

Minutes of the TU Doc Fritchey Chapter Board Meeting April 25, 2017 at the Giant Food Community Center, Harrisburg, PA

Officers/Directors Present:

Steve Vegoe, Bob Pennell, Francis O’Gorman, Joseph Connor, Rich DiStanislao, Chuck Swanderski, RoseAnn Viozzi, Steve Long, Steve Funck, Cyndi Camp

Vice President Vegoe called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and requested everyone to introduce themselves.

Minutes of the February 28, 2017 Board Meeting:

On a motion by Long/seconded by Swanderski, the minutes of the 2/28/17 board meeting were approved as previously distributed to the board members.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer’s Report dated 4/23/17 was approved on a motion to receive and file by Long/ seconded by LaTournous. O’Gorman reported that some additional expenses for the 2017 annual banquet are still outstanding, but the net income will be in excess of \$13,000.

New Business:

Board and Chapter Meeting Scheduling: President Collins has proposed that future board meetings be conducted quarterly, and on a date separate from regular chapter (social) meetings. A motion by Funck/seconded by Connor to proceed with this plan resulted in further discussion, and a motion by Vegoe/seconded by Long to table the motion for future consideration. Funck then withdrew his original motion.

Chapter Financial Reviewer: Vegoe reported that Fran Barilar has agreed to serve as financial reviewer to audit the treasurer’s books quarterly in keeping with a new National TU policy.

Strategic Plan Update: President Collins has compiled the data received from an online membership survey and the strategic planning meeting conducted with Jeff Yates, and is seeking a core group of officers and members to develop a first draft of a strategic plan for the chapter.

Signage for Quittie Nature Park: In an effort to combat what is perceived to be a considerable amount of illegal poaching in the special regulations area of the Quittapahilla, a motion by Long/seconded by Swanderski was approved for Vegoe and Connor to develop bi-lingual signage that would emphasize and reinforce the special regulations.

Trout in the Classroom Report: Camp reported that the TIC release by the Harrisburg Math Science Academy and Harrisburg Catholic Elementary schools at the Ned Smith Center was completed on April 19, and a second release by the Sylvan Heights Charter School is planned for May 16 at the Dauphin County Anglers & Conservationists (DCAC) property on Clarks Creek.

Penn State Earth Day: Vegoe reported that he and 3 other chapter members participated in the Middletown Campus event on April 21.

Home Waters Disabled Veterans Fishing Event: Viozzi reminded us that she needs at least 10 more volunteers to guide the 15 veterans expected at this year’s event on June 10 at Ed O’Gorman’s property on Clarks Creek.

Free Fly Fishing Lessons: Russ Collins plans to advertise free fly fishing lessons at the Quittie Nature Park in Annville, and chapter member Jim Zuleski has volunteered to assist with the instruction.

Old Business:

Snitz Creek Restoration Project: Vegoe thanked Kent Crawford and Russ Collins for their efforts in putting together the grant proposal which will result in receiving \$115,000 in funding from the PA Fish & Boat Commission. Some additional streambank fencing work and invasive species removal will require volunteer labor by chapter members. Depending on DEP permitting approval and availability of the contractor, it is hoped that the project can be implemented by the end of 2017.

TU Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp: Pennell reported that just one candidate from upper Dauphin County had applied, but was not accepted, for this year's Rivers Camp. It was suggested that the Milton Hershey School be contacted as a potential future source for applicants.

Upcoming Events:

April 28 – Stocking Manada Creek – contact Steve Vegoe.

April 30 – Tree planting along Clarks Creek – contact Nate Kepp.

May 2 – Stocking Quittapahilla Creek – contact Steve Vegoe.

May 19 - Guided fishing for PA Outdoor Writers – contact Russ Collins.

May 20 – Adopt-a-Highway cleanup on Clarks Valley Road – contact Dennis Coffman.

May 23 – Chapter meeting at Snitz Creek Brewery's Tasting Room in Palmyra.

June 10 - Home Waters Disabled Vets Event – contact RoseAnn Viozzi.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

The featured speaker for the evening was PFBC Executive Director John Arway who presented an overview of the agency's work and announced plans for a Wild Trout Symposium to be conducted in Bellefonte on August 26.

Attendance at the meeting was 27 people.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Pennell – Chapter Secretary