

Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited Board Meeting
October 9th, 2023
6- 8pm via Zoom

Present: Jamie SanFilippo, Tim Bruggeman, Sima Bruggeman, Betty Bloom, Ray Faczan, Sam Hume, Mark Pencak, Ford Stryker, Bob Vierck

Absent: Richard Novak, Chris Lipfert

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

Meeting Minutes: September 2023

- There are no meeting minutes for the September meeting.

Treasurer's Report

- Mike March submitted his resignation to the board and is stepping down from his role as treasurer effective immediately. There is no treasurer's report for the month of September.
- The treasurer position is currently vacant, but Mario Carrello can help with immediate needs. For medical reasons, he is unable to return to the position full time but is willing to train someone to fill this role.
- The board discussed reaching out to general membership, the Women Anglers, and the Education Committee to see if someone would be interested in this role. It is critical to get this position filled promptly.

New Business

Redd Count

- Tim Bruggeman sent out a bulletin to our membership this weekend about the 2023 Redd Count. The event will take place on Sunday, November 19th from 10am-3pm at Spring Creek Park. Participants can also count their assigned stream sections on another day if they are unable to attend the event on the 19th.
- US Fish & Wildlife Service and the PA Boat Commission have confirmed that they are able to count their regular sections of the creek.
- In order to book one of the pavilions at Spring Creek Park, Tim needs to provide a Certificate of Liability. He has reached out to TU National for a copy.
- The board discussed reaching out to Fran Stevenson regarding food for the event. A general member has made chilli for the event in the past and Bob Vierck will share his contact details with Tim Bruggeman.

- Jamie SanFilippo will create an event on Facebook and Sima Bruggeman will work on other social media posts to help with advertising. Betty Bloom will bring this event to attention of the Women Anglers.
- Ray Faczan will bring boots, waders, and wading staffs from the storage unit to the event that morning. There are also several cases of water that can be used.

YMCA Pep Rally with PSU Football Team

- The YMCA will be holding a Pep Rally with the PSU Football Team on Monday, October 16th from 4:30-6:30pm. Jamie SanFilippo suggested this might be a good opportunity to the football players to sign posters/jerseys/footballs for the Banquet or other fundraising event.

Committee Reports

Conservation

- \$95,000 for the Millbrook Marsh project has fallen through, though the project is still anticipated to take place next year. Bob Vierck & Ford Stryker have been actively looking for funding. They are currently pursuing County Wide Action Program which funded Oak Hall.

Women Anglers

- The Women Anglers have two more “on the water” days planned for this season; a guided day on Pine Creek on the 19th and a non-guided day on Spring Creek on the 29th.
- In November, they have Dennis Charney presenting dry fly-casting techniques at his shop, Fly Fisher Paradise. There are several steelhead fishing programs available for Women Anglers to take part-in in November also.

Communication

- Sam Hume has worked hard to migrate the content from the current website to the new interface. He provided a brief overview of the new website to the board and will follow up with an email link so that board members can review it on their own time before the next meeting.
- The new website still needs high quality images of trout/Spring Creek etc. Sima Bruggeman will create a social media post asking members to submit photos.
- Bob Vierck suggested that all content from the current website should be archived/saved if it is not transferred to the new interface. This content can be saved and archived to the Google Shared Drive, including old board meeting minutes.
- The new website interface is user friendly and makes it very easy to update content. It also allows different groups within the organization to manage their own content/specific pages.
- The plan is to have the new website in-use in the next few months.

Veteran Service Program

- The program has experienced recent lack of turn out at two events.
- TU National expanded the scope of their Service Partnership Program to include first responders (i.e. Fire service, medical, law enforcement).

- The board discussed and agreed that VSP could also expand their outreach to include mentoring first responders in the area. Ray Faczan will bring this to the VSP leadership and report their plan back to the board.
- Dan Kerstetter is available this winter to teach fly-tying. Larry Ragan has yet to be confirmed for Fly Fishing 101.

Youth Education

- The next event for the Youth Education Committee is ever popular Trunk or Treat at the YMCA. This is a very heavily attended event and the SCCTU booth with Tony the Trout is always well attended.

General Meetings

- Approximately 25 members turned out to hear Matt Kowalchuk speak last week about Fishing Penns Creek Year-Round. Matt still needs to be paid for the talk.
- Jamie SanFilippo will send Chris Lipfert a list of potential speakers that were discussed at the last board meeting. Sima Bruggeman has reach out to Sara Mueller to see if she would be available to talk about her trout research.
- Chris Lipfert and Richard Novak are in touch with the PSU fly fishing club for a fly-tying presentation sometime later this winter.
- The September Winery Event was well received. Mark Pencak estimates that it broke even, but the raffle and 50/50 amounts were with the treasurer so are unknown at this time.
- For the annual Christmas Event, the American Legion in Pleasant Gap or State College is being considered. Jamie SanFilippo will contact them for available dates.

Board Member Comments/Announcements/Concern/Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 pm by Bob Vierck, seconded by Mark Penack. Motion carries.