



Minutes of the Meeting of the Wintergreen Fund for Conservation held on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 via ZOOM meeting, Timmins, ON

Present: Dave Vallier, Joy Galloway, Kees Pols, Mark Joron, Michèle Lepage, Rock Whissell, Jennifer Bonsall (left 4:45), Crystal Percival (left 4:30), Jim Duncan (left 4:10)

Regrets: Brenda Torresan, Claude Beaudin, Laurent Robichaud, Scott Tam

1.0 Call to Order: M. Joron called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2.0 Additions to the Agenda: New Business: Wintergreen Audit, Access to Trail Entrances

3.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

Proposed by: Kees Pols

Seconded by: Michèle Lepage

THAT the Minutes of the Wintergreen Fund for Conservation Regular Meeting held on January 12, 2022 be adopted as circulated.

February 9, 2022

Carried

4.0 Previous Business

a) Winter Hiking Day – February 27, 2022

The itinerary for the day was reviewed. A variety of hikes are being offered to allow for social distancing. Promotion via social media has begun and posts highlighting individual hikes will continue over the next 2 weeks. Fundraising committee has developed details for a postcard to have available for participants. Volunteers will be required throughout the day.

Action: C. Percival will complete the postcard. J. Bonsall will reach out to those who signed up at the Welcome to Timmins event re: volunteer opportunity.

5.0 New Business

a) Garden Tiller

Information regarding the gardeners' request to purchase a garden tiller was circulated to all members prior to the meeting for review. A quote was provided for a lightweight 4-cycle tiller from Veseys. Total including shipping and taxes is \$1,146. The garden account currently holds a balance of \$210. Members agree that this is a valid purchase, however would like to see if there are local purchasing options.

Action: J. Bonsall will advise the requestor that additional quotes and options are to be brought to the March meeting.

b) Wintergreen Scholarship

*Proposed by: Kees Pols
Seconded by: Michèle Lepage*

THAT the Wintergreen Fund for Conservation provide a \$1,500 scholarship to a student graduating from a local high school in June 2022 who will further their education in one of the environmental, conservation or natural resources fields of study.

February 9, 2022

Carried

Action: J. Bonsall will provide the scholarship information to all local high schools and post on the website and social media pages.

c) Wintergreen Wednesdays

Every Wednesday a Wintergreen promotional social media post will be published.

Action: All members are asked to continue providing content for these posts and share them with other followers.

d) Wintergreen Audit

Audit services went out for tender this year and a new auditor (KPMG) will be completing the financial audit for 2021.

Action: J. Bonsall and D. Vallier continue to work with the auditors to provide their requested information.

e) Trail Access

A request was received to have the windrows cleared at the MacLean Drive trail crossings to allow access and improved safety for trail walkers. The MRCA does not have the equipment or capacity to complete this request.

Action: D. Vallier will discuss options with S. Tam.

6.0 Fundraising Committee Update

The Fundraising Committee provided an update on their discussions to date.

a) A final decision is required for the Fundraising Campaign Name. Suggestions were reviewed.

Action: C. Percival will send all suggestions to all members and request a choice from everyone before Wednesday, February 16.

b) The Draft Organizational Chart was reviewed. A face-to-face meeting will be required to determine the leads for each sector and potential contacts for each sector.

Action: J. Bonsall will send a doodle poll to determine the best date for a meeting before February 24.

- c) The Draft Donor Recognition Chart was reviewed. 2 additional donor category names are still required. Suggestions included Trail Ally, Trail Hero and Trail Patron.
Action: Suggestions will be distributed via email and everyone's choices to be received by Wednesday, February 16.
- d) It was recommended that the Wintergreen Chair, Mark Joron, be the community contact for the campaign and complete face-to-face interactions as required (for media events).
- e) The Gillies Lake kiosk will be used to provide a monthly update of donors and a fundraising thermometer to keep the community updated on donations received.
- f) Membership recruitment: All members are requested to consider new member recruits who are interested in actively participating in the fundraising campaign.
- g) D. Vallier noted that he is available via phone or meeting to speak to potential funders and determine specific plans for donations if requested.
- h) All members (fundraising canvassers) need to research organizations they are seeking funds from in order to determine potential donation amounts.

7.0 Chamber Update

East Coast Kitchen Party Fundraising Dinner at the Dante Club sponsored by the Timmins Chamber of Commerce was rescheduled for Friday, March 25, 2022. Funds are to be used for trail signs by MRCA.

M. Lepage noted that the Chamber of Commerce has a not-for-profit giving guide for organizations and Wintergreen is included in donating options.

8.0 Parking Lot

- a) Events:
Earth Hour takes place on March 26, 2022
- b) Wintergreen Intern: no new update.

9.0 Other Information

R. Whissell noted that the City of Timmins is working to determine how MAT funds will be distributed and they may be a potential funding source for trail maintenance. He also noted that he will not be actively involved in canvassing for funds during this campaign due to the conflict of interest as a municipal Councillor.

M. Lepage noted that she has contacted Marty Paul, Health Promoter, Porcupine Health Unit to encourage trail use.

7.0 Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 9, 2022

8.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.