

Minutes of the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited Board Meeting February 26, 2019 at the Giant Food Community Center – Harrisburg, PA

Officers/Directors Present:

Russ Collins, Bob Pennell, Steve Long, Chuck Swanderski, Joseph Connor, Francis O’Gorman, RoseAnn Viozzi, Jim Suleski, George Dodson

Others Attending:

Dennis Coffman, Kent Crawford, Rob Frank

Banquet Committee:

Six members of the Banquet Committee met prior to the board meeting. Swanderski reported that 9 nominations were received for the Gerald L. Miller Outstanding Volunteer Award, and Russ Collins was the winner. In an effort to increase future participation in the selection process, Viozzi suggested that perhaps the board could nominate candidates and send out their names, including bios, for the members to vote on.

Coffman requested that members of the Sensenig family (haulers of stone for the diversion wells) be given complimentary tickets to the banquet. He will check with them to verify how many reservations will be needed.

Susan O’Gorman agreed to work with Pennell to assemble items for the bucket raffles.

The board meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by President Collins. A motion was seconded and carried to approve the minutes of our November 27, 2018 board meeting.

Monitoring of Stony Creek:

Rob Frank, watershed specialist for the Dauphin County Conservation District (DCCD), reported that other county conservation districts will be consulted before making recommendations on a consolidated system for reporting all monitoring data in one place. DCCD is agreeable to renewing a 3-year agreement with DFTU for monitoring of the sondes in Stony Creek. Vegoe will write an article on the monitoring of Stony Creek in a future issue of *Hatches*.

Other Projects Planned by DCCD:

Frank reported that DCCD received a Growing Greener grant of \$98,091 for the design and permitting of 1,500 of restoration work on Armstrong Creek. DFTU has previously committed \$5,000 toward the total project cost of \$118,129. Riparian buffer tree plantings are also planned for the Swatara Creek watershed.

Diversion Wells:

Coffman reported that pH readings are being taken weekly at the diversion well site. McGarvey has volunteered to chair a formal Diversion Well Committee and develop a list of proposed fix-up projects at the well site.

Powells Creek Project:

Collins reported that DFTU will take the lead on a project to restore the disabled access site on Powells

Creek. A motion was made and carried to approve a contribution of 5,000 toward the total project cost as part of the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020 budget.

DFTU Officer Expenses for TU Meetings & Other Environmental Conferences:

Collins requested authorization for reimbursement of at least some portion of meeting expenses attended by chapter officers. This issue is to be discussed further at our next board meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

In the absence of Trip McGarvey, due to a number of questions regarding the change in National TU's fiscal year reporting period, approval of the Treasurer's Report was tabled until our next board meeting.

Chapter Membership in the PA Fly Fishing Association (PFFA):

A motion was made and carried to spend \$100 for a one-year membership in PFFA. In return, the chapter will receive a TFO rod that will be used as a banquet auction prize. Our chapter will be participating in the PFFA Fly Fishing & Film Festival in Carlisle on June 29

New Members Picnic:

Swanderski proposed that we hold a picnic meeting for new members, and will need volunteers as mentors. Further details to follow.

Nomination of Conservation Committee Co-chair:

A motion was made and carried to appoint Jim Suleski as co-chair with Russ Collins of the Conservation Committee. Additional volunteers are needed to staff this committee, previously known as the Stream Stewardship Committee.

Hammer Creek Project:

Suleski reported excellent progress on the project to assess and restore the headwaters section of Hammer Creek in Lebanon County. He is spearheading the efforts of the Hammer Creek Watershed Group, a coalition of the Doc Fritchey and Donegal chapters in addition to about 10 other conservation groups and government agencies.

Spring Creek (Hershey) Project Update:

Collins reported that the proposed project to restore a portion of Spring Creek below HersheyPark was rejected by the landowner, Hershey Entertainment & Resorts.

Spring Creek (Harrisburg) Streambank Repairs:

Pennell reported that funding has been requested from the Capital Area Greenbelt Association to cover the \$2,100 cost of streambank repairs along the 5 Senses Garden area, but cautioned that the chapter might be requested to fund the full amount if the request is denied.

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent at 9:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Pennell - Chapter Secretary