

Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Board Meeting Minutes

16 April 2012

Reported by: Scott Brumbaugh

- **Opening Information**

- Attendance:

- Scott Brumbaugh

Rick Van Horn

Jim Purtell

Chris Haser

Judi Sittler

Bob Donaldson

Bill Voigt

Bob Vierck

- Board Meeting called to order by Sittler @ 1901
 - Review of old minutes
 - Amendments: Haser corrected the youth fly fishing note from last meeting where Brusse couldn't read his notes.
 - Old minutes approved as amended
 - Motion: Van Horn

Second: Purtell

- **Treasurer's Report (Van Horn reporting)**

- Chapter's net worth = \$56717.92

Corrections: On March 5th, only 1 hat was sold (not 2X) for \$20

Most financial activity was related to the banquet. The final number for the banquet is not available yet due to some still outstanding expenses.

- Treasurer's Report Approval
 - Motion to approve: Haser

Second: Purtell

- **Old Business**

- George Harvey / Tony Gerace Memorials (Donaldson reporting)
 - Donaldson continues to work with Katie Ombalski, Spring Riley Younkin, and Joe Humphreys on the memorials.

Donaldson hopes that both awards can be presented at the upcoming (June 2nd) Spring Creek Day.

- Sittler reports that we got a thank you note from Clearwater for the Legends donation.

Arbor Day, Bill Voigt reports:

- SCTU plans to provide a booth at the PSU Arbor Day event

The event is April 27, 2012 @ the PSU Arboretum

Setup is @ 0830

Fly tying, bug identification, casting, and knot tying will be covered. The audience is expected to be ~ 300 school kids (5th and 6th grade). PSU mandates that the booth / program should last 30 minutes per group.

Bill Voigt, Bill's brother, Judi Sittler, and Dan Kerstetter will man the event for SCTU. Bill is looking for 1 more volunteer.

- SCTU meet / greet events (Sittler and Voigt reporting)
 - Sittler went to the Outdoor Expo on Allen St (4/14/12). The event was sponsored by Appalachian Outdoors.

Sittler and Voigt represented SCTU at Earth Day in Millbrook Marsh on 4/15/12.

Sittler stated that she would like to have more involvement from various members at the public meet / greet events.

- Watershed Clean-Up Day (Haser reporting)
 - The event is 4/21/12 (Saturday) at 0830. The two locations are the Rock and McCoy Dam.

We currently have 17 volunteers.

Haser will pick up supplies (bags + gloves) from Clearwater for the event.

- Rotary Club (Sittler reporting)
 - Sittler presented last month to the Rotary Club regarding a request for donation for Trout Camp Equipment

Sandwiches are sold by the Rotary Club in September. We would just sell the tickets, and the Rotary Club would make the sandwiches.

The board not to participate in the sandwich sale because the profits would not go to SCTU (they go to the Rotary Club).

- **New Business**

- Steak Fry (Sittler reporting):
 - Date: June 9, 2012

The smaller pavilion (on the western / southern side of the creek) in Spring Creek Park has been reserved for 2-6 hours

We are not allowed to set up the chapter canopy, per CRPR

Insurance is required to cover CRPR & College Township for the event (in case SCTU and CRPR/College Township gets sued during the event). Van Horn will call TU national to inquire about the insurance policy. Judi will recheck with CRPR to understand the requirements.

- Titan Energy Park
 - Titan Energy Park is the old Cerro Plant along the Logan Branch.

Titan Energy was recently in the news by the CDT because a pipe was observed to stick out from the facility, and drain fluid into Logan Branch. It turns out that this pipe was just a drain from a DEP clean-up project, and the water draining from the pipe into Logan Branch is clean.

Sittler received 2 inquires about the building – one via Facebook and one from the CDT.

The building is an industrial incubator for marcellus shale industries.

The building **may** be used in the future to treat frack fluids. We don't know.

In response to the possibility of discharging treated frack water into Logan Branch, Brumbaugh will look into the next Coldwater Conservation Corps (PATU sponsored) training session for water pollution training. Brumbaugh and Haser have interest in attending the next “local” training.

The group adopted a response to the incubator “DEP is monitoring the site, and until something happens we have no comment.”

- Spring Creek Family Festival
 - The event is held at Millbrook Marsh on June 2nd, 2012.

This year is SCTU's turn to nominate the winner of the George Harvey Spring Creek Heritage Award, because Clearwater chose last year's recipient. SCTU plans to nominate Dan Shields.

