

Minutes January 9, 2019 Meeting

Note to readers of these minutes: These “minutes” are a compilation of reports submitted prior to the meeting and discussions had during the meeting itself.

Present: Tom Hall, Bob Kutz, Greg Wilson, Fran McElhinney, Mark McMaster, Joy McMaster, Wayne Boggs, Derek Eberly, Dan Van Buskirk, Bill Nolan, Bill Henry, Pam Williams, Hugh Wenger

Absent: Ned Bushong, Dan Zimmerman

Guests: Nate Straw

SECRETARY’S REPORT: Bill Henry motion 2nd and vote to accept as published

TREASURER’S REPORT: Joy McMaster motion 2nd and vote to accept as dist.

INCOME: \$178,701.77

EXPENSES: 176,222.35

Balance: 107,984.53

Uncommitted money by accounts:

checking = \$37,809

319 = 6,178

conservation = 12,943

Other comments :

We received donations from Gochenauer Kennels and BCF Group.

SAM renewed until Dec. 29. 2019.

I checked with Darlene Meyers at Denk & Associates about our taxes. The financials are currently in review with their owner. I also asked how long we are required to keep our financial records as our filing cabinet is almost full. Darlene recommends 7 years.

Reminder to officers and Wayne, as Financial Reviewer: Each of us received an email on Dec 10 from Nick Halle, at TU, about the change to our fiscal year. There was a letter attached that must be signed and returned by Feb. 15, 2019. TU national will apply to the IRS for the change on behalf of the entire exempt group. Each chapter and council must formally authorize TU to include them in the application. Per TU bylaws, it is mandatory that each chapter and council maintain the fiscal year of the national organization.

CONSERVATION: Bob Kutz/Greg Wilson

By Greg

The Conservation committee is off and running with many irons in the fire. We are excited the Fishing Creek Herr and Beiler projects are underway. These 2 will be almost 2 miles of stream.

When completed it will also exclude livestock from the Fishing Creek Trib almost a mile. These will also receive buffer plantings. This project will reduce a large volume of soil loss.

We are hoping USFW will also complete the storm damage repairs at Drumore Park and the Metzler Project, although they are impacted by the government shutdown. It's hopeful that the AG BMP grant will begin the stream bank fencing on the farms in the grant this spring or early summer. This was to include about 35 farms.

Lydia Martin applied and secured a grant primarily for Fishing Creek, this will be used to develop landowner information packets, public educational forums, TIC support information and sponsoring more TIC projects. This will be a great project, providing support for an area we typically don't have resources for, but is a critical link to engage landowners. Barry also received the DCNR grant for 50k to support the riparian buffer plantings for the 3 tributaries, we are hoping to generate some funding that can assist with long term maintenance, we are so short on volunteers it's all we can do to get planted, let alone go back year after year and tend to them. This has been a very slow process, I hope upon implementation, that they will work on another phase to implement more fencing. If you looked at LNP yesterday, Ad Crable's front page cover was a muddy stream flowing into Fishing Creek, there is so much work to do to protect and enhance this awesome trout stream.

We are also waiting for designs for the upstream on Camp Andrews, Fishing Creek. After we receive design and budget Barry can begin searching for funding.

We are also waiting for a design being created by LCD for the Esh Project. It is a very large project on the Conowingo.

The Menno Stoltzfus culvert replacement is completed and working great. The Martic Twp roadmaster and supervisors were watching and are impressed with this project. There are a few more upstream culverts that need reconnected. Lydia Martin has asked me to attend the Martic Twp meeting to discuss future projects and explain the need and value of aquatic organism passage. So, I invited Shaun Mcadams a National TU employee, who is helping TU chapters implement culvert projects to join. He has been down and looked at few of the culverts to also help convince the Twp of the importance and also long term cost savings.

We had an initial Upper Hammer Creek meeting discussing a large scale restoration plan, the planning included Doc Fritchey TU, The Alliance for the Bay, LCD, Lebanon Conservation District, Donegal TU, and Chesapeake Conservancy. We decided to try and offer a public landowner workshop, this is tentatively scheduled for Feb, 28th, at Middle Creek. We have a great panel of presenters, Ryan Davis and Jenna Mitchel, have taken a lead securing speakers and venue. Thank you. We also have been building a list of potential interested landowners, it's sounding very promising. We also will use DCNRS prime prospects list to use for mailing out invitations. The dam removal is slowly moving through the bureaucracy, hopefully phase one this summer. The extreme flooding was wild in the Hammer Creek. It damaged 3 road bridges. It's a huge volume of water funneling thru the gap along Pumping Station Road. Hopefully long term some positive projects will help alleviate the large amounts of sediment loss.

Garry Longenecker has been planning ahead for the year, he intends to replace the irrigation line from the stream to the nursery. It's about worn out with new leaks occurring. He is ordering plant materials. Yesterday we met with Sarah Xenophon PSU and Kristen, they work out of Middletown PSU campus. The meeting was to facilitate merging their nursery program with ours. They have a smaller nursery , so without really adding any work, it will actually benefit DTU , creating no additional work for Garry. They will supply, labor, and an intern, plant materials, supplies etc. They will also help better administer tree dispersal thru an application process. So we feel good about this plan.

