

# Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

## Board Meeting Minutes

### 15 October 2012

Reported by: Scott Brumbaugh

- **Opening Information**

- Attendance:
  - Scott Brumbaugh
  - Bob Donaldson
  - Chris Haser
  - Rick Van Horn
  - Bill Brusse
  - Judi Sittler
  - Bob Vierck
  - Fiona Stewart
  - Jim Purtell
  - Guest = Bob Carline
- Board Meeting called to order by Sittler @ 1859
- Review of old minutes
  - Amendments: NONE
  - Old minutes approved as amended
    - Motion: Haser
    - Second: Van Horn

- **Treasurer's Report**

- Chapter's net worth = \$52252.76
- Corrections: NONE
- \$5K was moved from checking to the CD
- \$2.5K was paid to Clearwater for the water monitoring project
- Treasurer's Report Approval
  - Motion to approve: Vierck
  - Second: Haser

- **Old Business**

- Action Item Review
  - Brumbaugh will contact John Maitland re future stream restoration projects.
    - DONE: Brumbaugh wrote Maitland an email with CC to Vierck. Email stated that we will be in touch with Graymont after Vierck meets with PFBC in October 2012.
  - Chris Hennessey will generate an email to the membership regarding maintenance of existing stream restoration project (per Ombalski request).
    - DONE via 10/15/12 Tertiary Treatment newsletter.
  - Hennessey will place an advertisement in the next newsletter to request banquet committee volunteers.
    - DONE via 10/15/12 Tertiary Treatment newsletter.

- **New Business**

- SCTU won the \$200 raffle from the PATU Trout in the Classroom raffle. The prize was received by Van Horn.
- A new Centre County Foundation grant is available
  - The grant awards are usually ~\$3.2K.
  - Judi proposes to use the funds to help educate landowners regarding proper streamside maintenance. This would involve purchasing / distributing TU's "My Healthy Stream" books and holding seminars for the landowners in Lemont / Houserville.
    - The TU books cost \$3 each.
- Existing Stream Improvement Maintenance (per Ombalski request at 9/17/12 meeting)
  - Sheep Farm Buffer Maintenance
    - On October 7<sup>th</sup> the PSU Wildlife society and Sittler, Bill Voigt, and Jim Voigt removed the mesh guards around the trees.
    - Bill Voigt and Jim Voigt volunteered to be the streamside steward in the PSU Sheep Farm Section.
  - Spring Creek Park
    - Bill Brusse will speak with Centre Parks and Recreation regarding maintenance of the stream improvements in Spring Creek Park.
  - Rte 550
    - Haser and Art Kempf conducted maintenance at the 550 site.
- Membership Committee (Stewart)
  - 22 new members from September
  - Stewart suggested that we could add a PSU student to the SCTU board. The idea would be to use the student to recruit student volunteers at future projects.
  - The board suggested that someone from the PSU Fly Fishing Club could be nominated to the SCTU board
  - Stewart will email Greg Hoover regarding the desire to add a student from the PSU Fly Fishing Board to the SCTU board.
- Sittler picked up the \$1K check from First Energy to support the stream restoration project at Milesburg.
- Insurance (Sittler)
  - Rick Van Horn already sent in the renewal fee for the basic accidental death and dismemberment insurance.
  - A separate General Liability insurance is available and in place from national TU.
  - At this time, SCTU does not want to pursue additional accidental death and dismemberment insurance.
- Potential SCTU retention of an attorney (Donaldson)
  - Donaldson suggested that we could try to recruit SCTU members or "friends of SCTU" who are lawyers to provide pro bono advice to the Chapter. This is not to provide general counsel to the chapter, just answer questions on an as-needed basis.
  - Potential attorneys, who may be sympathetic to SCTU, were suggested:
    - Dick Campbell
    - Traci Benson
    - Doug Chester
  - Brusse will draft an "attorney request" letter to be included in the list-serve (or newsletter) that asks if any members can provide pro bono legal advice. Brusse will send the letter to Judi for approval.
- PA Games of Chance Laws (Vierck, Sittler)

