

BPSA MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024



Quorum established at 17.2 members and with 20 members and two guests in our audience, **Vice President Kelly Lang** called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Secretary Dennis Morton moved to accept the recorded minutes of our last membership meeting of Nov 23rd, 2023; motion 2nded by Brenda McLean; motion carried.

Treasurer Jane Thibideau provided the Club members with a statement of our financial affairs. We have a Royal Bank account with a balance of \$25,120.13. Our working capital balance is \$18,015.80, as there are allocated funds of \$7,104.33 consisting of archery, \$270.00; fish stocking funds, \$465.00; youth shooting funds, \$150.00; Boot Scrubber funds, \$8,519.04; deer feeding funds, \$350.52; and hatchery capital funds of -\$2,650.23. The Ways and Means account balance is \$5,090.23. We still own 2 x \$15,000. Guaranteed investment certificates. Our income from Jan. 1, 2024 to Jan. 24, 2024 was \$17,674.06 (\$16,574.00 in 2024 membership dues) and our expenses for the same period were \$12,353.24 (\$5,265.00 for liability insurance – OFAH premium). Jane made a motion to accept her report; 2nded by Marje Beaver; carried.

Jane made a statement about our funds that remained in our **Boot Scrubber account** and she had audited the deposits to the account and determined that the balance of our account, namely \$8,519.04, could be placed in our General Funds account. She moved that the funds be so designated and the motion was 2nded by Stu Paterson; motion carried.

VP Kelly thanked Treasurer Jane for her excellent work on the cash handling for both the general funds of the BPSA and the Handgun Club funds, too. He invited the members to contemplate volunteering to be an assistant to the Treasurer, so that someone could learn the job.

Director Jerry Beaver reported on our membership. BPSA now has 224 members, of which 6 are life-time members. There are 63 gun-club members and 11 Archery Club members. Jerry was hoping that some of the 56 members who had not yet paid their 2024 dues would still renew their membership. He would send the members a reminder that dues were due by Jan.31st, 2024.

Hatchery manager, Al Sutter, provided a hatchery report. He reported that the brown trout in the hatchery from the spring hatch had been fin-clipped by member volunteers and he was asking for about 10-12 volunteers to stock them on Sunday, Jan.28th, 9 a.m. Show up at the hatchery that morning. We had a second set of brown trout eggs from the hatchery in Chatsworth later in the summer and the eggs have hatched and those fish are doing well. We still have some rainbow trout in the hatchery and we will keep them over the winter. Al has completed the statistical data for the hatchery to CHIP and MNR for 2023.

Handgun Club VP & BPSA director Kat McCulloch made a report for the Handgun Club. Their membership is 63 members. The handgun club has a bank balance of \$28,624.15. Kat mentioned that the Handgun Club has 21 shooters lined up for Ladies Sunday shooting

program, which will start on Sun., Jan.28th, at 6:30 pm. The Youth Firearms Safety program had been scheduled to start a week ago but was cancelled due to weather conditions and it will now run-on Jan.28th at 1 pm. Kat was pleased to announce that BPSA now was going to offer a .22 rifle program with shoots at our range on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month and the first shoot was already held and had a great turnout. Kat thanked Frank, Deb, and Brenda for their help in setting up the program.

Kat introduced two guests from Sydenham Sportsmen's Association in Owen Sound, Andy Crawford and Mike Thompson. They had come to the BPSA this evening to look at our gun-range and hatchery. Andy spoke to advise that he conducts PAL courses for SSA and he would be willing to assist our Club, too, to conduct the training. He left information with Kat on contact arrangements.

Kat thanked Ray Marklevitz and Wayne Musselman for their assistance in fixing the door sill plate on the clubhouse south door and he requested Ray to speak to the snow cleaning contractor to plow a single lane access along the walkway ramp; the HG club has a disabled person who needs to use the ramp to gain access to the clubhouse.

Archery Club chairperson, **Brenda McLean**, confirmed that the archery club will host an archery shoot during our Family Day open house on Feb.19th and she could use some volunteers to assist that day. She was appreciative that the BPSA was looking at obtaining an equipment storage area for archery supplies and targets.

Director Kat McCulloch confirmed that BPSA now had their new pamphlets promoting our Club and we could use them starting Feb.1st. They indicate that we are now members of OFAH.

Director Ray Marklevitz made a property report. He has ordered 120 fruit trees from Whiffletree Nursery for spring delivery. He indicated that he has orders already for 90 trees and there will be no limit on the number of trees that a member can order; price will be \$20/tree and it can be paid on the date that the trees are picked up at our site.

OFAH rep Stu Paterson gave a brief update on his activities with OFAH. He indicated that the Liberal government has passed a final vote in the Senate on the gun-control bill but there is a lot of public dissatisfaction with the bill. He indicated that the Canadian Wildlife Service is considering a sandhill crane hunting season for northern and central Ontario. Stu is working on an article for the Salmon Spectacular's 2024 magazine on how the CHIP program helps the 5 fish hatcheries in our region.

In "**Other Business**", the following items were discussed:

- BPSA has committed to a program for Family Day on February 19, 2024. The hours will be 11am to 2pm. We shall have a firearms display in the clubhouse; an archery shoot (weather permitting) in our yard; fish hatchery tours; Clayton Urbshott from Owen Sound will have a carving display in the hatchery clubroom; free hot dogs, hot chocolate, water and sodas for the public. Kat announced that the Bluewater Outdoor Education Centre was also doing an open house the same day and we were going to co-operate with them in promoting both events. We shall post sandwich boards in Wiarton business locations to announce the open house. Kat made a **motion** that BPSA reimburse Clayton Urbshott in the amount of \$150.00 to cover some of his expenses for that day; motion 2nded by Annette Musselman; carried.

- VP Kelly reminded the members that our Annual General Meeting was upcoming in March, 2024 and members should consider running for Executive and Board positions or volunteer for committee chairmanships.
- The Ways & Means committee had 6 items up for draw prizes this evening and Alison Gibson and Karen Thomas conducted the ticket draw and presented the items. Thanks to all.

A **motion** was made **to adjourn** the meeting by Kat McCulloch; 2nded by Charles Robertson; carried. The meeting ended at 8:22 p.m.