

Summary of the Minutes of the Hamilton Naturalists' Club Board Meetings, April, May, June 2013.

By Joyce Litster

Items Discussed

Website Renewal

Clarence Bos has been hired to update our website and install Word Press software. He will transfer some pages from the old website to Word Press, but a volunteer will transfer the rest of the pages. Board members who will be placing information on the site will learn how to use Word Press.

Niagara to GTA Corridor

Director-at-Large, Gord McNulty has attended meetings concerning the Niagara to GTA corridor and kept the Board up to date. He wrote a letter to Glen Murray, Minister of Transportation, expressing the Club's support of the NGTA study team's position on widening existing highways. He also expressed our disapproval of the Hamilton City Council's attempt to revive the Mid-peninsula highway at the March 27th City Hall meeting.

Enbridge Pipeline

April 11th was the deadline to apply to address the National Energy Board hearings that will be held in August. Gord noted that the NEB has not been welcoming to environmental organizations that want to address the hearings. Both the Sierra Club and the Council of Canadians were refused status, but all eight energy companies received status. Some smaller groups also received status, including our Land Trust Coordinator, Jen Baker. Jen will make a written submission. Questions have been raised about the appropriateness of Enbridge giving a \$45,000 grant to the Hamilton Police Services Board. They also give to other groups: is this normal or a conflict of interest?

Cootes to Escarpment Eco-Park

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed on June 20 and the launch of the Eco-Park was held at the RBG on Saturday, June 22.

Volunteer Coordinator

Lee Jones has been hired as our Volunteer Coordinator, and she will build a base of volunteers that our Volunteer Director, Doris Southwell, will be able to call upon. There is a Trillium Grant to cover her salary for up to two years. The Board looks forward to meeting her at our next meeting.

Membership Database

The Club has been in need of a new, more up-to-date membership database. Membership Director Maggie Sims, has been evaluating what is available. She recommended that we purchase Charity Master for \$875 plus tax because it is the

closest to meeting our needs. We will pay for it with money from our Contingency Fund.

Trivial Night

Jim Heslop reported that the Club made \$894 at our Trivial Pursuit fundraiser.

E-Bird

Barb Charlton asked that the board make our Noteworthy Bird Records available to e-Bird. A motion was passed to this effect.