

OIL CREEK CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED
Minutes of the Board of Directors and Membership Meeting
October 17, 2018/ King's Family Restaurant, Franklin, PA

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 PM Gary Ross, President

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

Directors: Jennifer Lyons, Jason Rockwell, Suzan Senko, Julie Settle.

Members/guests: Nick DelVecchio, Tim Hummel, Adrienne Lyons.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD and MEMBERSHIP MEETING

* MOTION to approve September meeting minutes: By Dan Rockwell;
2nd Suzan Senko. 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: 1. We received an Email from WCO Mark Kerr regarding the Sandy Creek Conservancy. It reads in part: The SCC has presented a request for a short (+/-15 minute) presentation on Trout Unlimited(s) general mission and, more specifically, what environmental projects the local Oil Creek Chapter has/is partnered with; including the annual Cold Water Heritage banquet and its contributions.

The SCC is attempting to both broaden its mission, and membership, through increased awareness/participation in aquatics, fishing, and environmental undertakings.

Tom Young and Dan Rockwell could do this.

2. We had our start-up event for the Veterans' Service Program on October 14. It was a good time and we signed up two veterans. We can plan one for the Spring, which may be a better time of year for attendance. There will be a lot of people at Oil Creek in the Spring. It would be better to have a less congested facility. Perhaps we would be able to use the Sandy Creek Conservancy.

3. We welcomed new member Nick DelVecchio. He is a fly fishing guide and is very interested in TU.

Treasurer's Report -- Dan Rockwell:

Beginning balance: \$14,714.30 **Total deposits:** \$50.12 **Total expenses:** \$1392.57

Ending Balance: \$13,371.85

*MOTION to approve officers' reports: By Don Wilson; 2nd Julie Settle

Vote – Approved.

PROJECT REPORTS

Banquet 2019: – Tom Young: Tom has recently secured a number of items for next year's banquet. The Erie Sports Store is going out of business, so Dan Rockwell and Tom went up there last month. Among the items we got were 2 very nice guns. One or both will be used in 2019.

Dirt & Gravel roads: – Tom Young & Dan Rockwell: We have our annual meeting to review project requests and distribute funding on November 6th at Dwandi's restaurant. Dan & Tom both plan to attend.

Trout in the Classroom -- Tim Hummel/Gary Ross: We need to find out what classrooms are currently participating in TIC. Venango VoTech is currently not doing it. Mike Crocker had discontinued. Meadville has 2 classrooms and Titusville had 2. Cochranon has 1 active class.

Venango County Conservation District: – Tim Hummel: Electro-shocking was completed this year on Bullion Run and a tributary to Scrubgrass Creek. Seven different sites were sampled. Nine different fish species were found. Trout were predominantly brown trout, with some brook trout. They found quite a few trout and Bullion Run had a good size distribution.

There are three sampling sites they would like to do on Pithole Creek. Electro-fishing is finished for this season. They are planning to do Pithole next year.

The District is applying for a scientific collector's permit for the entire county to do sampling. They are asking if we could come up with a plan to do electro-shocking on a specific drainage.

The District is being awarded a \$245,000 grant to do well plugging on Oil Creek. There will be a presentation at Two Mile Run County Park at 10:00 AM on October 19th. It will be held at the Nature Lodge.

Northwest Region VP News: -- Vaughn MacGregor: I recently received the following message from Ken Undercoffer, Northwest Region Vice President:

To all NW Regional Chapters:

Our newly elected council president, Greg Malaska, is trying very hard to get the Environmental Committee (EC) more active. This was once the most active and effective

committee in PATU. Jeff Ripple has been the chair of the EC for several years but has never been able to get enough members to make it as functional as it needs to be. Greg has asked the regional VPs to solicit each region for at least one member from each to volunteer to serve on the EC.

There are certainly a lot of environmental issues that need addressed and they are not going to go away without some serious involvement by PATU. Surely there is at least one person from among the nine chapters in the NW region who would be willing to serve on the EV.

OLD BUSINESS – As noted above.

NEW BUSINESS – 1. Dan Rockwell noted that our Christmas Party is scheduled for December 19th. It was agreed that we could have it at Dawndi's Restaurant again. Tom Young will make the reservation.

2. Vaughn MacGregor stated that we don't have any officers' terms expiring in November, there are two Directors' terms up for election currently filled by Jennifer Lyons and Jason Rockwell. We will have an election next month.

3. New member Nick DeVecchio is a member of Back Country Hunters & Anglers. They are hosting a Conservation Pint Night at the Franklin Trails to Ales.

Nick also asked if we would be interested in hosting a showing of the Fly Fishing Tour video at the Barrow-Civic Theater, possibly in February. It's a fundraiser. It wouldn't involve much effort on our part.

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

Name drawn: Don Wilson

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.