- Bellefonte Big Spring Festival

- This festival involves stocking fish into Spring Creek at the Bellefonte Exhibition area. The stocking of fish is sponsored by Stocker Chevrolet.

Brumbaugh presented information regarding PATU Council information on stocking fish into wild trout waters: in effect, PATU Council prohibits stocking fish into sustainable wild trout streams. Reference PA Council of Trout Unlimited P9 Policy on Trout Management; September 2007 (Policy #4).

Brumbaugh contacted PFBC via Jason Detar. Detar confirmed that stocking of fish into Class A wild trout fisheries is illegal in Pennsylvania. Detar stated that the entire length of Spring Creek is a Class A wild trout fishery EXCEPT the Bellefonte Exhibition Area, and this is why the stocked fish in the exhibition area are not illegal.

Donaldson presented information regarding previous chapter involvement in the festival and stocking activities.

The board members decided that SCTU will not participate in the event due to the fish stocking activities.

Haser moves: Contact PAFBC (Detar) and ask PAFBC to inspect the fish hatchery that the fish stocked into Spring Creek originate from (believed to be the Elk Creek hatchery this year).

Additionally, ask PAFBC to take action to mitigate any potential problems.

- Second: Brumbaugh
 - Habitat / Conservation Report: Bob Vierck reports:
 - The grant for the Milesburg habitat project was submitted to WHM.

A visit with Allegheny Power to the stream will occur.

Joe Boston has volunteered to continue consulting with us on this project.

Vierck reports that he met with Paul Bartley (Milesburg mayor and Bald Eagle Watershed president), and Mr. Bartley is supportive of the project.

It was agreed to remove Bill Brusse from the SCTU credit card account and replace him with Bob Vierck resulting from Vierck's involvement in the Milesburg stream restoration project.

Vierck is planning to apply for additional grants. He plans to leverage off of the LJRA personnel experiences (Joe Boston) to help effectively guide this project.

- Watershed Watch Report (Donaldson reports)
 - 2nd Mile property on Bernel Rd: Inadequate sedimentation controls was initially left in place after the project was excavated. However, sedimentation controls have since been installed, and it is believed that the property is now within compliance. Seeding is currently underway on the property.

The site does eventually feed into Spring Creek via Buffalo Run.

Donaldson will look at the storm sewer protection the next time he drives past the property.

- Banquet committee (Purtell reports)
 - Next year's banquet is April 6, 2013. There are no conflicts that we know of (Grouse or Penns Creek TU) on that date.

Jim said that the banquet was successful. We made a little less money this year, but also spent a little less money.

- Education (Sittler reports)
 - Ron Evans donated his \$500 gift certificate, that he won at the SCTU banquet, to purchase rods for the youth education program.

Cub Scout / Girl Scout Troop Education

- Jim Strauss is putting together a program for the

Girl Scouts at TBD date

- Haser suggested that the Cub Scouts are too young to do fly fishing. We should consider conventional fishing/casting in place of fly fishing at future seminars.

Brumbaugh was contacted by another Cub Scout Pack regarding a session. Brumbaugh will interface with the Pack to setup a date / venue.

- Centre Gives (Sittler Reports)

- A 36 hour online fund raising event on 6/27/12 – 6/28/12 via the Centre County Community Foundation

Centre County Community Foundation will provide matching funds for every dollar donated (up to the \$100K Foundation wide limit, after the limit is reached, the matching funds are prorated).

It is NOT necessary to have an endowment in the Foundation to receive the donations.

Sittler will look into the application process to apply for the event

- Other fund raising

- The group discussed the possibility of providing fly fishing or fly tying lessons as a fundraiser

The idea of a fly fishing exhibit / show was also discussed

- **Closing Information**

- Adjourned at 2110

Motion: Haser

Second: Purtell

- **Action Item Summary:**

- Sittler to seek clarification regarding CRPR/College Township insurance requirements regarding the Steak Fry @ Spring Creek Park.

Van Horn to check with TU national regarding insurance coverage for SCTU, CRPR, and College Township regarding the steak fry.

Brumbaugh to check with Mitchell Blake regarding upcoming Coldwater Conservation Corps training events.

Brumbaugh to discuss potential days for the new Cub Scout fishing seminar with the interested den leaders.

Haser to contact Jason Detar, PFBC, and request that PFBC monitor/survey/approve the fish hatchery that is used to stock fish into the Spring Creek Exhibition area. Additionally, Haser will request that PFBC take any and all actions to mitigate potential harm/disease of the stocked fish into Spring Creek.

Sittler to pursue application process for the Centre Day of Giving.