

Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: 11 January 2016

Reported by: Scott Brumbaugh

- Meeting called to order by Sowers at 1908
- Attendance:
 - Paula Sowers
 - Dave Dudukovich
 - Jim George
 - Mario Carrello
 - Judi Sittler
 - Jim Lanning
 - Scott Brumbaugh
 - Mark Pencak
- Review of Secretary's Minutes
 - Amendments: Change spelling of Carrello and Sywensky
 - Motion to Approve: Lanning
 - Second: Dudukovich
- Review of Treasurer's Report
 - Chapter net worth = \$61452.85 (checking, habitat, CD)
 - Amendments:
 - Future Treasurer's reports will remove the Tony Gerace Habitat Projects line item. The line item is OBE, and can be removed.
 - Future Treasurer's reports will remove "PA TU Council" from the current "PA TU Council / Trout in the Classroom" line item. The line item will now read "Trout in the Classroom" because adding "PATU" just makes it confusing.
 - Motion to Approve: Brumbaugh
 - Second: Sittler
- Old Business
 - Action Item Review:
 - Vierck will follow-up with Jeff Yates (national TU) regarding "Financial and Property Controls": term limits on officers, not reporting to the police, and how National TU will enforce.
 - Vierck spoke with Jeff Yates and Bev Smith (national TU). They informed Vierck that a tutorial was available online.
 - Vierck and Carrello took the tutorial. The following points are a summary of the tutorial.
 - Term limits: These are only recommendations from national TU and not strict requirements. SCCTU does not currently plan to change our term limits.

- Signature on dual checks: This is only a recommendation and not a strict requirement. SCCTU does not plan to change our signature requirements.
 - Assistant Treasurer: This does not have to be setup as a new position. It should be a member of the BOD that does not have check signing authority. The position would review the monthly bank statement to ensure the Treasurer's reports are accurate. It is suggested that this could be the immediate past president or Secretary (if the Secretary's check signing authority is terminated).
 - Clause to pay off the credit card: This is a recommendation and not a requirement.
 - Credit limit: This is a best management practice. The credit limit was changed from \$31K aggregate to \$20K aggregate. The individual limits were lowered to \$7k for the Treasurer, \$5K for the banquet chair, \$5K for the president, and \$3K for the vice president.
 - Theft reporting: We should just try to involve national TU as early as possible. They do not preclude us from contacting law enforcement.
- Sowers and Pencak will approach Collegiate Pride about making some SCCTU T-shirts (carry-over from last month).
 - Sowers received the new logos, but has not been able to contact Collegiate Pride.
 - Dudukovich will schedule a meeting with Sowers and Vierck to write a donation request later for the banquet (carry over from last month).
 - DONE.
 - Pencak will follow-up with the PSU Fly Fishing Club regarding the February general membership meeting.
 - Pencak was able to contact the PSU FF Club, and they are still prepared to present on 4 February. SCCTU will donate \$100 to the PSU FF Club (from the general membership meetings line item).
 - Brumbaugh will research Logan Branch macro-invertebrate studies on Logan Branch
 - There is not a lot of progress on this. It does not appear that macro-invertebrate populations is a MUST for HQ-CWF classification by PA DEP.
 - Brumbaugh and/or Vierck will contact Brian Wagner (PATU) about the PFBC Trout Management plan.
 - Done. PATU wrote a minimal letter, with no criticism of the PFBC plan. SCCTU chose to abstain from the comment process.

- Mitchell will contact the Ramada to change the banquet to Saturday, March 12, 2016 at the Ramada.
 - The new date is now April 16, 2016 at Mountain View Country Club.
 - Zweig will speak with Steve Sywenksy at FFP to ask if FFP will be willing to donate a premium prize to the banquet.
 - The premium prize is a Helios 2 10' 4WT fly rod.
- Carrello and Vierck spoke with the Centre Gives Foundation
 - It is relatively easy for SCCTU to withdraw the earned interest from our account. It is more difficult, and we would need a good reason, to withdraw principal.
 - The Centre Gives Foundation charges 2% of the account value in fees. This covers brokerage fees and administration fees.
 - It is noteworthy that this is 1% higher than the normal 1% fee. But, that extra cost “buys” us fundraising opportunity (online Centre Gives event). So far, the online Centre Gives fundraising benefit has dwarfed the “1% extra cost”, so this is seen as a “good investment”.
 - Carello and Vierck asked for account statements. Carello believes that we will receive annual statements every February. We would like to receive more frequent statements, as we have no current way of knowing when someone donates to the endowment.
- New Business
 - Officers Election
 - Each officer position is a 2 year term.
 - Brumbaugh nominates the following:
 - Bob Vierck for President. Vierck wishes to only be president for a 1 year term only (not the full 2 year term).
 - Paula Sowers for Vice President
 - Mario Carrello for Treasurer
 - Scott Brumbaugh for Secretary
 - Second: Dudukovich
 - The officers were approved unanimously.
 - A motion was made to create a position of “Assistant Treasurer”. The position will be filled by the immediate past-president.
 - The motion was made by Brumbaugh.
 - Dudukovich seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed unanimously.
 - Membership and Public Relations (Sowers)
 - Sowers and Vierck are working on establishing a new periodic timeframe for publishing the newsletter.
 - Sowers asked for help from the BOD in submitting items for the newsletters.
 - Sowers asked for opinions on how often emails should be sent to the membership. No consensus was reached.
 - Strategic Plan (Sowers)

