

## Humber Valley Heritage Trail Association

### Joint Bolton and Kleinberg Chapter Minutes, March 9, 2016

**Call to order 8:45 pm Present:** Jerry Gorman, Rodney Hautot, Sandra Hautot, Rebecca Petre, Claudio Chiapetta, Cat Cybulski, Eric Gunter, Emilia Gal, Sreekanth George, Tina Daalderop, Dan Petre, David Brand, Alex Hatfield, Mark Van Stempvoort, Roland Gatti, Michael Davis, Doreen Smith, Heather Stewart

**Invoices/Expenses:** None.

**Previous Minutes:** Approved with amendments. Moved by Rodney Hautot, seconded by Michael Davis.

**Amendments to previous minutes:** Cat's name should be spelled with a C. Clarification to be made re: shared funds (charitable donations) used for hike leader training – Kleinburg had used the funds for hike leader training, Roland will send a note to Eric with the amount for financial records

#### **President's Report (Jerry):**

- Thanked everyone for being here, and especially Mark for being hike program coordinator for both chapters, since it is probably the most visible aspect of the trail.
- Rotary Gala was a big success. Thank yous to Roland, Sandra, and Doreen for joining us in volunteering.
- Update about website and historical stories being added (Nunville, Glasgow, etc.). George has added "present position" function to the website and pointed out that this is a good thing for safety.
- Many special and public relations meetings this year. Claudio presented to a women's fitness group who use the trail regularly about what they can do to help with trail maintenance. Jerry received a call from a Scout group in Aurora asking permission to use the trail in January. It is good to know that the website is a good contact point.
- In June, Tina coordinated Caledon Day, which is another good public relations aspect.
- Shared Dianne's experiences with cyclists on the new multi-use section of the trail. Jerry has been to 4 meetings with TRCA re: signage, maintenance and multi-use issues. Will be speaking with them next Tuesday regarding work that needs to be done on our section of the trail.

#### **Directors' Reports:**

**Membership (Cat) -** We had 75 members (varies slightly from Eric's amount because when someone pays late in the year we count it as two years) and membership has stayed fairly steady around 75. As of today we have 39, 4 of which are brand new, not renewals, and usually we have several memberships come in close to the AGM.

**Membership for Kleinburg (Mike Davis):** Last year they had 11 family and 22 individual memberships, which is a modest increase over previous year. They are considering some new initiatives, such as the MeetUp website to increase membership.

**Treasurer for Bolton (Eric)** - Made a profit of \$1.68 over the course of Jan to Dec 2015, ending year at \$7,410 in assets. Highlights include income of \$1500 from Rotary Club Gala (2014 auction and gala), \$1,440 in membership dues for 72 members. Expenses for Hike Ontario and Insurance look odd because of offsetting entries when Kleinburg paid their premiums (actual amounts are \$186 for comprehensive liability and \$100 for directors and officers), and related to communications: \$300 is an offset payment from Kleinburg for calendars. Trail signage was a significant expenditure for new signs on the major reroute in Bolton's area (5 new signs) \$2500 was the initial deposit, offset by amount received from Town of Caledon from a charity golf tournament. One thing that has come up over the past year is that we put any extra funds into a savings account with Tangerine bank, which has more reporting requirements now (list of directors, banking regulations) than when we opened the account. Let Kleinburg chapter know that if their chapter is a corporation, they may need to look into the impact the new banking regulations may have on their chapter.

**(Unfinished Treasurers Business)** TRCA has some funds that we are in the process of requesting from them (donations that have been earmarked for the HVHTA, and will be divided between the two chapters) Roland has a question since at last year's meeting \$600 was mentioned. Explanation was given that the Ward Family Foundation gave \$100 (in 2012 the amount was \$112).

Jerry thinks we should close the account, Rodney thinks we should speak with David Ward first. Perhaps he will agree to get a receipt from us rather than a charitable donation receipt from TRCA.

Motion – Rodney: Eric should challenge TRCA on funds available based on the paperwork he has and once he has an answer he should withdraw remaining funds and direct TRCA to cease accepting funds on our behalf. Should also ask TRCA whether it is possible for one-time donations to be accepted on our behalf by TRCA if someone asks for a receipt. Seconded – Jerry. Passed unanimously.

**Treasurer for Kleinberg: (David)** See attached draft treasurer's report, 2015 David shared what is written on the report.

Rodney wondered if spending extra money to promote AGM was successful, David says that it did slightly increase attendance however did not attract \$600 more in membership dues

**Trail Maintenance (Claudio)** - 4 major issues on the go: getting a maintenance calendar and volunteers organized for spring season (possible trail audits to be organized amongst trail custodians, perhaps something similar to what Kleinburg chapter is doing), getting equipment maintained, 5 new signs to go in the ground when ground is thawed, bridge to be built (date to be decided).

