

Summary of the Minutes of the March 8, 2012 HNC Board Meeting

By Joyce Litster

Items Discussed:

Cootes to Escarpment Report

Michael Fischer attended the Cootes to Escarpment CEO's meeting on March 7. The group is developing a model of management similar that of to the Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan. So far, approximately \$750,000 has been raised for the development of the plan. A company named Chimpanzee has been hired to develop a branding strategy for Cootes to Escarpment. The RBG is very supportive and McMaster University is now officially the tenth partner. The Cootes to Escarpment group has proposed a budget of \$600,000 for the next two years.

NAI Letter to City of Hamilton

With the Board's approval, Michael Fischer has sent the City of Hamilton's Director of Planning Paul Mallard a letter seeking funding for the current Natural Areas Inventory and a plan for establishing a reserve fund for future NAIs. It is hoped that Jim Stollard and Michael will meet with Mr. Mallard to discuss NAI funding.

George Holland Stepping Down as Director of Bird Studies Group

George Holland will be leaving his position on the HNC Board as Director of the Bird Studies Group at the end of this spring's meetings. The Club will be searching for someone to fill his position. We thank George for his contribution to the Board and the Bird Studies Group.

Volunteer of the Year Award and Betty Blashill Environmentalist of the Year Award

The time has come for the Board to consider nominations for the VOY Awards. Two awards are usually given: one to a Junior and one to a senior volunteer. Junior and senior refer to the length of time the volunteer has been involved with the Club. The Betty Blashill award is given to someone who works tirelessly behind the scenes for the good of the environment.

Trivia Night

The Sanctuary Committee is planning a Trivia Night fundraiser for Saturday, April 28. It will be held at 7 p.m. at St. Paul's United Church in Dundas. For the first time, the Club will have a liquor license for the event.

Motions Passed:

An e-mail motion was passed on March 2, 2012 in which the Board approved the sending of a letter to City of Hamilton Director of Planning Paul Mallard concerning a request for funding for the current Natural Areas Inventory and the establishment of a reserve fund for future NAIs.