

Meeting Minutes for Stewardship Grey Bruce

October 8, 2015 at the

At office of Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

***In Attendance:***

Norah Toth (Chair), Jo-Anne Harbinson (Note taker), Ron Stewart, John Black, Pat Kuntz, Jack Westlake, Lee Thurston and Kevin Predon(Bruce County).

Guest: Wayne Whetham from Riversdale (Brockton)

Regret: Catherine Dickison, Norm Jacks, Ray Robertson, Carl Sadler.

Meeting started around 9:45 am.

1. Welcome and introductions with those around the table.
2. Minute of Meeting of June

MOTION SGB 071/15: that the minutes of the June meeting be approved subject to the time being corrected to 4:00 pm.

Moved by John Black and Jack Westlake. Carried

Discussion of the Minutes: Norah had contacted Adrian since the last meeting, and he did not get back to us to let us know that the work was done; further, Lee indicated that the project was not completed. This file considered closed.

Books for the “On the Living Edge”, Jo-Anne did get the labels done for the books and are ready to go; give some to each of us and we can each; Libraries and where people are recreating.

3. CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Piping Plover Agreement leave with the files resident at the SVCA office. Jo-Anne suggested that she scan the documents, email to the SGB gmail account for virtual filing and then put in binder for vault

b) Butternut seed at the OMNR that are set aside at Angus tree; bill for storage of seed has been paid in June.

ACTION: Jo-Anne will call the ARK to see if they had grown any seedlings from the butter nut seeds.

ACTION: Jack talked the butternut gene group and what Barb had done, he will call Bill Moses with Arboretum to see if he can grow some of the seeds; he will also talk to Jason Ritchie. SEE SGB May 19, 2015 minutes reflected this conversation

ACTION: Lee will call the Angus seed storage and ask the questions about the seeds; are they still viable to grow and are they disease free. He will also attempt to pick up the seeds, question also when we should get them out to the growers.

ACTION: Jack will talk to the arboretum about growing the seeds to trees. If known to be pure butternut vs hybrids the Forest Gene conservancy may only want

JoAnne suggest that we grow them first and sell as seedlings, as opposed to selling the seeds.

c) Bills received to date:

MOTION SGB 072/15: that SGB agree to paying the bills as received.

Moved by Jack Westlake and Seconded by Ron Stewart. Carried.

d) Thank you to Ron for the receipt of monies from the bird boxes that were built together with the help with Bruce Power.

4. Strategic Planning: Led by John Black,

As he looks at the old growth forest like the Krug property, he realizes that other forests are not as old and have lower canopies and fence rows are diminishing, change in soil, forest and water. Group like ours focus on natural, focus on the roots of nature. When you look through our values as a group and what we want to reflect change in on the landscape.

Who is our Audience: local landowners, talk about the forest, soil,

He would like to see us work on sub-committees and get together a factsheet, three or four pictures with the benefits of doing stewardship; and where to find people for information and for funding so as to provide the resources on each sheet; include the contact people and where to find the funding.

Trying to distribute through our involvement that landowners can pick this up and have assistance to do stewardship. John would like to see if we can be more integrated, and reduce the silos that are between the different focus areas, make more local and more personal to the Grey and Bruce area.

Landowners want to be able to read the best and more concise information. Lee wondered as to how to get the information out, and how do we excite people. Jo-Anne suggested that we should be going out to the groups we find them instead of they find us. John would like to have this done sooner then later.

Kevin was thinking more electronic, and possibly an application that would. He feels that they are even getting away from websites. Kevin said the large part of his job is public consultation and if he had a fact sheet able to hand out.

John feels that local change and influence other to do similar work.

Pat talk about an area, with antique plows, mini plowing match, now grown to be up to 50 participants and spectators... take that example and move to other similar types of venues. Like for forestry or soil/tillage. Make more of a fun sheet.

Break into two groups and generate, and look at getting a sheet for forestry and soil. Wayne wondered about the corner areas of the farms that can't get too because the equipment is getting too large.

**ACTION:** Start at NEXT Meeting .... FORESTRY AND SOILS<, EVERYONE IS TO PROVIDE at least two sentences to the meeting on the interest you have and what you want to see on the fact sheet

5. Community Foundation Grey Bruce Environmental Website and the Grey Bruce Sustainability Network. The Sus net would like to have the use of the domain of the Environmental Website. The SGB has to decide as to if we are willing give up "ownership" of this website and the domain that is there.

John believed the utilitarian nature of preservation, and he doesn't want to lose the core that this site represents.

**ACTION:** Jo-Anne will print off all the pages from the website.

Norah will contact CF GB foundation and that they can do what they want with the website (and domain).

**ACTION:** that the SGB is okay with the transfer of this site, and that the Grey Bruce Sustainability Network, and that GB Sus NET will contact all the members on the website that are currently there and give them Norah Toth's contact and SGB website to follow up with the Stewardship Grey Bruce.

6. Piping Plover UPDATE:

Norah gave an update to the Piping Plover Update, she had missed the Interim Report and has asked the OMNR for a change of order to the reporting. Things went well, eight eggs hatched, three chicks fledged and survived out of the four nests. Municipal support was lacking with the project. On the fourth next was chosen by the birds was on private property and were predated because they could not be protected. The tree birds were banded and can followed when found.

