

**THE OTTAWA FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB  
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**

**December 17, 2012**

Fletcher Wildlife Garden Interpretation Centre, CEF, Ottawa, 7:00 p.m.

**Chair:** Ann MacKenzie

**Council Members Present:** Annie Bélair, Fenja Brodo, Dan Brunton, Barbara Chouinard, Owen Clarkin, Barry Cottam, David Hobden, Diane Kitching, Karen McLachlan Hamilton, Diane Lepage, Jeff Saarela, Henry Steger, Ken Young

**Council Members Absent:** Don Hackett, Rémy Poulin, Jeff Skevington, Eleanor Zurbrigg

**Guests:** Frank Pope, Julia Cipriani, Stan Rosenbaum, Ian Davidson

**1. Minutes of the November 19, 2012 meeting**

All action items from the minutes were completed.

**Moved by** A. Bélair/H. Steger that the  
Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> minutes be accepted as distributed.

**CARRIED**

**2. Treasurer's Report** K. Young

The financial statements for fiscal year 2011-12 have been completed. They will be sent to Council members this week.

**3. 2011-2012 Committee Annual Reports**

The annual reports from the Birds, Publications and Conservation Committees, as well as the report from the Treasurer, were circulated by email prior to the Council meeting. The report from Education & Publicity was read to Council at the meeting.

**MOTION:** That Council approves the five annual reports distributed by the Treasurer, Birds, Publications, Conservation, Education & Publicity Committees

**Moved by** A. MacKenzie/D. Brunton

**CARRIED**

Since Council has not yet received the report from Excursions and Lectures, the report will be approved by email.

**4. FWG and the Shell "Fuelling Change" Fund** B. Cottam

Suzanne Deschênes offered to help the FWG Committee apply for a grant from the Shell “Fuelling Change” Fund. They would need to submit a project idea and then encourage OFNC members and the community to vote for it. As the application must be done in the name of the parent organization, Barry asked Council if they agreed to let the FWG use the OFNC’s name in the application. He also pointed out that if a grant is won, Shell’s support will need to be acknowledged where the FWG’s project will be advertised. Council agreed to support this project in principle and is interested in learning about the details when they are available. At that time Council will make a formal decision.

Ken added that in terms of bookkeeping, special grants and the expenses related to the projects that are funded must be recorded separately from the committee’s usual revenue and expenses.

#### **5. Internal Communication for Outings and Events**

The Excursions and Lectures Committee asked to discuss a strategy for last minute coordination of issues that arise when events are cancelled or car pooling needs to be arranged, for example. The discussion was deferred to the next Council meeting.

#### **6. Revisions to the Ontario Not-For-Profit Legislation**

Ann explained that when the new act will come into force, the OFNC will have three years to modify its bylaws and constitution accordingly.

**MOTION:** That Council agrees to establish an ad-hoc committee to review the OFNC’s bylaws and constitution to be in compliance with Ontario’s new regulations. This will also be a great opportunity to update the constitution where necessary.

**Moved by** A. MacKenzie/F. Brodo  
**Carried**

#### **7. Annual Business Meeting on January 15, 2013**

Ann sent a draft agenda for the upcoming ABM which will be held at the FWG. Since there is no bus service to the FWG, Council suggested telling members that carpooling can be arranged. Owen agreed to be the point of contact for car pooling arrangements. Sandra Garland should be asked to put this information on our web page.

#### **8. Publications Committee** D. Brunton

Dan brought the newly printed CFN issue, vol. 126(2) to show Council and announced that submissions to the CFN have increased by 20%; the huge effort to bring the journal back on the correct publishing schedule is paying off.

#### **9. Ann’s Last Council Meeting as President**

As Ann will be stepping down as president after the ABM, Fenja thanked her for the very positive way she has been chairing Council meetings. She also congratulated her on all the work that she has done and commended her for attending monthly meetings, excursions and lectures regularly.

**10. Motion to adjourn:**

**Moved by** D. Hobden/D. Lepage that the meeting be adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

**CARRIED**

The meeting was followed by a Christmas potluck. Former Council members Julia Cipriani, Frank Pope and Stan Rosenbaum were present, as well as Ian Davidson, who is nominated to become a member of Council in 2013.

Recording Secretary: A. Bélair

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Upcoming Meetings:

January 15, 2013: Annual Business Meeting, at FWG

January 21, 2013: Council meeting, at FWG