

Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited Board Meeting
November 6th, 2023
6- 8pm via Zoom

Present: Tim Bruggeman, Chris Lipfert, Sima Bruggeman, Betty Bloom, Ray Faczan, Richard Novak, Bob Vierck

Absent: Jamie SanFilippo, Mario Carrello, Sam Hume, Mark Pencak, Ford Stryker

The meeting was called to order by Tim Bruggeman at 6:03 pm.

Meeting Minutes: October 2023

- Sima Bruggeman had distributed a copy of the meeting minutes from the October for review and received no comments or corrections. A motion was made to approve the minutes as written by Ray Faczan, seconded by Richard Novak. Motion carries.

Treasurer's Report

- Tim Bruggeman summarized the Treasurer's report sent out by Mario Carrello last week that was updated to include all the transactions starting from the beginning of the fiscal year 4/1/23 through 10/31/23.
- There were two deposits on the report, one from May for \$28 and one in June for \$800, that Mario was not able find information for. Bellefonte Elk Club had written two checks, each \$500, as a donation to VSP. One of these checks appears in the Treasurer's report, but the other is missing and could be part of the \$800 deposit in June. Bob Sills will check with Elk Club to see if the check has been cashed.
- A 13-month CD earning 1.25% APY matured on 10/20/23. It was renewed as a 7-month CD earning 5.00% APY and \$10,000 from the checking account was transferred to the new CD.
- There are several acknowledgement letters for large donations and In Memory Of donations that need to be written and sent out. Richard Novak volunteered to do that.
- Bob Vierck made a motion on behalf of the entire board to thank Mario Carrello who has gone above and beyond for the chapter on such short notice and under difficult personal circumstances, motion was seconded by Sima Bruggeman. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report by Sima Bruggeman, seconded by Bob Vierck. Motion carries.

New Business

New Treasurer ASAP

- Sima Bruggeman contacted an acquaintance who has connections in the Centre County Leadership Academy. They posted about the position in their newsletter and Jamie SanFilippo's email was provided as a contact. Betty Bloom shared the opening with the Women Anglers.
- The Board agreed that an email blast should be sent to the general membership regarding the opening.

- In addition to the open treasurer's position, one seat remains open on the board. Board members should think about potential candidates prior to board elections in January.

Redd Count

- Tim Bruggeman reported that 22 individuals have registered so far with 14 coming on the day of the event. The pavilion at Spring Creek Park has been reserved and Fran Stevenson will organize the food. There have been no requests for boots or waders from the volunteers yet. A social media post and another email blast to the general membership will be going out this week.
- Tim Bruggeman is trying to decipher how the stream was split up in sections in the past as there were a lot of gaps in the information provided to him by the previous event organizer. He may need help from the board covering sections if there are not enough volunteers.

Holiday Party – Friday, December 15th at the Pleasant Gap Legion

- It appears that the Pleasant Gap Legion has been booked for the annual Holiday Party for the evening of December 15th. Ray Faczan understands that Mark Pencak is going to help with organizing this event. A \$20 donation has been suggested for attendees. Betty Bloom asked if attendees can bring sides/desserts as in the past.

Banquet – Saturday March 2nd, 2025

- It is time to start looking for gift certificates, prizes, or donations for the Banquet. Ford Stryker will send out more information about it later this month, but sponsorship levels will remain the same as last year.

December General Meeting Speaker

- Historically, the Holiday Party has been held in lieu of a general meeting in December. If we are wanting to hold a general meeting in addition to the Holiday Party this year, Chris Lipfert will first check to see if the room at Comfort Suites is available for Thursday, December 7th. Chris will follow up with the board via email.

2024 Earth Day Event at Penn State

- Penn State EcoAction is celebrating Earth Day on Friday, April 19th on the HUB lawn. This is an annual event to raise awareness of environmental issues and connect leaders with the Penn State community. SCCTU has been contacted to hold a table at the event.

Committee Reports

Conservation

- Ford Stryker is continuing to work on getting funding for the Millbrook Marsh Project. Richard Novak and Bob Vierck along with U.S. Fish & Wildlife will present on the success of the Spring Creek Watershed Project on November 15th at 7pm. The presentation will be broadcast on C-NET.

Women Anglers

- Monthly events are planned throughout the winter months with the first one of the season this Sunday where Dennis Charney, of Fly Fishers Paradise, will present on dry-fly fishing.

Communication

- Tim Bruggeman and Sam Hume will work closely together this month to get everything moved from the old website to the new system. They will make sure everything is backed up and their goal is to transition completely to the new website in December.
- Board members are encouraged to contact Sam Hume to get access to the new website. They should review the content and provide any feedback.

Veteran Service Program

- The leadership group met to discuss the need for and the future of the Veteran Service Program. Bob Sills had reached out to Life Link, but there was no interest. A letter has also been written to the sheriff to gauge interest.
- VSP will continue to provide the winter Fly Tying and Fly-Fishing 101 classes that have been greatly successful in the past. The plan is to offer both the beginners and the intermediate fly-tying classes this year. If the board has any other suggestion for improvements to the course (guest speakers etc.), please reach out to Richard Novak or Ray Faczan.

Youth Education

- There are no updates to report.

General Meetings

- Dr. Sara Mueller delivered an engaging presentation about the Wildlife Leadership Academy and the tremendous impact it has on its participants last week.
- Richard Novak has been in touch with the PSU Fly Fishing Club, but this year their group is primarily composed of beginners so they only have 2-3 students that would be able to do a fly-tying demo. Richard Novak will follow-up again with the president of the club as getting PSU students engaged with our our chapter would be beneficial. The board discussed ordering pizza for the event.
- Chris Lipfert and Richard Novak discussed the possibility of an open fly-tying general meeting in December. If there is enough interest in this type of event, Richard Novak could work on a “Cabin Fever/Iron Fly” event for February with judging, prizes etc. Richard Novak will investigate a location (Axemann, Voodoo Breweries?) for the event and report back to the board at the December meeting.
- January meeting has historically been a State of the Chapter meeting with board and officer elections.

Board Member Comments/Announcements/Concern/Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 pm by Bob Vierck, seconded by Betty Bloom. Motion carries.