

Minutes of the TU Doc Fritchey Board Meeting – February 24, 2015

Giant Foods Community Center – Harrisburg, PA

Officers/Directors Present:

Ed O’Gorman, Francis O’Gorman, Bob Pennell, Steve Long, Dennis Coffman, Rick LaTournous, Russ Collins, Rich DiStanislao, Scott Stoltz, Steve Funck

Board Meeting Minutes:

Minutes of the October 28, 2014, November 25, 2014 and January 27, 2015 board meetings (with the January 27 minutes amended to delete Commonwealth Communications Academy and add Upper Dauphin Area High School under the TIC Report) were approved on a motion by Long/seconded by LaTournous. Pennell announced that meeting minutes will now be posted on a new Documents page at www.dftu.org.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report dated February 23, 2015 was approved to receive and file on a motion by LaTournous/seconded by Long. F. O’Gorman reported that he has been working with Integrity Bank to clear up several deposits that have mistakenly found their way into our bank account.

Membership Committee Report:

Collins is working with F. O’Gorman to finalize a Sales Force spreadsheet contact program to include businesses and others who would be of interest to the chapter in expanding our communications. Collins also reported that the TU 5 Rivers Program intro at Lebanon Valley College on February 10 attracted nine students who have expressed interest in forming a fly fishing club. He will also be reaching out to Penn State Harrisburg to determine how we might participate in their upcoming Earth Day event.

Report from State Council:

Pennell reported on PA Council’s concerns over a proposal by PFBC to change Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only (DHALO) waters to: (1) Allow the use of bait year-round by anglers under the age of 16; (2) Allow the use of bait by all anglers during the non-harvest season; (3) Reduce the minimum size limit from 9” to 7” during the harvest season; and (4) move the harvest season up from June 15 to the Saturday before Labor Day. All members who are opposed to these regulation changes will be requested to write or email the PFBC expressing their views on this proposal.

Stream Steward Reports:

Quittapahilla Creek – Stream restoration work is nearing completion on the 1750-foot project in the Quittie Nature Park in Annville. Work on the second phase 1700-foot project will begin once the approved Growing Greener funds are made available.

Clarks Creek – Nate Kepp reported that an Adopt-a-Highway cleanup project will be scheduled for the end of March, and that the PGC has been contacted to determine a date for planting white pine seedlings.

Manada Creek – E. O’Gorman reported that we are still in need of a stream steward. Collins will follow up with Ft. Indiantown Gap to determine the feasibility of their participation in a spring cleanup.

Stony Creek –The Dauphin County Conservation District (DCCD) will bill the chapter for the purchase of monitoring equipment to be installed on Tony Rose’s property when the weather warms up. Rose stated that he is agreeable to signing an access agreement if required by National TU.

Diversion Wells Report:

The well site has not been accessible for 3 weeks due to the road conditions that would require a heavy duty 4-wheel drive vehicle due to the icy, rutted conditions. Coffman reportedly used skis to get to the site recently and found that the wells are functioning properly under the current low-flow conditions.

Education Committee Report:

LaTournous reported that the beginners fly tying classes have been well-attended during the first half of this year's 8-week course. The chapter will be participating in the following education-oriented events scheduled for this spring:

April 19 – Earth Day at East Hanover Township Park

April 25 – Wetlands Festival at Wildwood Park

May 3 – Garden Faire at Fort Hunter Park

LaTournous also encouraged members to submit their nominations by March 15 for the Gerald L. Miller Outstanding Volunteer Award to be presented at our banquet on April 11.

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Report:

DiStanislaw reported that all programs are on track, with release dates at the Ned Smith Center planned for May 5th and 12th.

Banquet & Fundraising Committee Report:

O’Gorman reported that plans for the 2015 Annual Banquet are moving along on schedule. Banquet invitations and Members Only raffle tickets were mailed out to all chapter members in early February. Pennell requested that members send out invitations to non-member friends and also requested help in soliciting additional prize donations and program ads.

Social Committee Report:

Our March 24 program will feature a presentation entitled “Heads Up – Protecting Our Headwaters and Trout Habitat” by TU’s Eastern Sportsmen Organizer Paula Piatt.

Old Business:

Clarks Creek/DCAC Project – E. O’Gorman reported that the required permits have been obtained from DEP for this 500-foot restoration project planned for later this year. O’Gorman is awaiting a decision on our application for a TU Embrace-a-Stream grant, and the Dauphin County Anglers & Conservationists (DCAC) has indicated that they will be contributing some funding.

New Business:

Ned Smith Center Youth Camp – Chapter volunteers are needed for this year’s camp on June 6 since Cyndi Camp will not be available to coordinate this event.

Capital Region Water (CRW) Partnership – Tanya Dieroff presented a request for DFTU to sign on as a partner in applying for a Source Water Protection (WREN) grant to educate the public about the importance of protecting Clarks Creek as a coldwater resource. The request was approved on a motion/seconded by F. O’Gorman.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM on a motion by Long/seconded by Collins.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Pennell – Chapter Secretary