

Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited Board Meeting

January 8th, 2023

6 - 8pm Zoom

Present: Jamie SanFilippo, Tim Bruggeman, Chris Lipfert, Sima Bruggeman, Betty Bloom, Sam Hume, Richard Novak, Mark Pencak, Ford Stryker, Bob Vierck

Absent: Ray Faczan

Guests: Terrie Henrickson, Zach Quinby

The meeting was called to order by Jamie SanFilippo at 6:02 pm.

Meeting Minutes

- Sima Bruggeman had distributed a copy of the meeting minutes from the December meeting for review prior to today's meeting. There were no comments nor requests for changes.
- A motion was made to approve the minutes as written by Bob Vierck, seconded by Tim Bruggeman.
- Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

- Mario Carrello had distributed the Treasurer's report via email prior to the meeting for review.
- A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report by Bob Vierck, seconded by Tim Bruggeman.
- Motion carried.

Action Items

Fly Fishing Film Festival 2024 - \$1,150

- The Fly-Fishing Film Festival has raised several hundred dollars per year for the chapter. The individual who organized the event in State College is no longer able to do it. Last year the board discussed taking on this event, as otherwise it would not be offered in our area.
- There are several packages that are available for purchase for the event that include all the giveaway prizes etc. The package last year cost \$1,150. Jamie SanFilippo plans to investigate the details and also contact the State Theater to see if there would be a rental fee.
- The board discussed March or August as good months for the event. Last year it was held in May and attendance was low.
- A motion was made to approve \$1,150 for the Fly-Fishing Film Festival by Sam Hume, seconded by Tim Bruggeman.
- Motion carries

New Business

New Treasurer- Terrie Henrickson

- Jamie SanFilippo introduced Terrie Henrickson to the board. Terrie will start her term as treasure in June and Mario Carrello will continue to help in the meantime.
- Terrie Henrickson is a PSU graduate and a former Marine. She has been fishing from a young age, and more recently started fly fishing. Terrie first became involved in TU via the Veterans Service Program and now she is an active participant of the Women Anglers.

New Jr. VP- Zach Quinby

- Jamie SanFilippo introduced Zach Quinby to the board. Zach will serve as the Junior Vice President.
- Zach Quinby recently moved to the area but has been an avid fly fisherman since the age of 13. He's fished mostly in northeastern PA, near the Poconos. Zach is passionate about conservation and fly fishing and is excited to be involved in the chapter.

Banquet- Saturday, March 2nd, 2024

- Steady progress is being made on the Banquet. Ford Stryker has confirmed Tammi Miller as the auctioneer and the MC. He has also been in contact with Mountain View regarding the menu (pasta buffet) and set up of the room. A formal contract will be signed in February.
- Every year each board member donates a bottle to the Basket of Cheers to be raffled off. Ford Stryker requested that board members bring their donation to the February meeting.
- Betty Bloom plans to create some centerpieces with artificial flowers that are re-usable. She will donate \$100 towards materials and will ask if the Women Anglers could donate \$50 as they may use the centerpieces for their future social events too.
- The Ring Toss was a fun addition to the Banquet last year and the plan is to run it again this year. For door prizes, there are a few water bottles and cups available.
- Sam Hume will help with getting the silent auction live on the website for the beginning of February. Ford Stryker will create QR codes for the sweepstakes and the silent auction items for each table. Sam Hume and Richard Novak will again help with the online auction on the day of the event.
- Ford Stryker will email a roster of everyone's roles at the Banquet. He will talk to Mario Carrello to see if he is available to help on the day but will likely need another person for transactions.
- Ford Stryker requested that board members continue to solicit donations and sponsorships from local business. More donations (gift certificates etc.) are needed and there are no sponsorships yet. Ford will send another email with the link to the Google Sheet that has a list of donations and sponsorships, as well as the donations and sponsorships letter, activities and achievement letter, and sponsorships benefit letter that can be shared when soliciting donations.
- Some of the recent donations include a new rod from Dennis Charney of Flyfisher's Paradise, a 2 day guided fishing trip for two in Bozeman, Montana, a homemade bamboo rod by Bob Cross and George Harvey's fishing rod donated by Bob Carline.