John said he attended meeting for west road construction from Sauble to Oliphant, how you reach the assumptions of politicians. Roads committee meeting inflamed by the

councillor's to the public. Norah noted that the plover volunteers were seen in a positive way, the OMNR did a good job.

Out of this project, we have been able to connect with plover lovers in Florida as a result of project. People more interested in tracking the fledglings and as to where they go.

Bring the email motion into the minutes of this meeting to ratify the MOTION made and approved.

EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE Dated July 28, 2015: Our Piping Plover bank account is getting low and it will be some time before we get our grant money which is a total of \$20,575. We initially advanced \$10,000. In order to simplify affairs, I am making the following motion and looking for a seconder and a showing of all in favour of it or not. Thank you for your quick response.

SGB 073/15 MOTION: That SGB make a final advance for the year 2015 of \$10,575 to the Piping Plover account to cover expenses until the government money is received and can then be repaid to SGB in one payment.

Moved by Catherine Dickison and Seconded by John Black. CARRIED

7. Update with the Friends of the Saugeen, JoAnne updated that Catherine did go the meeting, Walkerton had a good turn out about 25. Also had meeting in Southampton and Flesherton which were poorly attended by the public. Barry Randall from GB Sus NET was there as well.

John feels that is important that SGB continue to support and that we accept criticism.

8. GB Sus NET presentation: Norah went over our discussion with Barry about our decision as discussed above outlining that we are okay with the divest and shifting of the website to GB Sus NET provided we are linked to the new website and acknowledged our involvement. Barry said it was hosted on Environment Grey Bruce, question is they will come up with EGB, any value in maintaining the Domain name of EGB, it will go away if GB Sus net hosts the searchable website the EGB domain name will be lost.

Health, Social, Cultural, and the Environment, these are categories that are hosted... Barry want store duplicate this searchable function of the website for the GB Sus NET, and gain ownership of the EGB domain name. Can be desirable to keep the domain name in the long term or not... To reserve the domain name is minimal. Barry will talk to the CF GB and find out how to transfer the domain name to GB Sus NET. May be worth creating an environmental network in the future.

The Sus NET is interested in contacting CF GB about the EGB domain name and that they would take ownership of the.

Jo-Anne will print off the front end of the website, and have for our records, Barry will print off the back side.

Norah will send an email to CF GB that SGB are willing to divest and relinquish this, and that GB SUS NET is allowed to own the domain name, they will agree to contact the members of the EGB website and let us know that the SGB is still around and that they will give them our information Norah Toth and our website.

9. Information Items:

Land Habitat and Stewardship Grant: SGB would be eligible as a group, aquatic, terrestrial or forests. This fits into the CA, Lee talking with Chris Hatchey and Grey County bosses, support stewardship ranger, and have matching funds up to \$20,000 to deal with invasive species. Budget for two to four students plus budget for support costs,

Norah will send a link to Lee for website, Jo-Anne, Kevin and Lee talk as potential partners, targeting public lands and getting information out to the public about the issues of invasive species. Kevin thought if you wanted to get rid of one species, need to also target on private lands. Chris and Lee were thinking, target one property and one species, and then get PR on this initiative, then get awareness out to the public that there is an issue. Make this like a demonstration site. Question is staffing covered in the application

SGB MOTION 074/15: that SGB apply for funding from granting sources to support a program for networking of local agencies to control invasive terrestrial species and approach our other partners such as the County and the Conservation Authorities to participate in a project.

MOVED By Ron Steward Seconded by Jack Westlake. CARRIED

Possible funding sources, Land Stewardship and Habitat Restoration, due December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Lee will be looking into the application details

OFAH has a position open for the, Ontario invading species group and other invasive species groups

10. EVENTS: Stewardship Network meeting in Bancroft, this meeting has past and it was felt it was far away

Federation Ontario Cottage Association (FOCA): conference in November that is in Toronto, November 7<sup>th</sup> Should be linking to our website.

Farmers Week: Norah and Jo-Anne attended the Environment, SGB should have a display, ideal to have all week, if not just a couple of days

11. Greening Your Ground: Looking at Municipal decisions... do a work shop for WORKS Department for the Municipalities and

ACTION: Set meeting for before December 11<sup>th</sup>.... SUB Committee for Contact John and Ron to talk about logistics, possibly Chesley as a location, John would be looking at a contact in Chesley, and location in central, John will call Municipality and ask if there are other meetings that we need to avoid. Looking at alternate water management issues.

12. Email from Suzanne: guide for conserving Pollinators, in Ontario Farms at Work

Look at linking to the SGB website, look at supplying them to others.

SGB MOTION 075/15: That SGB purchase 25 copies of the Pollinator in Ontario from the Farms at Work to be purchased for consideration to distributing to our partners.

Moved by JoAnne Harbinson and seconded by Lee Thurston. Carried

Next Meeting date: November 19<sup>st</sup>, 2015 , Grey Sauble 9:30 am