



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Wintergreen Fund for Conservation
held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, via ZOOM meeting, Timmins, ON**

Present: Mark Joron, Scott Tam, Kees Pols, Michèle Lepage, Joy Galloway, Crystal Percival, Laurent Robichaud, Sylvie Côté, Brenda Torresan, David Vallier, Rock Whissell, Jennifer Bonsall

Regrets: David Yaschyshyn

1.0 Call to Order: M. Joron called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2.0 Additions to the Agenda: Memorial Donations

3.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

Proposed by: Kees Pols

Seconded by: Larry Robichaud

THAT the Minutes of the Wintergreen Fund for Conservation Regular Meeting held on March 8, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

April 14, 2021

Carried

4.0 Previous Business

a) Wintergreen Guidelines

Draft Guidelines were circulated to all for review. Recommended additions include:

- Addition of pictures
- Addition that meetings may be held electronically
- Addition of contact information including website and email addresses

Proposed by: Michèle LePage

Seconded by: Joy Galloway

THAT the Wintergreen Fund for Conservation Member Information Handbook be adopted with the requested changes.

April 14, 2021

Carried

Action: J Bonsall will make the required changes to the document.

b) Migratory Bird Event

Roxane Fillion has confirmed her interest in leading guided bird hikes on the following dates: May 18 and May 26 at Gillies Lake / May 20 and 28 at Porcupine Lake.

Timmins Public Library is hosting a birdwatching program via Zoom with Roxane's assistance in early May. Wintergreen and the Library can promote the event together and share resources (posters, checklists, and library's information).

The birding checklist has been updated and a printed copy is recommended. Quotes will be obtained and a funding sponsor will be required.

A recommendation was received to reach out to school boards with the poster and checklist as a resource for the elementary curriculum.

Action: J Bonsall will work on promotion details with the library and work with Roxane for hike registrations. M Joron to provide J Bonsall with original checklist and draft document. J Bonsall will get quotes for printing 500/750/1000 birding checklists. All members are to look for potential sponsors for printing costs.

c) Weekend Trail Cleanup

Proceeding with the trail clean up event on May 8, 2021 using all required measures to ensure safety (in particular re: COVID-19). Supplies (i.e., garbage bags) will be provided by Wintergreen. Intention is to have central meeting places at Mountjoy Historical, Gillies Lake, Hersey Lake, and White Waterfront, where a Wintergreen representative will have trail information, garbage bags and instructions. Trail areas to be cleaned are:

- Bridge to Bridge west side
- Bridge to Bridge east side
- Scout Rock Trail
- Gillies Lake Promenade
- Hersey Lake Trails
- Bart Thomson north loop
- Bart Thomson south loop
- Prospectors Trail

Recommendation to keep groups very small and include maps so people can see where the trails are. Media coverage will include a thank you to those who have been cleaning all through the seasons, promotion of all MRCA trails, option to donate to trail maintenance.

Leads: Brenda – White Waterfront / Mark – Hersey Lake /

Action: K Pols and M Joron will meet to plan details. Michèle to assist with media information.

5.0 New Business

a) Gillies Lake Gardens

The garden group are willing to continue with their work again this year. Unused funds from 2020 are still available in the account for their 2021 expenses. S Tam provided an update on the water line. The original plan to tie into the water line did not work; more planning is required for this proposed water access. An update will be provided next week so that alternate plans can be determined for this summer if required.

Action: S. Tam to follow up regarding water line.

b) Membership Recruitment

With the current membership roster, there are open spaces in the membership. Care should be given to filling those spots with community members that are able to meet the needs of Wintergreen, in particular fundraising. A request was made for all members to give some thought to community leaders and potential members who are directly interested in fundraising. Names will be brought to the next meeting for discussion among the group. They could be approached via a letter from the Chair with Wintergreen's information.

Action: All members to bring forward potential candidates that are interested in the goals of Wintergreen and would be able to offer fundraising support.

c) Bee City Partnership Initiative

Bee City is planning a pollinator challenge and seed ball event for 2021. As a partner in the Bee City initiative, a proposal is being made for Wintergreen to submit a funding request to mining companies that are members of Bee City. Funds received would be for the Pollinator Challenge prizes, and to purchase seed ball kits to be distributed through the library to kick off Pollinator Week.

*Proposed by: Sylvie Côté
Seconded by: Joy Galloway*

THAT the Wintergreen Fund for Conservation approach Newmont Goldcorp, Glencore Kidd Operations and Pan American Silver Timmins Operations for funding support of the Bee City Summer outreach activities.

April 14, 2021

Carried

Action: C. Percival will contact the mining companies with the funding request.

d) Wintergreen Scholarship

Discussion took place about the Wintergreen Fund for Conservation Scholarship for Environmental Conservation. In 2020, four applications were received and one \$1,500 scholarship was provided to a student pursuing a degree in Ecological Restoration B. Sc.

*Proposed by: Kees Pols
Seconded by: Brenda Torresan*

THAT the Wintergreen Fund for Conservation provide a \$1,500 bursary to a student graduating from a local high school in June 2021 who will further their education in one of the environmental, conservation or natural resources fields of study.

April 14, 2021

Carried

e) Funeral Homes

K. Pols has approached 2 local funeral homes about providing information about Wintergreen as a charitable donation option. Wintergreen had a document previously that will need updating with current information.

Action: J Bonsall will find the past document and completed updates. K. Pols will follow up

with providing the information to the funeral homes.

f) Wintergreen Paraphernalia

Recommendation to have items (such as a pin) available to handout to people who are in line with Wintergreen's objectives. Discussion also followed about having shirts made for the members so that we are easily identified at events. Potential to have items available for sale on the website as a revenue source.

Action: J Bonsall will look into items available and quotes for shirts.

6.0 Parking Lot

a) Fundraising

7.0 Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 12, 2021

8.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.