- PA Trout provided a presentation at the state council meeting regarding games of chance (raffles, etc)
  - 50/50 raffles cannot be conducted.
  - Silent auction and open auction is fine as-is.
  - Bucket raffle may be legal, but may require modification.
  - Sittler will give Purtell Samantha Kutschell's contact info. Purtell will contact Samantha with specific questions.
- Watershed Watch (Donaldson)
  - Donaldson asked if SCTU would be interested in requesting the Centre County Pennsylvania Senior Environmental Corps (SEC) to increase water quality monitoring on Logan Branch. The SEC is part of Clearwater Conservancy.
  - The Water Resource Monitoring Project has taken recent samples from Logan Branch. Carline suggested that we wait to see the results of the recent tests.
  - Carline suggested that Donaldson contact PASEC and the Water Resource Monitoring Project to have a meeting regarding increased water monitoring on Logan Branch.
  - A site in Boalsburg was reported to be generating mud, but Donaldson was not able to verify it.
- Habitat / NFWF Grant (Vierck)
  - Vierck believes one of the PFBC Operations guys will help SCTU with coordinating contracts etc. on the upcoming improvement projects (Milesburg, Paradise, Rock Rd, Oak Hall).
  - A meeting with PFBC regarding the stream improvement projects is upcoming in the next month.
  - Donaldson suggested that SCTU Brian Niewinski regarding the Rock Rd. parking lot project. Brian is part of the TAG, which controls all projects in the Spring Creek Canyon.
- Trout Camp (Bob Carline)
  - A meeting between Hennessey, Carline, Sittler, and Molly Hetrick (CRPR) was held.
  - Parks and Recreation goals: learn a new skill, be fun, and be affordable
  - SCTU goals: be fun, be affordable, and learn some conservation principles
  - Friction exists between the SCTU and Parks & Rec objectives.
  - Hetrick suggested that SCTU take a break from supporting/sponsoring the Trout camp for a year (2013). Parks and Rec would then continue the program without conservation included in the curriculum.
  - Hetrick suggested that it would be possible for us to create a new conservation class/seminar.
  - The board agreed that we will terminate sponsorship and participation in the CRPR Trout Camp.
- Youth Events (Carline)
  - Carline reports that he sent a letter to the Youth Services Bureau regarding another youth fishing event at Lamar. The YSB said they were interested in doing the event again at the Lamar Hatchery.
  - Carline inquired with SCTU and YSB if there was interest in doing a second, different, youth fishing event. He will consider how to develop a second event.
- Banquet Committee (Purtell)
  - Purtell acknowledged the newsletter request for banquet volunteers.
  - Bob Wilberding told Sittler that he would be interested in helping plan the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

- Purtell had a conversation with the Ramada banquet manager. She stated that the Ramada had purchased the State College Elks Club. Purtell asked her if it was possible to have the SCTU banquet there, she said she needed ~ 1 month to see how things shake out and then could answer Jim.
    - Vierck reports that it could be possible in the future to allow for banquet reservations via the SCTU website. This would require some website work to make it happen, but is possible.
  - Website
    - Vierck thanked Bob Carline for his historical contribution to the SCTU website.
    - Vierck thanked Bob Donaldson for his Watershed Watch contribution to the SCTU website.
    - The NFWF grant is now on the website.
  - Sittler recognized Jim Lanning at the board meeting, and discussed his contributions
    - Jim Lanning, SCCTU member, is very active with streamside maintenance, using his truck to transport work equipment and participate in the maintenance. He worked with Teen Summit, and the Sheep Farm maintenance. Thank you to Jim Lanning.

- **Closing Information**

- Adjourned at 2100
  - Motion: Haser
  - Second: Vierck

- **Action Item Summary:**

- Bill Brusse will speak with Centre Parks and Recreation regarding maintenance of the stream improvements in Spring Creek Park.
  - Stewart will email Greg Hoover regarding the desire to add a student from the PSU Fly Fishing Board to the SCTU board.
  - Brusse will draft an “attorney request” letter to be included in the list-serve (or newsletter) that asks if any members can provide pro bono legal advice. Brusse will send the letter to Judi for approval.
  - Sittler will give Purtell Samantha Kutschell's contact information.
  - Purtell will contact Samantha with specific questions regarding the banquet's games of chance.
  - Donaldson will contact PASEC and the Water Resource Monitoring Project to organize a meeting with them and SCTU regarding increased water monitoring on Logan Branch.