

OFAH Zone E Membership Meeting April 28, 2024

Attendance: John Hinton, Eric Smith, Linda Smith, John Hockley, William Ellis (Haliburton Fly Fishing Club) Bill Skinner, Larry Laycock, Paul Goggan

1. Conservation Pledge - Eric Smith
2. Moment of Silence for those who passed - Eric Smith
3. Chair's Report - John Hinton

A lot of changes in the organization and we are undergoing significant changes. Membership is in decline. We invested in research to understand what is limiting us. We are well on the way. Some changes in 2024 and 2025. New logo , first change in 18 years. Stuck with the Loon. Logo rolled out at sportsman show this year. Digital transformation and more user friendly web site. Members can sign in and create preferences to reflect their interest. Member engagement to attract and recruit more members and bring loyalty. Aiming to be more member centric. Changes to organization because of new government regulations. Finally. Transforming for the future and modernize member experience.

Discussion about supporting groups that support conservation. OFAH insurance is better than other groups like gun clubs. More news about what OFAH is doing. Other groups like CCSA hand out articles every week about what they are doing. OFAH needs to get more info out. And focus on younger members and we need to bring in different ethnics. Option to look at for a hunt camp is to become A Camp club of OFAH. Over 200 Clubs in Zone E.

Motion to accept report as read by John Hinton
Seconded by Eric Smith, all in favour - carried

4. Business arising from Chair's report - None
- 5 . Minutes of the last Zone E Meeting from Nov 2023

Motion to accept past minutes as read by John Hockley
Seconded by Paul Groggan - All in Favour - carried

6. Business arising from the minutes of the last meeting - None
7. First Vice Chair report - Eric Smith

35th annual OFAH Under the locks fishing derby, 9 days. Stocked 3000 trout, 500 tagged fish and over \$25000 in prizes. Youth prizes. Sponsor Cash prizes for anglers of all ages. Big fish grand prize \$1000. All participants have to be registered and pay fees. 2 fish per person for day.

Zone member ship is down again. Need to get friends etc. to buy a membership
Mar 2023 9604 members Mar 2024 9019 so down 585 members.

Motion to accept report as read by Eric Smith
Seconded by William Ellis - all in favour carried

8. Second Vice Chair Report - Not filled

9. Directors report - John Hockley - Nothing to report

10. Sec/Treasurer Report - John Hockley

March Credit Union statement is in. We have \$28590 in our account. Investments we have 3 of them totaling \$34730. OFAH is changing their format and no funds or assets can be touched as of Nov 2023 for all zones.

The 2024 OFAH Community Conservation Fund (CCF) application window is now open with a deadline of 11:59PM on April 30, 2024. Complete application details and our 2024 priorities are available on the CCF webpage (<http://www.ofah.org/conservationfunding/>) All projects and spending must occur in 2024 There are supplement application windows now open. As long as funding remains. They will be accepting grant application through the rest of 2024. Deadlines are June 30, August 31 and October 31. After each deadline, the review team will review applications to that point and allocate funds. The CCF webpage will be updated when the available funding has been expended.

Motion to accept report by John Hockley, 2nd by Eric Smith
All in favour, carried.

11. Business arising from the Sec/Treasurer report - None

12. Correspondence - None

13. Business arising from correspondence - None

14. Q&A

William Ellis brought up South East Bancroft large property was bought from Domtar. Over 16000 acres. John Hinton said most camps are allowed to stay with new agreement. No permanent camps. Can use a trailer but have to remove it at end of hunt.

Paul Goggan advised the Bancroft Fish and Game Club will have a one week youth program starting July 15. 16 youth applied that were 12 to 14 yrs old. 10 picked 5 girls 5 boys. They will write their Minors Licence and get the hunters course. And have guest speakers. Paul thanked OFAH for their donation of \$2000.

Hand gun discussion. Can only be transported from storage to range. Can not buy or sell one.

15. Next Zone E meeting August 28 via zoom

16. Larry Laycock Motion to adjourn, 2nd by William Ellis
All in favour - carried