



**Draft Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**

**Thursday, October 5, 2017**

**St. Clair Civic Center  
1155 Emily St., Mooretown, Ontario**

**Present:** Darrell Randell, Kelly Johnson, Terry Burrell, Brenda Lorenz, Archie Kerr, Craig Griffiths, Erin Carroll

**Regrets:** Kris Lee, Kathy Watts, Ken Hall

---

The October 5, 2017 meeting of Friends of the St. Clair River (FOSCR) was called to order by Darrell Randell.

**1. Review and Approval of Minutes from the May 16, 2017 meeting**

The minutes from the meeting on May 16, 2017 were reviewed.

**Motion to Approve the Agenda and Minutes – Terry Burrell, Craig Griffiths**

***CARRIED***

**2. Business Arising from the Minutes**

Chatham-Kent and Lambton Children's Water Festival – Kelly Johnson

- Kelly Johnson attended the event for two days. The second day of the festival was cancelled due to the threat of thunderstorms. The event was well attended, with final numbers still to be determined. Over 40 water-themed activities were offered to students in grades 3 – 5. Kelly was able to visit many of the stations to get ideas for activities she can deliver at future AOC events.

Young Habitat Project along Clay Creek – Darrell Randell

- The Young project along Clay Creek, near Wilkesport, was completed in the spring. A 4-acre wetland has been installed as well as tree and tallgrass prairie plantings. Darrell will arrange with the landowner a time for Friends to tour the project this fall.

Industry Canada Report

**ACTION:** Terry Burrell will work with Peter Westfall to send the letter to Kelly Johnson for task completion.

### 3. **Financial Report – Terry Burrell**

Terry Burrell reported that the FOSCR account balance is \$2170.82.

The Tangerine account balance is \$69261.24.

\$26,000 which came from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) will be transferred to St. Clair Region Conservation Authority for habitat work.

### 4. **Progress on Art Teasel Wildlife Project – Brenda Lorenz**

The Art Teasel wildlife area is a 25-acre parcel of property in Sarnia, partially owned by the city and partially owned by an individual. The parcel is mostly covered in phragmites, however the Urban Wildlife Committee had Larry Cornelius survey the property and he saw much potential. In the past, Frank Letourneau visited the property and quoted a price of \$60,000 to remove the phragmites. The Urban Wildlife Committee would like to see work begin to remove the phragmites, however it is unclear which City department is responsible for the city-owned portion of the property so work will not commence until this issue is sorted out. Brenda will keep the FOSCR updated.

### 5. **Activity/Project Updates**

#### Communications

- Ken Hall has requested articles for the next FOSCR newsletter.  
**ACTION:** Send Ken articles by mid-October.

#### Report on Ontario Trillium Foundation program with St. Clair Region Conservation Authority – Erin Carroll

- Erin Carroll provided the group with an update on the St. Clair River AOC Aquatic Inventory, Habitat Restoration, and Outreach project funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF).
  - This is a 3-year project from 2016-2019.
  - The objectives of the project are to conduct aquatic inventories, restore aquatic habitat, and conduct outreach and education within the St. Clair River AOC.
  - Fish surveys were conducted at 10 sites within the AOC in 2017-2018.
    - 4500 individuals were captured, including 44 different species.
    - Species at Risk were captured in 7 surveys including Blackstripe Topminnow, Spotted Sucker, and River Redhorse.
  - Temperature loggers were installed at 2 sites within the AOC.
  - Benthic macro-invertebrates were collected and analyzed at 6 sites.
  - Water quality samples were collected monthly at 7 sites from March to October.
  - 14 intensive timed mussel searches were completed on Black Creek.
    - 11 species were found; 1296 live mussels; 1369 dead mussels.

