

Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Virtual Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: 5/11/2020

Reported by: Frances Stevenson

- Meeting called to order by Jamie San Filippo at 6:02
- Attendance: Lynn Mitchell, Jamie San Filippo, Jim Lanning, Bob Vierck, Mario Carrello, Ford Stryker, John Lynn Himes, Jim Pivrotto, Bob Sills, Ray Faczan, Dave DeWalle, Bob Cross, Fran Stevenson
 - Scott Herron, Commander of the 173 PA Air National Guard Unit State College, SCCTU Volunteer
- Approval of March 2020 Board Minutes - **Fran Stevenson**
 - Amendments: None
 - Motion to approve: **Bob Sills**
 - Second: **Ray Faczan**
 - Motion Carried
- Review of Treasurer's Report – **Mario Carrello**
 - March and April 2020 Results
 - **Mario Carrello** noted the purchase of the 3 Month CD
 - Distribution was received from Centre Foundation for the Jean Brenchley Endowment
 - The Form 990 has been prepared for filing with the IRS
 - ❖ **Mario Carrello** requested that Lynn Mitchell, Jim Lanning and John Himes provide their average weekly hours so he can finish the return
 - Amendments: None
 - Motion to Approve: **Bob Vierck**
 - Second: **Ford Stryker**
 - Motion Carried
 - T U financial report was sent to the board for review
 - Motion to Approve: **Ford Stryker**
 - Second: **Bob Vierck**
 - Motion Carried
 - It was suggested to simplify the budget and related categories
 - A motion for \$1500.00 for Habitat Stewardship was made by **Bob Vierck**
 - Second: **Ford Stryker**
 - Motion Carried
- Action Items
 - Banquet details – **Ford Stryker**
 - **Mario Carrello** was commended for supporting **Ford Stryker** with banquet details
 - Banquet has been rescheduled to July 25th due to the pandemic

- ❖ Mt. View Country Club has agreed to the date change
- ❖ It was noted if Centre County remains in the yellow phase of the lock down the banquet will have to be cancelled. The decision will be made at the June board meeting
- ❖ If banquet is cancelled due to Governor's regulations for the pandemic Mt. View may not charge
- ❖ A minimum of 100 must attend for the banquet to be successful
 - The \$50.00 charge per person covers the cost of the banquet
 - Profit is made on the raffles and auctions
- ❖ \$1600.00 has been received from ticket sales on the Helios Rod and Reel
- ❖ 105 people have registered and paid to attend
- ❖ It was suggested to research having an On Line Auction if the banquet is cancelled
- VSP Funding Request – **Jim Lanning , Bob Sills**
 - \$7500.00 is needed
 - ❖ Additional waders and boots
 - ❖ New VSP Buttons are needed
 - ❖ Suggestion not to specify a year so that buttons can be worn for more than one year. There is a lot of previous year buttons in the shed not being used
 - **Mario Carrello** noted that \$1650.00 has already been spent in 2020 which included with the \$7500.00 requested will be a 2020-2021 budget of \$9150.00
 - The \$1300.00 for Get Outdoors will not be needed this year
 - \$1000.00 was donated by the Pleasant Gap American Legion and \$300,00 was donated by the State College Elks to purchase equipment for 2020. The donations were received and the equipment was purchased in the 2019-2020 fiscal year. However the money for the equipment was not paid to the supplier until the 2020-2021 fiscal year due to billing lag time spanning fiscal years. Under accounting procedures the cost is applied against the 2020-2021 fiscal year thus increasing the 2020-2021 budget by the expended amount.
 - **Bob Vierck** noted that the VSP expenses have increased every year from \$1800 to this year's request
 - **Jim Pivrotto** noted that fund raising activities are not increasing at the same rate as expenses
 - **Bob Vierck** noted that VSP is a transient part of SCCTU
 - **Jamie San Filippo** stated that if a TU or VSP expense is related to fishing and or conservation then it is an appropriate expense
 - **Ray Faczan** stated VSP needs to get a handle on what is actually needed for the program
 - **Jim Lanning** stated that the program has changed a lot from the beginning

- Volunteers and Mentors
 - ❖ Family Fun Day is cancelled due to the pandemic
 - ❖ **Dan Kerstetter** fly tying with Vets at Juniper Village
 - ❖ The legal clinic is not supported by TU or VSP
 - ❖ It will be a mistake not to continue to grow VSP
- **Jamie San Filippo** questioned why is it necessary to take vets fishing in other areas of Centre County and at other times when the program is set up to fish at Fisherman's Paradise the first and third Sundays in the Spring, Summer and Fall
- **Jim Lanning and Bob Sills** stated it is difficult to catch fish at Fisherman's Paradise on a Sunday afternoon. Vets come once and then not again if they don't catch fish so several of the mentors have been offering additional days of fishing
 - ❖ Relationships are built when vets come to the program and want to come back
 - ❖ It is felt that the mentors need more training
 - ❖ Spend more time talking and getting to know the vets
- ❖ **Scott Harron** stated that some of the vets need mentors at Camp Breac when walking down to the stream. Members of his organization want to help support VSP and work with the vets
- ❖ for.
 - ❖ **Jamie San Filippo** wants to create a definition of VSP and what it stands TU National asks why the Vets are working from Camp Breac and not at public fishing areas
 - ❖ Supports a \$7500.00 annual budget
- **Ray Faczan** asked how vets can become involved in conservation projects
 - ❖ **Jamie San Filippo** stated to use fly fishing as a tool to get people involved in conservation projects
- VSP needs to get back to basics
- Set up term limits for VSP leadership
- Suggested Bob Sills to chair VSP
- More accountability of program to justify the expenses
- Old Business
 - Spring Clean-up has been cancelled
 - ❖ **Jamie San Filippo** suggested that SCCTU do a Chapter clean-up in the Fall
 - ❖ **Lynn Mitchell** offered to coordinate the effort
 - ❖ There are usually 8 to 15 bags of trash taken from each site

- ❖ **Bob Vierck** suggests getting in touch with Joanne Shaffer at the Transfer Station
- ❖ **Ford Stryker** stated that **Judi Sittler** needs help to clean up Kissinger Meadow.
- ❖ **Scott Harron** offered his people to use help on projects and will contact Judi Sittler
- Get Outdoors/Family Fishing Day has been cancelled for June 7th due to the Pandemic
- New Business
 - Centre Gives
 - Tea Time hour is a special event being held from 3:00 to 4:00pm on Tuesday 5/12. Provides a \$500.00 prize to the winning organization with the most donations of \$25.00 or more
- Committee Reports
 - Woman Anglers – **Fran Stevenson**
 - ❖ Scheduled to fish Benner Springs on May 31st taking proper distancing precautions
 - ❖ Greg Hoover will do A Zoom presentation from 2:00 to 3:00pm on Sunday May 17th
 - VSP – **Bob Sills**
 - ❖ All activities cancelled until Governor Wolf gives clearance to resume activities
 - ❖ PFBC has closed Fisherman’s Paradise for all VSP activities until further notice
- Adjournment at 7:30pm
 - Motion: **Bob Sills**
 - Second: **Bob Cross**
 - Motion Carried