

Spring Creek Chapter Trout Unlimited Board Meeting
February 6th, 2023
6-8pm Comfort Inn Suites

Present: Jamie San Filippo, Tim Bruggeman, Chris Lipfert, Mario Carrello, Sima Bruggeman, Betty Bloom, Michael March, Richard Novak, Mark Pencak, Frances Stevenson, Ford Stryker, Bob Vierck

Absent: Ray Faczan, Sam Hume, Heather Sees

Guest(s): Gary Parzanese (Vice President of the North Central Region of the PA Council of TU)

The meeting was called to order by Jamie San Filippo at 6:04pm.

Meeting Minutes: January 9th, 2023

- Frances Stevenson had distributed a copy of the meeting minutes from the January meeting for review prior to the meeting. Apart from spelling, there were no major corrections. No additional amendments or comments were made.
- A motion was made to approve the minutes by Bob Vierck, seconded by Sima Bruggeman
- Motion carried

As this is Fran's last meeting on the board, the board members extended their thanks and Jamie San Filippo presented Fran with a gift card and flowers on behalf of the Board.

Treasurer's Report

- Mario Carrello reviewed January's finances. After the last meeting and discussion with Bob Vierck and Ford Stryker, the plan is to move \$35,000 from the checking account to a 4% CD at FNB. No major expenses are expected until September and there will be money coming in from the banquet and two CD's maturing in June and October.
- Centre Foundation Endowment Funds numbers were provided. There has been a decrease in all funds due to the market.
- The board discussed the designated funds that are set aside for projects for this year and 2024.
- A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report by Ford Stryker, seconded by Tim Bruggeman
- Motion carried

- For the benefit of the new board members, the treasurer provided the Certificate of Sales Tax Exemption ID number. Certain local businesses have their own rewards and tax-exemption numbers which were also shared with the board.
- A plan for succession for treasurer was discussed. Mario Carrello plans to remain as treasurer until the end of the fiscal year for continuity and will help with the 2024 Budget. He will help with getting Mike March onboarded as treasurer.

Action Items

Credit Card Approval

- All current credit card holders which include, Mario Carrello, Ray Faczan, Jamie San Filippo, Judy Sitter, Fran Stevenson, Ford Stryker, and Bob Vierck request continued use.
- The treasurer proposed the addition of Larry Ragan and Sima Bruggeman to the list.
- The card is capped at \$3,000/month and users need to keep receipts for all expenditures which should be provided to the treasurer for reconciliation purposes.
- Mario Carrello will order credit cards for the two individuals and each person will then need to set up their online accounts.
- A motion was made to approve the addition of Larry Ragan and Sima Bruggeman for credit card use by Ford Stryker, seconded by Tim Bruggeman
- Motion carried

New Business

Banquet and Sweepstakes

- Since no in-person banquets were held in the past few years, Ford Stryker suggested that all award winners from those years be recognized during the 2023 banquet and receive complimentary admission. There are 8 awards winners that will be recognized. In the past, winners received a gift certificate but not always complimentary admission. It was agreed to offer complimentary admission to all winners going forward.
- A trip exchange with Madison-Gallatin Chapter of TU has been arranged for the auction. The Bozeman Trip includes 2-nights' accommodation, a dining gift card, and 2 days of professionally guided fishing (\$2,000 value). Travel costs is not included and will be specified. It could potentially be an in-person auction item and an online auction item.
- Tammy Miller, who is the confirmed auctioneer, suggested more unique experiences to add to the auction. The board members were asked to brainstorm and reach out to any contacts they may have.
- Basket of Cheers items are being collected by Ford Stryker today and at the General Meeting on February 9th.
- Sponsorships are still needed, and board members were asked to solicit local business.
- The aim is to have around 35 bucket items for the raffle. More good prizes are needed. It was discussed that a fly box with high quality/desirable fly-tying material from the storage shed could make a good raffle item. Richard Novak will review the fly-tying material and will also put together fly boxes with pre-tied flies from the storage shed to be used as favors. Bob Vierck has the fly boxes.
- Richard Novak will check with PSU Fly Fishing Club to see if 2 students would be available to volunteer on the day. It was agreed that the students would be compensated for dinner.
- Board members were asked to help spread the word about the banquet and share the event on social media.