Jerry added that we are working towards creating a trail audit checklist for TRCA which is difficult because of the extent of our trail. Rebecca asked if we need to create a new audit checklist or can we use Kleinburg's version? Mark says they use a simplified version of Hike Ontario's version. **Action – Mark:** Email a copy to Rebecca and Rodney.

**Trail Maintenance for Kleinburg** – director for Kleinburg is excused so Mark spoke about the trail inspection schedule, which is 8 times per year. Board members volunteer (once per year each board member) to do a round of the trail before monthly meeting and fill out a form which is given to trail maintenance director, and kept in a binder as official record of risk management program. This is working well so far.

There has been some exploration of rerouting. There is a "problem" section of the trail where it is shared with TRCA and Nashville Conservation Preserve. There is a section of main trail that used to be part of Kirby road, which caved in so there is no longer a road and it has become trail. Road allowance section has problems that have worsened over the years, with lots of erosion, and the main challenge is to get a

reroute through that area, which is very narrow and steep. Board members have been out with TRCA and Conservation Preserve on many occasions this year to try and find an appropriate reroute. A route has potentially been found. It has been brought to the TRCA, and is waiting on approval and funding. Jerry asked if TRCA is expected to provide funding. Mark said that they are hopeful that TRCA will provide funding since the trail appears on the TRCA website and will have more and more exposure. There is a possibility that the trail will be designated multi-use since the portion of the trail there is considered a major thoroughfare for hikers and cyclists. The part through the forest will remain hiking only. Rodney wondered about who will accept liability for multi-use sections, Mark said that they only have permits for the current hiking trails so TRCA will be taking on the liability but HVHTA will continue to be stewards of the trail while TRCA will be responsible for the maintenance.

#### **Communications (Emilia) -**

**Hike Coordinator (Mark)** – Report to come at AGM, list of hikes is on both websites and on calendar, 13 hikes this year, avg. 10-15 per hike, thanked hike leaders who organize and lead the hikes, encourages Bolton chapter to get some hike leaders trained to join the hike leader team.

#### **Unfinished Business: SEE under Treasurers Report**

#### **New Business:**

Roland updated on improvements to former Nashville Tract, now Nashville Conservation Reserve, all levels of municipal government have now agreed to put in a continuous trail from Kleinburg to Bolton, potentially a 4-year completion, work began last year

Rebecca spoke about Certified Hike Leader

**Action – Rebecca:** Contact Hike Ontario re: recert, 6 people can include those recertifying? Contact with Mark re: participants from Kleinburg.

#### Upcoming AGMs

Bolton Apr. 13, 7pm @ Humberview Library, guest speaker Karen Hutchinson about Albion Hills Farm, Rodney arranging a display about the Albion Hills Master Plan

Kleinburg Apr. 19, 7pm @ Cornerstone Church in Kleinburg, guest speaker Adam Denby, project coordinator for Nashville Conservation Reserve

#### Trail Issues and Updates

- Bolton has been covered in other discussions earlier in meeting

- East/West hwy. corridor (Hwy 413) from 400 West to Halton Hills, link up with 401, North of 407, would be cutting across Kleinburg chapter area across Humber River, South of Bolton Many lobby groups are opposing. Would cause disruption to the HVHTA in Kleinburg. 413 is currently on hold, and if people are opposed they should write to the Minister. If you would like a “Stop the 413” lawn sign contact David (Kleinburg treasurer). Environmental Defense website has information and a petition against 413. (GTA East West Corridor)

- Trail reroutes: Duffy's Lane/Emil Kolb Parkway bisection will be resolved this spring, TRCA will be doing the work. North end of Duffy's Lane was blocked by a steel barrier because of some road construction, TRCA built a bypass a little further over on a former farm (gated driveway) that links the trail back together. 5 signs have been purchased and are waiting to be installed after spring thaw.

- Roland spoke about Hike Ontario. Jerry or Roland attend meetings 3 times per year, and one thing they do is speak to private landowners who allow hiking trails to cross their land. Hike Ontario allows us to have affordable insurance rates, and they lobby on behalf of hiking trail organizations for a small annual fee.

- Jerry spoke about Bill 100. Hike Ontario has been sending out material about landowner liability. This information is often being misinterpreted. Hike Ontario is trying to get more support from government to help deal with trails crossing private property. Our trail doesn't cross private land.

**Meeting adjourned 10:20 pm** – Tina Daalderop moved, Emilia Gal seconded

**Next Joint Chapter Meeting - Kleinburg March 2017**