AGM was circulated again. There was general approval of it.

**Action: Charles** will contact the bank about putting up posters

 **Mary and Charles** will come up with a strategy for marketing.

1. Future of DMNC – Mary wanted to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the executive members and identify skills. Charles and Dave identified that they can do graphics if Donna and Jen do not want to do it anymore. Kate was interested in helping with the nature events. Dave offered to cover Vice Chair duties when Charles is away.

1. Future planning – the events for the year were reviewed. See the list attached for events that are being planned. A beer tasting was also discussed with some marked enthusiasm. It was suggested we look at promoting local beers.

**Action: Mary** will contact Garth about doing a tasting.

1. Great Backyard Bird Count – Kate and Mary plan to do the GBBC on Saturday February 16 at 9 am.

**Action: Mary** will get Donna to do a poster and advertise event

1. Trail Project – this item was deferred. Mary and Charles will discuss a strategy for this and bring it back to the group. Kate would like to help.

**Action: Mary** **and Charles** do a strategy for the trail project.

1. Annual Community Skate

**Tasks**

Ice clearing – Mary will ask Angela to ask Harry – also Charles will help

Advertising – Mary and Charles

Hot Chocolate – Mary

Coffee cream sugar – Brenda

Hot Dogs/buns - Charles

Condiments – Brenda

Marshmallows – Brenda

Cups, spoons, napkins – Mary

Tables – Brenda, Mary

Benches – Charles, Sheila

Carpet – Sheila

Firewood – Dave, Neil, Charles

Sticks – Brenda

Water – Mary

Insurance – Mary will cost

Mary wondered if we should clean out and install the bird boxes during ice clearing or at skate. Volunteers for the day are: Brenda, Kate (Dan), Mary, Dave, Charles, Neil.

**Action: Mary** will put out a call for volunteers for ice clearing if needed.

1. Community Night – because of a conflict Charles and Mary cannot attend the Community Night. Kate and Joanne are planning to go. Dave will also go. Joanne will distribute flyers.

**Action: Mary** will copy more flyers to give to Kate and switch registered name with Dave.

Follow-up after AGM

1. Maintenance Concerns:

**Action: Mary or Charles** will follow up on actions taken or yet to be undertaken to address items identified with the Township on the walk about (see minutes of Sept. 17 ‘18) and for Hughie’s Cathedral.

New Business

1. Recognition of Past executive members: Jen, Eric and Joe. To be followed up.

Adjourn: Charles

Time 9:05

NEXT MEETING is **Wednesday, February 13, 7:30**

List of Upcoming 2019 DMNC Events (**bolded items confirmed**):

**Feb 9 2:00 pm Dufferin Marsh Community Skate**

**Feb 16 9:00 am Great Backyard Bird Count**

**Mar. 30 8:00 pm Earth Hour Bonfire**

**April 4 7:00 pm Frog Monitoring Workshop**

April 7:00 pm Swift Monitoring Workshop

**April 20 9:00 am Dufferin Marsh Clean-up**

**May 9 8:00 pm Frog Night Out – Dufferin Marsh**

**May 26 6:30 am Bird walk**

**May TBD 10:00 am Garlic Mustard Pull**

**June 13 8:00 pm Bats**

July 8:00 pm Swift Night Out

July/Aug 2:00 pm Dragonflies and Butterflies

July/Aug TBC Moth Mania

**Sept. 15 10:00 Bird feeder Building Workshop / Street Gallery**

Oct. TBC Beer Tasting

**Nov. TBD afternoon AGM - 2:00 hike; 4:30 meeting, 6:00 dinner**

**Dec. 7 4:00 to 8:00 Main St. Xmas – Chestnuts**