- Vierck and Sowers met with Ford Stryker on 12/23/15. Ford Stryker will be the prime consultant, and Sue Cromwell will be a consultant
 - A survey is being designed to send out to the Chapter membership to obtain their opinions.
 - Draft schedule:
 - Survey and results compilation: March / April 2016
 - Meetings: offsite meeting June 4th (Saturday) and June 6th board meeting
 - Presentation to the membership: July / September 2016
- Social Committee (Pencak)
 - PSU Fly Fishing club will be the next general membership meeting on 4 February
 - The June meeting (June 12th) will be the 'Get Outdoors' event at Tussey Mountain.
- Conservation (Vierck)
 - Vierck and Tyler Neimond (PFBC) will present a paper at the Keystone Coldwater Conference "Aggressive Partnering to Leverage Stream Habitat Improvements".
 - Vierck will be meeting with PFBC (Tyler) on 29 January to identify potential 2016 stream improvement projects. Additionally, projects and grants for projects in 2017 – 2020 will be discussed.
 - A meeting on TBD will be held for the "Spring Creek Site Stewards".
 - A D&M bushwhacker was donated by Jim Lanning.
 - Citizen Science: Joe Boston is leading a project to quantify the impacts of stream improvement projects on macro invertebrates in Spring Creek.
- Legislation and Permitting (Brumbaugh)
 - Benner Township will revisit their zoning ordinance changes starting this Thursday (1/14/16). Brumbaugh and/or Sowers will attend the planning commission meetings regarding the zoning changes.
- Banquet Committee (Dudukovich)
 - Bid for a Cause Decision: Trout in the Classroom will be the 'Bid for a Cause' this year.
 - Nominations are needed for this year's Order of the Sulfur.
 - Tammy Miller will again be the auctioneer.
 - Banquet date is 16 April 2016 at Mountain View Country Club.
 - The Banquet Committee is considering obtaining a 'Square' for credit card transactions via the I-Phone (2.75% fee).
 - It costs \$450 to obtain our own USPS bulk mail license. However, we may be able to use other local organizations' bulk mail license. Dudukovich is researching this.
 - Carrello researched credit card charging options for the banquet.
 - In previous years, we have used First National Bank.

- The I-phone Square may be a viable option, but more research is needed.
 - Sowers is working on the letters for the vendors. General membership letters will go out 6 weeks before the banquet.
 - Out year dates:
 - 2017 = Saturday March 25th at the Ramada
 - 2018 = Saturday March 24th at the Ramada
 - 2019 = Saturday March 23rd at the Ramada
 - These data were approved and will be reserved.
- Community Outreach and Youth Education (Sittler)
 - The 'Get Outdoors' picnic will be held June 12th at Tussey Mountain. Due to a scheduling mistake by Tussey Mountain, the pavilion will be provided to SCCTU for free.
 - Sittler plans to talk to the PSU Fly Fishing Club (when they come to the general membership meeting on 4 February) about having the PSU Fly Fishing Club join the TU "5 Rivers Club" program.
 - Sittler is researching the TU Child Protection standards.
 - The Duck Pond Plaque was completed and installed at the Duck Pond. A dedication will be held in the Spring.
- VSP (Lanning)
 - Jim Lanning was appointed to the National TU Veteran's Service Partnership Advisory Committee.
 - A new flyer with the winter VSP schedule was created.
 - YMCA raised \$63 for the SCCTU VSP account.
 - Lanning suggested that anyone who wants to post a VSP poster can get one from him.
- Financial Development (Sittler / Vierck)
 - Submitted Watershed Mini Grant program on 18 December for organizational and promotional outreach. Applied for \$1998 to cover some costs of Get Outdoors Family Fishing Picnic.
- Meeting adjournment: 2115
 - Adjourned by Vierck at
 - Motion: Sittler
 - Second: George
- Action Items:
 - Sowers and Carrello will confer with Vierck regarding what the "approved budget" column represents for the TIC and VSP line items. This will be reviewed at the next board meeting.
 - Sowers and Pencak will approach Collegiate Pride about making some SCCTU T-shirts (carry-over from last month).
 - Jim George will approach a local guide to obtain a fly pattern article for the newsletter.