

Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: 5 October, 2015

Reported by: Scott Brumbaugh

- Meeting called to order by Bob Vierck at 1905.
- Attendance:
 - Bob Vierck
 - Scott Brumbaugh
 - Rick Van Horn
 - Judi Sittler
 - Dave Dudukovich
 - Ed Zweig
 - Paula Sowers
 - Jim Lanning
 - Jim George
- Review of Secretary's Minutes
 - Amendments: per various emails
 - Motion to Approve: Dudukovich
 - Second: Sittler
- Review of Treasurer's Report
 - Amendments: NONE
 - Discussion:
 - Net worth (end of FY2015) = \$58929.38
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 - Motion to Approve: Sittler
 - Second: Sowers
- Old Business
 - Action Item Review:
 - Van Horn needs volunteer man hours.
 - Vierck and Lanning are still outstanding
 - Rental unit for equipment / paperwork.
 - This is still on hold while the Bellefonte storage building is still under construction.
- New Business
 - Membership Committee (Sowers)
 - Paula would like to extend letters to members whose memberships are expiring. The letter would just say that we value the member and would like them to stay.
 - Paula asked that someone take digital photos at any SCTU events they are at (especially if Bob, Paula, and Judi are not present).

- New TU logo: National TU created a new logo for TU. They have offered “technical help” in adding the Chapter name to the new logo.
 - The next newsletter is in publication.
 - Sowers will ask for board membership volunteers.
 - Sowers will specifically query for interest in a new Treasurer to replace the retiring Van Horn.
 - Sowers asked individual committees if they would like to request for volunteers.
 - Vierck presented a concept to create a “Trout Trails” map to highlight local streams and fishing spots. Vierck notionally discussed the concept the Penns Creek TU. The brochures would serve as an outreach tool.
 - Sowers and Vierck will pursue creating a “Trout Trails” brochure. They will talk to local organizations (Visitor’s Center, etc) about potentially splitting the cost.
 - Sowers presented an idea to purchase SCCTU logo’d T-shirts.
 - The idea received support from the board.
 - Sowers and Pencak will approach Collegiate Pride about making some SCCTU T-shirts.
- Social Committee (Pencak via report)
 - Pencak is exploring the idea of just making the December general membership meeting the Holiday Meeting. The tentative date is Friday 12/4/15.
 - Pencak is also exploring the idea of just making the June general membership meeting an outing / picnic.
 - Dudukovich met a guide in Alaska that might be willing to give a presentation to the Chapter. Van Horn suggested that Kirk Hoover used to be a guide in Alaska.
- Conservation (Vierck)
 - The final NFWF report has been submitted.
 - Bellefonte Flood Wall:
 - The flood wall overhang height problem has been corrected by breaking the overhang into 3 sections.
 - The 4 log vane deflectors have been installed, which required replacing the improperly short logs with longer logs.
 - In-stream boulders will be placed in Spring 2016.
 - Site stewardship:
 - Fisherman’s Paradise maintenance is going well.
 - Planting will be accomplished at Milesburg in Spring 2016.
 - An agreement with the railroad has been reached to allow access to Spring Creek (Bellefonte to Milesburg stretch) via their property.
 - A brown trout redd survey will be conducted November 22 – 25, 2015.
 - Vierck is in preliminary discussion with CRPR to do a project at Spring Creek Park.

- Dudukovich recommended that this in-stream project could potentially be paid for via the Bid-For-A-Cause auction.
- Legislation and Permitting (Brumbaugh)
 - Summary of activity over the summer:
 - PFBC approved the dissolution of Brook Trout Enhancement Waters. PFBC had an agenda item for the 9/28/15 Commissioner's Meeting to make the former 'Brook Trout Enhancement' Kettle Creek waters Catch and Release.
 - SCCTU recently submitted comments to PFBC regarding the most recent proposed additions to Wild Trout and Class A Wild Trout Waters.
 - The Harvest Fields Church construction was monitored over the summer. Significant erosion was observed. It appears the sediment flowed through the holding pond, and made it to Spring Creek. Centre County Conservation District stated that their could not be a problem because a sediment pond existed. The problem is not as bad now, but still appears to be a problem. Brumbaugh and Vierck will pursue discussing the matter further with Centre County Conservation District.
 - At the National TU meeting, John Arway (PFBC) suggested it might be possible for PFBC to hold informal meetings w/ TU on a recurring basis. These meetings would be regularly scheduled, before issues arise. Vierck will be meeting with PATU EXCOMM regarding the meetings with PFBC.
 - PATU has requested SCCTU to write letters to support \$1M in funding to be allocated to PFBC to do enforcement of natural gas development permitting. The funding would come from some type of severance tax from natural gas drilling.
 - The board decided NOT to forward this to general membership because the timeframe was too short and there was not enough.
- Banquet Committee (Dudukovich)
 - Dudukovich and Mitchell talked about trying to get an early jump on corporate sponsors.
 - The banquet date will be March 26, 2016.
- Education / Youth (Sittler)
 - There is an upcoming TIC packing event for fish food and fish eggs.
 - PATU sent 30 raffle tickets for SCCTU to sell. The raffle tickets support the TIC program.
- VSP (Lanning)
 - The program will be moving to the winter schedule in January.
 - VSP is in the process of posting pamphlets and posters at a variety of public locations.

- Lanning is in communication with a group of Army veterans who may want to have a group fishing day for approximately 100 people. This is not confirmed yet, and the date is TBD.
 - Financial Development (Vierck)
 - The endowment is currently valued at approximately \$19K. We are currently setup to have the interest earned to be re-invested in the principle.
 - Recognition
 - Judi Sittler won the national TU award for “Distinguished Service Award for Youth Education”.
 - Outgoing Funding Requests
 - Rivers Conservation Camp: The camp lost a \$5K funding source this year, and has asked the PA chapters to donate \$500 to help make up the funding loss. The funding loss was due to the sale of a local business. The camp hopes to secure a more permanent funding source in the future.
 - Vierck made a motion to donate \$500 to the Rivers Conservation Camp.
 - Second: Dudukovich
 - Discussion: The funding for the \$500 will come out of the Youth Camp Support line item (\$500 budgeted for this line).
 - The motion passed unanimously.
 - Keystone Coldwater Conference
 - The conference asked for a \$100 donation from each PATU chapter to cover the cost of a youth tuition.
 - Motion to make a \$100 donation to Keystone Coldwater Conference: Lanning
 - Second: Sowers
 - The money will be taken out of the ‘marketing’ account.
 - The motion passed.
 - A PSU class sent a request \$200 donation to cover mailing costs for sending a survey to homeowners along Spring Creek.
 - The survey tests homeowner knowledge of the Spring Creek watershed.
 - This item was tabled.
 - Strategic Plan
 - Bob suggested: we should consider a separate meeting, and potentially consider a ‘facilitator’.
 - National TU Communication (Van Horn)
 - Van Horn discussed several new rules promulgated by National TU in the latest ‘Lines to Leaders.’
 - Meeting adjournment:
 - Adjourned by Verick @ 2123
 - Motion: Dudukovich
 - Second: Lanning

- Action Items:
 - Sowers and Pencak will approach Collegiate Pride about making some SCCTU T-shirts.
 - Brumbaugh will make a 'picture story' about the Harvest Fields site and the erosion problem.
 - Dudukovich will schedule a meeting with Sowers and Vierck to write a donation request later for the banquet.
 - Sittler will email Sowers the TIC packing dates.
 - Vierck will setup a separate meeting for 'strategic planning.'
 - Brumbaugh and Vierck will read the new National TU rules promulgated in 'Lines to Leaders'.