There was a Conservation Committee meeting Wed afternoon. The following items were noted and/or discussed.

- Since 2014 DTU has been involved in spending \$2,545,667 on stream improvement projects.
- DTU was involved in planting 22,000 trees over this same period. Many of these were grown in our own nursery while others were donated.
 - It is planned to spend \$750,00 on 9 projects this year.
 - There are plans in the works for several projects beyond this horizon.
 - Grants in process and anticipated were discussed.
 - Bob and Greg made a trip to see the work on the Herr Project which is just getting underway
 - Money for TIC.
 - Public outreach awareness meetings within the geographical area of the Fishing creek watershed
 - working up Landowner information packets.
 - Hammer Creek discussions regarding forums for landowners and buffer tree planting in the watershed
 - At least two Bus Tours are being planned for "Heavy Hitters" to educate and prepare for solicitation of donations and-or other help in accomplishing our mission.

COMMUNICATIONS:

by Mark

The January "teaser" is ready to send, pending more input at this board meeting. Mailing list has been updated.

A question was raised regarding trifold brochures and it was noted there are some in the locker and Mark can get more printed at White Oak if necessary.

MEMBERSHIP: Fran Mcelhinny

| MEN | WOMEN | YOUTH M | YOUTH F | NEW | DROP | TOTAL |
|-----|-------|---------|---------|-----|------|-------|
| 681 | 34 | 13 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 730 |

EDUCATION: Ned Bushong no report from Ned but it was noted we have 21 classrooms this year with a number of additional prospects for coming years.

For a list of these schools contact Ned Bushong or Joy McMaster

WOMENS INITIATIVE: Pam Williams

Presented the completed DTU Project Proposal for the Women's Initiative outing. Discussed filling the volunteer needs at the meeting (fly tying demo person, casting instructor, rod-reel-line-tippet instructor and conservation initiatives speaker). I contacted the TCO shop in Reading and they are willing to bring equipment to demo.

The event was approved as requested for April 27 and several of the volunteer requirements were committed to.

PROGRAMS: Derek Eberly All programs are set through May (*except March, which is still in flux*)

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER/BANQUET : Glenn Nephin/ Barry Witmer

by Mark

White Oak has all the material for their mailing and sound like they expect to mail it late this week. Have begun working on the streamwork presentation to be shown that evening. Reservation forms have been posted to the website & linked from our Facebook page, where I've added the Fundraiser as an upcoming Event.

It was noted by Tom that 'large' donors will get free meals.

Mark noted that mailings are scheduled to go out Friday Jan 11.

The idea of a new logo de-emphasizing fish and emphasizing clean water was discussed. It was agreed to pursue this suggestion.

WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER: Mark McMaster

Mayflyer

DL's from the website for the December issue have been higher than "normal"

Deadline for the Feb issue will be the previously announced Monday, Jan 28. Once again, all contributions are welcome.

Website

I had an issue where Google changed the code requirements for our watershed maps and the maps haven't been displaying for some time. It required an appreciable amount of work to rewrite that code. I believe all pages should now be functioning, but I still see some errors where I believe my browsers are using a cached version. While I was at it, thanks to some help from Kutzie & Greg, I added 2019 projects to the maps.

Use is still running above normal.

Have yet to resolve 1 security issue, but it's not critical and my time is being spent on the Fundraiser.

IT

Joy has rcvd 2 requests from "President Tom" for fund dispersal, but these have been such blatant fakes that as my good friend Bugs Bunny was fond of saying, you'd have to be a maroon to fall for them. They are not going through our servers so nothing we can do except practice due diligence.

VETERANS INITIATIVE: Bill Nolan

I would like to rent The Turkey Lodge, <http://www.pinecreekhospitality.com/>, from May 31-June2, to take the VSP on a weekend retreat. It sleeps 12-15. Their website lists prices from 2017 as \$175 per night. I have emailed asking if these are still the rates. I expect it to be in that area. We have gift cards to take care of food for the weekend, so it won't be an issue. *This was approved by the Board.*

2. VSP kickoff has been set for April 6 @Millport Conservancy. I will work on getting the VA van, Mission BBQ, etc

3. This year the Fly Fishing Show in Lancaster, will not be donating passes for the veterans. I would like to purchase them for the veterans out of the VSP funding. *Approved*

4. I am still working on the fishing outing for the orphanage at Speedwell Forge. We are choosing between 3 dates in June. Fish and Boat will provide all equipment. I will need volunteers that have the background clearances. I would like to have one volunteer per child. I will see if I can get a local pizza joint to donate pizza for lunch or give a discount. Does anyone know a good place in Lititz? Also working on gift bags for the kids, stickers, hats, etc.

PRESIDENT: Tom Hall

Budget discussion and setting of this year's budget.

Joy reviewed last year and got commitments for next year's budget items. She will formalize it and distribute for approval.

ROUND TABLE:

* Hugh noted we still need a youth clearance compliance officer who is not a board member.

* Nate passed around several brochures regarding the Spotted Lanternfly: how to identify and help control.

* Greg noted there is a “film-fest” scheduled at the Springhouse Tavern on Jan 24

This is being set up by Alliance for the Bay through Jenna.

ADJOURN: 9:05

Respectfully submitted by Bill Henry