

DRAFT MINUTES CONSERVATION COMMITTEE May 2nd 2015

Meeting was called to order by Ed Thomson @ 8AM.

ATTENDEES: Bob DeMeulenaere, Scott Grush, Jeff Major, Rob Clink, Dave Lucas, Bob Schemanske, Ed Thomson, Bob Bastion, John Bishop (BOD Liason)

Absent: Tony Spina (unexcused). This was his third unexcused absence. CC is going to recommend to the BOD that he be replaced.

Open Forum: A member volunteered to help with CC activities. Ed encouraged him to fill out an application and to attend CC meetings when he can.

April 10th 2015 meeting minutes approved.

Changes to agenda: Conservation Sponsorship was added. The idea is that an individual club member can donate or help fund projects that are not covered in the budget.

Regular Item Reporting led by "Point Persons"

Lakes/Dams/Fish: Fish orders are on schedule.

Budget: Bob D reported that there is nothing new to report. Bob D reminded point people to voice any needs for their areas for next year. Any requests should be submitted to Bob D in writing by the June meeting.

Fields: Bob D reviewed the field plan. Bob D made a motion to create a new approximately 1 acre opening in Harvest Unit 3 of the 2014-2015 harvest. The motion passed unanimously. Bob B invited Todd from Miller Feed's to come to LLWC to view our fields and discuss planting and weed control, chemical and fertilizer applications, etc. It will probably be late summer or early fall. The CC wants any free "uncertified" seed to go to planting the pheasant preserve and not in fields. The CC appreciates free seed but the poor growth and yield from "uncertified" seed doesn't warrant all the time, effort and cost to plant.

Timber: Scott reported that the harvest is ongoing and everything is going well. Road restrictions are now off so hauling from the north unit will be ongoing.

Turkey Feeders: Dave reported that we need to fill the turkey feeders by October 1st.

Future Planning: Bob S reported that there is nothing new to report.

To Do List: Bob S reviewed the list. Everything is complete or has a plan in place to complete.

Pheasant shoots: Ron reported that a member suggested the club look into building its own pheasant pen. Lots of discussion, doesn't sound feasible.

Surveys: Dave handed out the surveys at the April meeting. Several surveys have been returned to Dave and the rest need to be completed by May 5th.

Hunters Round up: Rob and Ed are working on a raffle ticket sponsor. We need to get with Ron to see where we are at with the raffle license application?

Articles: Scott will submit an article for the June newsletter.

Outside Resources: Eric Ellis from the Ruffed Grouse Society will be here for the June 6th meeting. Scott is looking into obtaining MDNR grant money for regenerating tag alder through the MDNR and the Ruffed Grouse Society.

Social Media: Still nothing on this from Scott and Rob. Jeff will get info to Nick to update the CC portion of the website.

Old Business:

Report on actions of BOD as they apply to CC: John Bishop presented 2 BAR's at the last BOD meeting. One was for a recommended rule change pertaining to shooting lane width and the other was to approve the proposed timber harvest for 2015-2016. Both BAR's passed.

Boat Launch Improvement: Ed and Ron are working on obtaining a DEQ permit.

Hunter's Roundup Permit: Rob and Ed are working on this. Rob has found a sponsor.

Hubbard Lake foot path: Nothing new to report at this time.

Replacement options to the BOD for Biologist LeMarbe Management: There was discussion on the progress and where we are in the process at this point.

Rule Change Recommendations: Ad hoc committee to look at rule changes. Ed, Bob D, Rob, Bob S will be on the ad hoc committee. They will meet after this meeting.

Conservation Sponsorship: Discussion on the merit of this option and who should handle this. Scott is going to work with John Bishop on this.

New Business:

Communications- None.

Discussion- None.

CC field reviewed several sites and aspects of the proposed 2015-16 timber harvest with Terry Manty, this was the second field review. The purpose of this review was to clarify several main points/concerns. Several specific concerns were: 1) The location and way the stream will be crossed in Unit 3. It will be crossed by using crane mats and crossed at the narrowest location and not at the culvert installation that currently exists. 2) The harvest buffer in Unit 3 will be 300' on the south border. 3) Skidding for Unit 3 will go around the adjacent red pine stand to the east.

Meeting adjourned at 2 PM

Submitted by Jeff Major, secretary

