

## **Birch Hills Sportsman Club Spring Meeting Minutes, May 5, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 and members were asked to join in with the pledge of allegiance. Members were also able to pick up an agenda, club financials and fall 2017 meeting minutes.

President Rachel recognized new members or first time meeting members which included (Harb and Michelle Lot 84, Craig Norris Lot 86), welcome!

13 members attended the workday today with most of the efforts spent removing the dead oak tree in the middle of food plot 1.2. Many thanks to Derick Girard (lot 35) who dropped the tree earlier in the day.

Guest speaker (Mark Janeczko – Hamilton Township Zoning Administrator/blight officer) spoke about lot isolation distances. The club bylaws rear setback is zero ft however the township is 25 ft. The club (Rick Whisler) is going to petition the township planning commission to recognize our club setback since the property is owned by the club. The township now has a camping ordinance and unfortunately, we had a couple of campers which were not in compliance. The township is working with them to resolve the situation.

Fall 2017 meeting minutes were handed out at the beginning of the meeting and were accepted as written.

Ron Vasich (lot 6/7) presented the treasures report. Income from badges was \$1,036 and the club spent \$4,932. The report included a list of all items purchased and who purchased them.

Current accounts are: Checking \$6,757 Savings \$8,594 Four CD's of \$11,931, \$3,562, \$2024 and \$19,271 for a club total of \$52,139. Financials were accepted and approved as written.

### **Old Business**

**Forest Management** – Michigan Lumber Co. completed the logging inside gate 3. The gate was reinstalled and the road surface leveled as per their contract. The logging was only for softwood and did not include oaks, evergreens, beech or sugar maples which resulted in revenue of \$21,200 for the club. Replanting of the area will be evaluated after a year to determine the extent of regrowth. A new potential food plot was identified and we will be getting costs to destump that area and then plant possibly this fall or next spring.

**Food Plots** – Wayne Jaynes (Lot 109) worked with Highland Forestry and Food Plots to get a quote for management of our plots. The two east side plots (2.1 and 2.2) were frost seeded with clover to improve their coverage. The west side food plots were limed and tilled, fertilized and seeded with rye for the spring/summer. This will be tilled under to improve the soil conditions and will be replanted in the fall with a “Killer Food Plot” blend. Total cost for the year is expected to be about \$3,100.

**Club Documents** – Todd worked with an attorney to evaluate the completeness of our by-laws and deed restrictions. Unfortunately, there are severe gaps in these due to changes in the laws. It was recommended by our attorney that we send out the most up to date documents to each member with a signed return document that they have been received by the current lot owner. This will allow the club to link the by-laws in the chain of title documents. 100% return is not required however that is our goal!!

**Information Boards** – These are located inside gates 1 and 2 and have been completed. Maps have been posted and members are welcome to post other information as well. We may create another board inside gate 3 in the future. The Plexiglas has blown off during some high winds so if you see it on the ground, please reinstall it. We'll work to resolve this in the future.

**Fruit and Chestnut Tree's-** Trees seem to be doing well and we expect to have some fruit this year. Thanks again to Randy Vasold for his continued care (fertilizer and insect treatments). Please contact Ron Vasich (Lot 6/7) to use the watering trailer if we get a dry spell this summer.

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### **New Business**

**Big Buck Contest** – The largest buck brought in to be measured was a 6 point taken on opening day of rifle season by Ray Pratt. A 9 point was also known to be taken during the archery season however the antlers were not brought in. Congratulations to Ray who was presented with a certificate and will receive two free badges at the fall meeting.

**New Food Plot 3.1** – The current budget has approximately \$3000 allocated for gas/trees which is not expected to be spent. It was proposed that these funds be used to destump the new food plot on the east side where the clear cut was done. An additional proposal was made to allocate an additional \$2000 for preparation and planting. Motion passed.

**BHSC Social Get Together** – The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Pot Luck dinner was held on June 9<sup>th</sup> and again was a huge success!! Thanks to all who were able to come out and enjoy the food and conversation!! Special thanks to those who did the grilling and for everyone who attended!!

**Badge Sales**- Badges can now be purchased from Bob Grignon (Lot 58) or Steve Graves (Lots 117, 118 & 119). Badge sales will also take place after the fall meeting.

**Officers**- Todd indicated that this will be his last year as President. Rick Whisler has agreed to be on the ballot for the president position however this vacates the Secretary position. If you know of someone who might be interested in filling this role, please have them attend the fall meeting.

**Meeting adjourned 7:53 PM**

**Thanks to all members and guests for attending!!!**

**Your email addresses are needed!!** The club spends approximately \$100 for each mailing (twice a year). In an effort to conserve our club money, we ask that every lot owner share their email address with the club if you have one. **All emails addresses are confidential** and are not shared outside the board of directors unless permission has been provided by the lot owner. If you have a new or updated email, please send a note to me at [hunter19301@yahoo.com](mailto:hunter19301@yahoo.com) so that we can send our meeting communications electronically. Thank you, Rick Whisler, Secretary (Lots 5 & 27)