- One Lilliput mussel (threatened) was surveyed which is the only current species record for the North branch of the Sydenham River.
  - 529 live Mapleleaf mussels (threatened) were also found.
- A one-year follow up survey was completed at the mussel relocation site from the Bear Creek Barrier Removal.
  - 294 mussels were surveyed; 31 of which had been relocated in 2016.
  - Of the 31 relocated mussels found, 3 were dead (all Giant Floaters).
- 4 wetland creation projects are planned for the fall/winter.
- In 2017, OTF funds were used to support the first Great Lakes Student Conference for Specialist High Skills Major students in the Lambton-Kent District School Board.
  - The SCRCa Biology Department conducted hands-on activities for students, allowing them the experience of fish sampling and handling, and mussel sampling.

Ontario Trillium Foundation Capital Grant for Courtright Waterfront Park shoreline –

Darrell Randell

- FOSCR has been asked to collaborate with the SCRCa Water Resources Department on an OTF Capital grant for the Courtright Waterfront Park shoreline project.
- SCRCa will be writing the grant, requesting \$100-150,000.
- The township is providing \$300,000 for the project. Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) funding has been secured for \$300,000, as well as \$20-30,000 in Canada-Ontario Agreement funding.
- Additional OTF funds will expand the scope of the project.

**Motion to support the Ontario Trillium Foundation application given habitat restoration enhancements are included – Erin Carroll, Archie Kerr**

***CARRIED***

Wright Swamp Project – Darrell Randell

- The Wright Swamp Project is located along the McKeough Floodway on private property.
- A portion of the woodlot/swamp will be flooded.
- Size of the project will be determined once the leaves have fallen and surveying is possible.

**Motion to support the Wright project financially through the OTF grant with SCRCa – Terry Burrell, Erin Carroll**

***CARRIED***

RAP Coordinator Needs – Kelly Johnson

**ACTION:** Members are asked to pass along education and outreach opportunities to Kelly Johnson.

**6. 2017 Budget for OMOECC Grant**

During budget discussions Archie Kerr recommended contacting Cliff Scott of HUB International in Sarnia, Ontario for an insurance quote.

**Motion to accept the proposed budget until details can be confirmed – Erin Carroll, Terry Burrell**

**CARRIED**

| <b>Project Expenditures</b>  | <b>Budgeted Cost</b>     | <b>Amount from the Funds</b> |
|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Administrative Support</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Includes time to coordinate and produce materials for 3 – 4 meetings, as well as annual audit and insurance coverage</li> </ul>   | \$3,000.00               | \$3,000.00                   |
| <b>Website maintenance and upgrades</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Includes fees for website host and time to update information on site</li> </ul>  | \$6,000.00               | \$6,000.00                   |
| <b>Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Classroom AOC program, materials preparation and program implementation, 40hrs @ \$50</li> <li>Provide support to the two day water festival, costs for materials, to run event and busing for students from AOC.</li> </ul>                                   | \$3,000.00<br>\$3,000.00 | \$3,000.00<br>\$3,000.00     |
| <b>Outreach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>E-newsletter – 3 newsletters @ \$1,500 per for production and distribution.</li> <li>Create portable display booth for community events to promote St. Clair River and the awareness of how greatly improved it is as BUIs continue to re-designate.</li> </ul> | \$4,500.00<br>\$1,500.00 | \$4,500.00<br>\$1,500.00     |
| <b>Habitat</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Native prairie planting on St. Clair Township roadsides. Program led by Rural Lambton Stewardship Network.</li> <li>Courtright Waterfront Park shoreline project.</li> </ul>   | \$3,000.00<br>\$5,000.00 | \$3,000.00<br>\$5,000.00     |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  | <b>\$29,000.00</b>       | <b>\$29,000.00</b>           |

**7. Other Business**

Next Meeting/AGM

**ACTION:** Darrell Randell will send an email to FOSCR members for input on AGM dates.

- Open Grill in Sarnia, Ontario was suggested as the meeting location.

Additional Business

- Craig Griffiths reported seeing a pair of nesting bald eagles on Stag Island.

- Members attending the meeting agreed to refrain from making a statement regarding the Toxic Tour at Aamjiwnaang First Nation.

**8. Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn the meeting – Terry Burrell, Craig Griffiths**

***CARRIED***