General Meetings

- The February General Meeting is this Thursday, February 9th at 6pm at Comfort Inn Suites. The guest speaker is Rob Rohrback. He has his own computer and projector.
- Chris Lipfert has a speaker lined up for March but with the banquet in March, there was a discussion on whether to reschedule for another month. The speaker is flexible. A decision will be made by this Friday, February 10th, based on the turn out to the February meeting.
- Mark Pencak will book the winery for the September 7th meeting and will also organize the Christmas event.

Elk Creek Café Meeting

- On Thursday, February 9th Jamie San Filippo will be representing SSCTU at a meeting with other outdoor groups of Penns Valley and the surrounding areas about possibly petitioning DCNR to replace the damaged Penns Creek Bridge that was destroyed in a flood in 1972. She can bring a plus one. Mike March volunteered.

Instagram

- Jamie San Filippo suggested that the chapter could benefit from a social media presence on Instagram. Other TU chapters have successful Instagram pages. Chris Lipfert and Sima Bruggeman volunteered to pursue this.

Pizza for in-person meetings

- Ford Stryker picked up pizza for today's board meeting. Mike March volunteered to do this for the remainder of the 2023 in-person meetings. It was discussed that since he will also succeed into the treasurer's role, he will need a credit card.
- A motion was made to approve the addition of Mike March for credit card use by Ford Stryker, seconded by Tim Bruggeman
- Motion carried

Penns Creek Chapter TU Banquet

- The event is on March 11th at 5:30pm in Belville. It includes a family style thanksgiving dinner. Ford Stryker has tickets available (\$25/ticket) for any board members that would like to go.

Board Meetings

- June - Jamie San Filippo will not be available on June 5th. Tim Bruggeman will run the meeting.
- May - On the Fly tournament (May 8th) falls on a regular board meeting day. This meeting has been rescheduled for May 9th.

Old Business

None

Committee Reports

Conservation – Bob Vierck

- There was a meet and greet at Cedar Run with US Fish & Wildlife, RCS, and Congressmen Glenn Thompson. They were given a tour of the work that was done there. This will be added to the Newsletter.

Women's Anglers – Frances Stevenson

- Joe Humphrey's Film Festival is on February 26th. In April, Tom Doman will be at Penns Creek.
- Since Frances Stevenson is leaving the board, Betty Bloom will be the liaison for future WA updates.

Communication- Tim Bruggeman & Sam Hume

- The website has been getting updated as things come in. Upgrades to the website and platform are being discussed and options evaluated.

VSP – Ray Faczan via Jamie San Filippo

- An email update was provided to Jamie San Filippo. 101 Fly Fishing Class and Fly Tying classes are ongoing. The 1st fly tying class was well attended (15 registrants). 6 have signed up for the intermediate class.
- The board discussed possibly updating the classes that are offered to target intermediate to advanced fly tiers but interest in beginner classes seems up this year. The board discussed holding these classes in less formal venues, like a brewery. An Iron Fly Competition was mentioned.
- The On the Water program will be held on Sunday, April 30th at Bald Eagle State Park with help from the Fish & Boat Commission.

Youth Education – Jamie San Filippo

- 9 trout in the classroom tanks are getting set up with 150 rainbow trout in each. Trout are healthy and swimming and will be released into the big tank this week.

General Meetings- Chris Lipfert

- A speaker is lined up for April and another is available for June. The board discussed speaker fees. The current speaker fee is \$100-150, with anything higher requiring board approval. Some speakers are more expensive, while others are free. The board agreed that a budget line should be included for guest speakers in the 2024 budget with a limit for the whole year, not necessarily a limit per speaker.

Board Member Comments/Announcements/Concern/Adjourn

Gary Parzanese introduced himself to the board. He is the Penns Creek TU Chapter Secretary and the Vice President of the North Central Region of the PA Council of TU. He mentioned some projects (Beech Creek) happening in the region that several board members had been aware of.

Bob Vierck made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20pm, seconded by Mark Pencak. Motion carried.