Live the Stream- January 20th at 2pm

- Tickets for a special screen of “Live the Stream – The Story of Joe Humphreys” to commemorate Joe’s 95th birthday are available online and in-person at the State Theatre. Half of the proceeds will benefit our chapter, and the other half will benefit Project Healing Waters. The event is being advertised on our website and social media.
- The chapter will have a table at the entry from 1-2pm. Sam Hume, Richard Novak, and Bob Vierck will plan to help. It may be possible to advertise and sell tickets for the Annual Banquet if the website is up.
- Jamie SanFilippo will have Joe Humphreys sign some hats that can be auctioned off.

February General Meeting- State of the Chapter

- The February General Meeting will consist of two parts. The first part will be the State of the Chapter Address to elect board members and officers. The second half of the general meeting will be dedicated to a presentation on the invasive New Zealand Mud Snail in Spring Creek by Nicole Flanders.
- Ford Stryker confirmed that the Comfort Inn Suites is already booked.

Keystone Coldwater Conference – February 23rd-24th

- The PA Council of TU and Coldwater Heritage Partnership will host the 2024 Keystone Coldwater Conference at Ramada by Wyndham Hotel & Conference Centre in State College.
- Jamie SanFilippo has registered the chapter for a table at the event and volunteers are needed for the two days. Jamie will email the board after the meeting with a sign-up sheet.
- Bob Carline, Tim Bruggeman, and Bob Vierck are putting together an abstract about the Redd Count for the conference.
- In the past, conference attendees have bought tickets for the Banquet sweepstakes so it would be a good opportunity to do that again.

Old Business

Holiday Party

- The Annual Holiday Party was a success with over 60 individuals in attendance. The food was great, and Mark Pencak did a wonderful job putting this event together for the chapter.

Committee Reports

Conservation

- The PA Department of Environmental Protection awarded both Growing Green grants. \$211,341 is allocated to the Millbrook Marsh project and \$108,365 towards Vinyl King. PennDOT has reversed their position and will fund the \$95,000 for the Millbrook Marsh project. Bob Vierck will be working on permits for these projects.
- A CAP grant for the Sparrow Run project has also been received.

- Bob Vierck will need the president's signature for a Susquehanna River Basin Commission and the PA Fish & Boat letter supporting the dismantling of the two dams on Spring Creek.

Women Anglers

- The Women Anglers will attend the special showing of Live the Stream in January. In February, they are planning a trout trivia contest and will also hold their annual Joe Humphreys Film Festival at the YMCA with Joe in attendance.

Communication

- Sam Hume has reviewed and updated the IT budget. Sam shared some of the capabilities that the new website offers, like tracking visitors, Google Ads, and email marketing. The new platform also has the capability to send out newsletters. Sam Hume will check the cost of Constant Contact to see if a switch might be financially beneficial.
- Tim Bruggeman and Sam Hume are working on setting up the Google Workspace so that all the chapter documents can be stored in one place. The board could also host virtual meetings via Google Meet rather than Zoom. Tim Bruggeman plans to trial Google Meets at one of the future virtual meetings.

VSP Update

- Intro and Intermediate Fly-Tying Instruction and Fly Fishing 101 programs are filling up. There are 11 individuals signed-up for Intermediate Fly Tying, 8 for Intro and 8 for Fly Fishing 101. The programs are advertised on our website and social media. Registration remains open.

Youth Education

- No updates.

General Meetings

- Last week, Rick Kustich talked about spey fishing for steelhead. Nicole Flanders will present on the invasive New Zealand Mud Snail in Spring Creek at the February meeting.
- A chapter member requested that more local topics are covered during general meetings. In the past year, there have been several talks about Penns creek and dry flying on local waters. The board discussed some of previous popular speakers/talks. Mark Pencak will reach out to Chris Lipfert as he still has some of the contact details of those speakers.

Membership, and PR

- Richard Novak is working on organizing a casual fly-tying event at Axemann Brewery for the evening of Thursday the 15th or the 22nd of February. He is planning have some prizes for several categories.
- Richard Novak suggested that the board commemorate the one year passing of Greg Hoover in May. He will contact the family to see if they are comfortable with something like that.

Board Member Comments/Announcements/Concern/Adjourn

Jamie SanFilippo sent sympathy flowers to Judi Sittler on behalf of the board after the passing of her husband.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm by Richard Novak, seconded by Tim Bruggeman. Motion carries.