

Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Board Meeting Minutes

14 October 2013

Reported by: Scott Brumbaugh

- **Opening Information**

- Attendance:
 - Scott Brumbaugh
 - Paula Sowers
 - Judi Sittler
 - Rick Van Horn
 - Bob Donaldson
 - Bill Voigt
 - Guest: Bill Brusse
 - Guest: Bob Eberhart
 - Guest: Ann Donovan
 - Guest: Jim Lanning
- Board Meeting called to order by Sittler @ 1905
- Review of old minutes
 - Amendments: Comments from Sittler per email
 - Old minutes approved as amended
 - Motion: Donaldson
 - Second: Van Horn

- **Treasurer's Report**

- Chapter's net worth = \$75034.19
- Corrections: NONE
- Treasurer's Report Approval
 - Motion to approve: Brumbaugh
 - Second: Voigt

- **Old Business**

- Review of Action Items:
 - Donaldson will contact DEP to inquire about the permitting progress and if SCTU can be invited to future DEP/PFBC/Graymont meetings.
 - DONE. Donaldson spoke with Mike Smith.
 - Brumbaugh will contact Graymont regarding current status in the permitting process.
 - DONE. A meeting was held between Graymont, PFBC, and SCTU was held on 10/11/13.
 - Brumbaugh will contact Mark Hanes about obtaining a conductivity monitor for Logan Branch (would replace the temporary WRMP conductivity monitor).
 - DONE. No response yet.
 - Donaldson will contact SEC to see if they would be willing to monitor the new conductivity monitor on Logan Branch.
 - DONE. PASEC chair is currently out of town, so a meeting will be held when he returns (date = ?).

- Donaldson will discuss the “walleye pond” NPDES renewal issue with Brian Niewinski.
 - DONE.
- Walleye Pond discharge & NPDES
 - A meeting was held on September 25 between SCTU and PFBC. Brian Niewinski (PFBC), Chuck Hager (PFBC), Judi Sittler, Bob Donaldson, and Bob Vierck attended.
 - PFBC diverts water out of Spring Creek and warms the water in the ponds to raise walleye. The ponds are located in Spring Creek Canyon. There are 3 hatchery ponds + 1X heating pond. Water is (now) only discharged from the lower pond #3 hatchery.
 - PFBC again stated that they would be willing to measure input and outlet water temperatures to the ponds. This statement was made last year, but without follow through from PFBC.
 - Donaldson will prepare a memorandum of understanding to sign between PFBC and SCTU to state the PFBC will monitor water temperature (inlet, outlet, etc) and detail a possible grant relationship in the case that remediation is needed.
- **New Business**
 - Centre County Community Foundation meeting is scheduled for October 29. Sittler, Van Horn, and Dick Stevenson will attend. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss how to encourage people to contribute to the endowment.
 - Slab Cabin run regarding High Quality Coldwater Fisheries (HQ-CWF) designation
 - PFBC recently designated Slab Cabin Run as a Class A Wild Trout Fishery, thus nominating the stream for HQ-CWF consideration.
 - DEP states that sewage discharges (no matter how well treated) cannot be made to HQ-CWF streams unless no other cost-effective alternatives exist.
 - UAJA is concerned that a HQ-CWF designation to Slab Cabin will adversely effect future 'beneficial reuse water' discharges to Slab Cabin Run.
 - Brusse made a suggestion that the chapter should make a statement about Slab Cabin Run, and the Class A / HQ-CWF designation.
 - Brumbaugh made a motion, and Sowers seconded the motion.
 - The statement shall read:

“Spring Creek Trout Unlimited is supportive of the scientific study conducted by the PFBC to designate Slab Cabin Run as a Class A Wild Trout Water. We feel that the stream is a valuable asset to the local community as a coldwater resource, and is worthy of consideration by the DEP for High Quality Coldwater Fishery protection. However, we recognize that a possible High Quality Coldwater Fishery designation by the DEP could have significant, unintended impacts on both the stream and the larger community. We look forward to working with the DEP, and all local stakeholders, to reach a common sense solution that protects Slab Cabin Run and meets the municipal needs of the community.”
 - The statement was passed unanimously.
 - Duck Pond / Thompson Run
 - There will be a meeting with Bob Cooper (PSU) and Larry Fennessey (PSU) on 10/17/13 to ask PSU what the future plans of the Duck Pond are. Donaldson and Sittler will attend.

- HB1576
 - Brumbaugh is working on a letter to oppose the Bill, and Brumbaugh is working with Katy Dunlap to gather information.
- Membership Committee (Sowers)
 - 2 new people joined, but the chapter lost 18 members.
 - SCTU won the “greatest membership increase” award for 2013 from PATU
- Milesburg Tree Planting (Lanning)
 - The Milesburg Tree Planting will be held on October 30 and 31 at the Milesburg Community Park.
- Watershed Watch (Donaldson)
 - The Oak Hall Regional Park had erosion problems earlier this summer, but the problems have since been addressed.
- Graymont meeting
 - A meeting with PFBC, Graymont, and SCTU was held on 10/11/13. Donaldson, Carline, and Brumbaugh attended.
 - Graymont presented various temperature data from their discharge pipe.
- **Closing Information**
 - Adjourned at 2056
 - Motion: Donaldson
 - Second: Van Horn
- **Action Item Summary:**
 - Donaldson will prepare a memorandum of understanding to sign between PFBC and SCTU to state the PFBC will monitor water temperature (inlet, outlet, etc) and detail a possible grant relationship in the case that remediation is needed.
 - Brumbaugh will draft a letter in opposition to HB1576.