

Summary of the Minutes of the Hamilton Naturalists' Club Board Meeting September 27, 2012

By Joyce Litster

Items Discussed

Niagara to GTA Corridor

Gord McNulty attended a meeting of the Coalition on the Niagara Escarpment and reported that the Minister's comments of two years ago, stating that there would be no corridor across the Niagara Escarpment in North Burlington, are meaningless. The bureaucrats in control of planning the highway do not take their orders from the minister. The corridor remains a threat.

Field Events Report

Gerten has been in touch with the Recreation Directors at McMaster and Mohawk concerning free student memberships and will follow up on posters for both locations. Gerten also reported that the HNC display at the Locke Street Festival was very successful, attracting many visitors and gaining us some new members. She recommended that we attend next year and suggested some improvements in our presentation. Fran Hicks takes over as Field Events Director at the AGM.

Enbridge Pipeline

Gord brought to the Board's attention the plan to ship bitumen from western Canada through the Enbridge Pipeline that passes through Flamborough. At present, refined oil moves through this pipe from east to west and is less difficult to ship than bitumen. Don McLean has been active in bringing this matter to the attention of the Club and City Council. The City's General Issues Committee will be holding a meeting to discuss the pipeline change, and an e-mail motion requesting that the Club send a letter of concern to the General Issues Committee was passed.

Econet

In the mid-2000's a Trillium Grant was awarded to bring environmental and other like-minded NGOs together to discuss environmental issues. They established a website, actlocally.info which publicizes members events. The website is getting old and has developed problems. Warren Beacham has been the Club's representative at Econet and advised the meeting that changes will have to be made and there will be a request for funding in the future. He stressed that the HNC and other groups should continue to support Econet. He asked Board members to visit the website actlocally.info.