

SAMUEL WILMOT NATURE AREA MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING OF MAY 21ST, 2024

MINUTES

NOTE: this meeting was held on site and included a walkabout of the Cobbledick portion of the Nature Area'

Present: all members

Agenda: no formal agenda

Minutes of Previous meeting: Moved by Tom Hossie, seconded by Leanne Fernandez that the minutes of the meeting of April 16, 2024 be approved. **CARRIED**

Updates: Planting events – Leah and Brian provided details on the planting event undertaken earlier today by students from Courtice High School. A new cultivated garden had been prepared earlier this month near the entrance to the Memorial Forest to accommodate the wildflowers plants grown by the students in two classes, one grade 10 and one grade 11. Kate thanked Leah, Brian, Rod, Carmen and Ken and his staff for their work on this project.

May 25 Annual Planting Event on Lakebreeze Drive :

- Brian, Rod and Carmen will pre -dig holes on Friday starting at noon
- plants will be delivered to the site Saturday morning by 9:00 a.m.
- Brian will hold back a number of plants to be used to supplement the meadow garden and the new garden (see above)
- Brian and Leah will bring water if rain is not in the offing
- Ken has arranged for some picnic table and a porta potty to be delivered to the site

Pollinator Presentation: Kate confirmed that a representative of GRCA has agreed to be present at our tagging event in September to provide information sessions re pollinators etc. This person may also be available to do a similar presentation during the summer.

Queen's Student- research on invasive plant species – Tom advised that he has been in touch with a graduate student from Queen's who has just completed her Master's Thesis on dog strangling vine , garlic mustard , their impact and how they are impacted by climate change. This person is interested in making a presentation to us, presumably by zoom, at a future meeting. Tom will forward the dates of upcoming meetings to determine a suitable one.

Signage:

No foraging signs _ these have been posted

Kiosk on Cobbledick side – an area behind the kiosk has been cleared to make it accessible for viewing from that side. Some additional “ landscaping “ work needs to be done.

Ken has funding to upgrade our current signage. After some discussion, it was agreed that the priority is to install an enclosed case where we will be able to post notices of upcoming events etc in a more visible and professional manner on each of the two kiosks. If possible, the panels need to be updated and/or replaced. We would also like to replace the main sign that used to be at the entrance to the Cobbledick lot. It disappeared 2-3 years ago! Ken will research and obtain estimates for these projects in time for our June meeting.

Membership – Ken advised that the names of two new members for the Committee have been sent to Council for ratification at its next meeting.

At this point, the business portion of the meeting concluded and the members did a walkabout through the Cobbledick side of the Nature Area.

Adjournment: on returning from the walkabout, adjournment was moved by Patrick Bothwell.

Next meeting: June 18, 2024