

OIL CREEK CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED
Minutes of the Board of Directors and Membership Meeting
April 18, 2018/ King's Family Restaurant, Franklin, PA

CALL TO ORDER: 6:43 PM Gary Ross, President

ROLL CALL: **Officers:** President Gary Ross, Treasurer Dan Rockwell,
Secretary, Vaughn MacGregor.

Directors: Joseph Lehosky, Jennifer Lyons, Jason Rockwell, Julie Settle, Tom Young.

Members/guests: Nick Bell, NFFL Board Member; Kathy Conrad; Tim Hummel; Mark Kerr WCO; Adrienne Lyons; Regis Senko; Tabitha Shaw, NFFL; Traci Speer, Titusville Rotary Club Treasurer; Bob Steiner; Linda Steiner; Valerie Tarkowski, South Sandy Creek Watershed Association; John Terejko.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD and MEMBERSHIP MEETING

* MOTION to approve March meeting minutes: By Julie Settle; 2nd Tom Young
Vote – Approved.

ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION LIST: Please list any Chapter Activities you have participated in since the last meeting. Note them on tonight's Attendance Sheet beside your name.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

President's Report: Gary Ross: Gary sent a letter of confirmation to Dave Hallman of Oil Creek State Park for our start for the Veterans' Service Program, scheduled for October 14. Tom Young noted we need to schedule when our group will go to Spring Creek Chapter. We hope to have 20 to 25 slots for the program. Bob Steiner said we may want to see if other chapters would like to be involved. It would be good if we would buy fishing licenses and vouchers for TU memberships for veterans who participate.

Treasurer's Report -- Dan Rockwell:

Beginning balance: \$11,453.10 **Total deposits:** \$8898.09 **Total expenses:** \$3930.53
Ending Balance: \$16,420.66

Dan also distributed a financial statement for this year's banquet, listing income \$18,309.00; expenses of 11,527.37; and profit at \$6,781.63.

*MOTION to approve officers' reports: By Linda Steiner; 2nd Jason Rockwell
Vote – Approved.

PROJECT REPORTS

Banquet 2018 – Tom Young: The banquet was a huge success again this year. Have had numerous comments that it was the best ever, and they will be back next year. Attendance was a little less, but we did well financially. Have already scheduled the date for next year with the Ale House for Saturday April 6, 2019.

Venango Co. Youth Field Day -- Regis Senko: Youth Field Day for Venango County is June 16 this year.

Trout In The Classroom: -- Gary Ross/Tim Hummel: Cochranon High School scheduled their trout release for May 9, at Camp Chick A Saw. We will be there to provide fly tying and fly-casting instruction again this year.

Venango County Conservation District: – Tim Hummel: The Conservation District got their electro-shocker. They will be doing an assessment on Pithole Creek in July.

Starting June 1st, Tim's duties will increase, due to staff leaving. He will be responsible for land disturbance issues, dirt & gravel roads, & stream encroachment.

Tim has offered to initiate a stream assessment if we need one.

Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission -- Mark Kerr: Trout stocking has gone well. Trout season also has been going well. There have been few enforcement issues. They have done a lot with the school educational programs.

OLD BUSINESS – Treasurer Dan Rockwell noted that Woods Computer completed a new website for the chapter. The cost of new website was \$306.82, which is good for three (3) years. It also costs \$50 each time Mr. Woods puts something on the website for us.

NEW BUSINESS – One of our guests tonight was Valerie Tarkowski of the South Sandy Creek Watershed Association. They are currently in need of a PH meter and flow meter which will cost almost \$1000. They recently received a 3.1-million-dollar grant to do restoration work on Williams Run and South Sandy Creek. They will be moving 200,00 tons of coal acreage. On May 12th they will be working on a limestone bed near Hell's Kitchen Road. Their next meeting will be on July 5th.

*MOTION – We will fund \$1000 for equipment for restoration work by the South Sandy Creek Watershed Association: By Bob Steiner; 2nd Tom Young Vote – Approved.

Our guests tonight also included Nick Bell, Board Member of the NFFL; Tabitha Shaw of the NFFL; and Traci Speer, Titusville Rotary Club Treasurer. Their purpose in attending was to alleviate some concerns some of our members have concerning the trout fishing tournament at Oil Creek State Park. Nick Bell gave a description of the tournaments and covered some issues of concern, such as handling of the fish before release, the public not

being excluded from areas the tournament takes place. He listed some of the rules for participants. The group also covered some of the youth programs which have benefited from the tournament proceeds, such as The Titusville High School Student United Way/Rotary Interact Students week in Ecuador to serve residents of Ecuador and a bi-annual marine ecology trip to Wallops Island, Virginia.

Bob Steiner brought up two items: 1. We should send a thank-you letter to Iron Furnace Chapter TU for the culvert work they did on Porcupine Run.
2. Bob expressed some concerns about trout tournaments in public parks and public recreation areas, especially special regulations areas, where trout are to be released immediately. He urged us to send a letter to the Fish & Boat Commission Executive Director to change the way they address this issue. After discussion, it was decided to defer this until the May meeting.

“Thanks for Being Present, You Win” Drawing (\$25 gift card):

Name drawn: Jennifer Lyons

Motion to adjourn: Gary Ross, chairperson, adjourned the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.