

Minutes of the TU Doc Fritchey Chapter Board Meeting January 24, 2017 at the Giant Food Community Center, Harrisburg, PA

Officers/Directors Present:

Russ Collins, Bob Pennell, Francis O’Gorman, Joseph Connor, Rich DiStanislao, Chuck Swanderski, Cyndi Camp and RoseAnn Viozzi, Steve Long.

Collins called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM. He stated that a retreat for the board members to develop a strategic plan will be scheduled this spring, dependent upon the availability of National TU’s Jeff Yates to serve as our facilitator.

Minutes of November 22, 2016 Board Meeting:

Pennell apologized for not having recorded the minutes of the November meeting, but stated that they will be completed and sent out with the minutes of the January 24 meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

O’Gorman reported that he is working with the accounting firm of Denk & Associates to complete the FY2016 IRS tax return and BCO form for the state. On a motion by Long/seconded by Viozzi, approval was granted for O’Gorman to invest the funds from the Fritchey Trust into a short-term (6-9 months) CD until a longer term investment strategy can be developed. On a motion by Swanderski/seconded by Long, the Budget Report dated 1/23/17 was approved by the board.

2017 TU Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp:

Collins requested those in attendance to help identify teenage (ages 14 to 17) candidates from Dauphin and Lebanon counties that the chapter can support for this year’s TU Youth Camp. The chapter has budgeted \$1,200.00 for three students.

2017 Gerald L Miller Outstanding Volunteer Award:

Joe Notarangelo requested that nominations be submitted by February 28 for this year’s award to be presented at our April 1 Banquet. The nomination form is available for download at www.dftu.org.

Proposed Disabled Access Area Upgrade on Powell’s Creek

John Plowman of the Safari Club presented background info on the existing disabled access area that needs upgrades, but has met resistance from the property owner who has posted the land against public access since 2007. On a motion by Connor/seconded by DiStanislao, approval was granted for Collins to represent DFTU at a meeting with the property owner on February 16. Other organizations attending are the Blue Mountain Safari Club, Ned Smith Center for Nature & Art, Twin Valleys Conservation and the PA Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC).

Proposed Snitz Creek Stream Restoration Project:

Pennell reported that the PFBC approved the chapter’s grant application, prepared by Kent Crawford, and that up to \$115,000 in funding will be available for a 1,200 foot stream improvement project on lower Snitz Creek, to be completed this summer. Pennsy Supply has also agreed to donate the stone for this project, valued at approx. \$18,000, and we will be contacting several stone haulers to determine if the estimated cost of \$6,000 can be reduced or possibly donated. Crawford also announced that he will be investigating another source of funding from an environmental grant offered by the PA American Water Company.

Rausch Creek Diversion Wells Report:

Dennis Coffman reported that after a long period of not having to add stone this year, the wells are now back in operation as a result of increased stream flows this winter. Coffman is now investigating other sources of trucking who might hopefully donate this service as a result of John Reigel’s retirement last

year. On a motion by Connor/seconded by Long, approval was granted to purchase a \$50 gift card for Craig Donmoyer who has contributed so many extra services in support of our diversion well operation.

2017 Annual Banquet:

Collins challenged each board member to reach out and obtain at least one prize donation and one ad for the banquet program, as well as finding two guests to attend the banquet. Pennell stressed that restaurant gift certificates were particularly valued and easily obtained.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM. The evening program followed, featuring a presentation by professional fly fishing guide Nick Raftas of Sky Blue Outfitters on fishing the Lehigh River. Attendance at the meeting was 40 people.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Pennell – Chapter Secretary