Minutes July 10, 2019

Note to readers of the minutes: These Minutes are a compilation of reports submitted prior to the meeting and discussions held during the meeting itself.

Present: Tom Hall, Fran McElhinney, Ned Bushong, Wayne Boggs, Dan VanBuskirk, Bill Nolan, Bill Henry, Hugh Wenger, Dan Zimmerman

Absent: Mark McMaster, Joy McMaster, Bob Kutz, Greg Wilson, Derek Eberly, Pam Williams

Guests: Rick Purnell

Minutes by the Secretary: Bill Henry June '19 Approved as published

Let the minutes show the Board approved by electronic (e-mail) vote the setting up of a brokerage account (by Tom Hall) to receive donations of securities.

Treasurers Report: Joy McMaster 7-10-19 Report approved as presented

Income: 222,950.35

Expenses: 229,350.64

Balance: 145,576.30

Items of additional interest:

Concerning the three usual reports, you will notice a difference in total inflow and total outflow between the Cash Flow and Transaction reports. I believe the $100 difference is caused by the transfer of money to start the DCNR account. The overall total on both reports is the same. Perhaps Wayne can suggest a better category selection in Quicken that will fix this situation.

Uncommitted money by accounts: checking = $62,418, 319 = $6,178, PNC Conservation = $3,093, PNC DCNR = $100.

Other items:

Riverland Grant for Drumore Park: DTU is to provide matching funds of $12,500. So far we have spent $10,877.95. Unique Excavating received a partial payment of $10,000 from our Conservation Account at PNC. The total bill is $22,425. Greg was reimbursed for two bills - New Moon Nursery for rain garden plants - $804.75 and Daniel’s Farm Store for chemical to remove Ailanthus trees - $73.50. These last two
bills were paid from the General Checking Account.

Our taxes for TU’s mini-year should be done soon. TU will reimburse us up to $1,900 for the accounting bill. When TU receives a copy of our 990 and the paid invoice, money will be deposited in our General Checking Account.

I have included the status of our budget as of June 30. I have not received all invoices for our June activities. Our larger bills (TIC, locker rental) arrive in the second half of the year. Our fundraising total so far is more than expected. It was nice to see the Fish & Golf Tournament have a profit of $1,012 this year.

**CONSERVATION: Bob Kutz/ Greg Wilson**

by Greg

The Dave Phillips project on the Conowingo is wrapping up shortly. Bob has suggested that they enroll in CREP program, for the reforesting. While on our site visit it was cool - saw 2 mink checking out the work.

Bob has found a willing amish man on Goat Hill Rd, Conowingo, he had Mark Metzler visit him, and he will work on an application for a 319 grant to fund the design work. The Alliance for the Bay, Jenna will be writing a 319 application for the Simien Esh project on the Conowingo. This will about a $300,000+ application. So hopefully we will have a lot of work in that watershed in the near future.

We walked the plantings at Camp Andrews and Tanglewood, the trees and shrubs look good, the Riparian seed mix at Camp Andrews looks wonderful.

The Riverlands grant we received for Drumore Park is near completion, we need to plant the trees on the hillside and Drumore Twp needs to install the rip rap in the gullies. We planted the rain garden on June 29th. The project looks great.

USFW has moved back to the Shirley Madison project. They have a few week’s worth of work to complete this project then will return to Ben Beiler and Bob Herr on Fishing Creek.

After the completion of the Ben Beiler tributary work and fencing is installed, we will plant the trees and shrubs. We have a tentative date set with PSU nursery folks to have a large planting day on October 12th. We estimate it will be over 1000 plants along almost a mile of stream. Also will have other plantings on Bob Herr and the other fencing projects.

Derek arranged a watershed tour with Alex Eckel of the Campbell Foundation, we focused on the Fishing creek watershed as this was the area of the grant they funded. We seem to line up well with Campbell Foundations agenda, Nutrient reduction and youth engagement. Hopefully this will be a partnership we can build on.

We also took Alyson Gibson, co-ordinator for the Lancaster Clean water partners, on a quick tour again primarily of Fishing Creek. Barry is looking into applying for the
Community Foundation grant that could be used to fund a project on Climbers Run, a missing link. Community Foundation is administering the Clean Water partners grant. Barry also submitted a grant to DECD for around $200,000 for upstream Camp Andrews.

Hopefully we will hear by early fall. Scott Heidel called last week and informed us that we can apply for 319 funding for Fishing Creek, he is getting it listed on an Alternative TMDL, this will bolster funding opportunities. We were told we must have some friends that appreciate our work in EPA. So we have 2 farms in need of major work that Bob is having Dave Putnam with USFW assist in writing applications for these farms. These applications are due in early August. We will be working on organizing the Fishing Creek forum for January, also landowner packets and trying to place the TIC projects in the Fishing Creek area.

Susquehanna River basin Commission will be installing a real time songs unit in Hammer Creek near the Lancaster Lebanon county line. This will help establish some good long term baseline data about sediment, temp. and a few more parameters. They will also conduct annual macro assessments and electro fish data work. Scott Heidel DEP called on short notice that they were going to do some electrofishing in Hammer Creek as part of the plan for the Alternative TMDL for that watershed. They went out last Friday and sampled 2 reaches, they were impressed with amount of wild brown trout and a few brookies. Shaun Mcadams will be starting his 3 phase watershed assessment, the grant from PATU that Barry received will be applied to his work. Doc Fritchey signed onto a NFWF grant for a project design the Barry farm, so this is a trib to Hammer Creek, but its progress for a larger scale implementation on a huge property. Dan Zimmerman indicated that with some armwrestling Heidelberg township will come along. They are not required to participate in MS4 so don’t have much incentive but will support us. We have a nice list of landowners that are willing and ready. So hopefully things will happen soon. We should get approval soon for phase 1 of the dam removal.

Matt Koffroth reported good information from his electrofishing in Lititz Run, many young stream-bred rainbows and nice brown trout. Millport has engaged Ryan Davis with the Alliance for the Bay to plant the open field next to Lititz Run, and Ryan will also be working with landowners along Santa Domingo to add a few acres of tree buffer. These projects will add up to over 10 acres of new future forest. The Alliance planted about 3.5 acres with Warwick Township at Saylor Park and they planted about 3 at the former Art Hess farm, now Hunter Hess, grandson. In addition they planted over 2 acres of pollinator meadow in conjunction and thanks to Jenna Emore and Pheasants Forever. These are great examples of putting partners together, there are many resources if we can all work together.

Where we are weak is in public information, stating why these projects are being installed, I was planting the remaining plants at Saylor Park last Saturday and a young family began asking questions about the plantings. I had to go full circle how the native plants are feeding the entire food web including our trout.

Well that’s most of it, sure plenty more but some people need to go to work.
COMMUNICATIONS: We are still looking for someone to be the Communication Chair. If you are interested or know of someone who would be, please contact Tom Hall or any other board member.

EDUCATION: Ned Bushong

Ned has been contacted by a representative of Stevens Trade School about TIC. Ned will have further communication to determine their thinking and see if it would work.

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER/BANQUET: Ruth Rolston

We are looking for a cochair for this event. Please see Tom Hall or any other board member if you are interested.

FUNDRAISING: Barry Witmer

Dan VB reported: Harvest Grill 9 in Belmont Shops, has contacted us regarding helping to repair Donegal Creek from the fish kill. Dan has reviewed this with DFCA, who have agreed to participate.

The idea is to have a one or two day event where HG would have us DFC and DTU have a display in their lobby and then to give 15% of the receipts from anyone who mentions the DFC or DTU or the fish kill or conservation to help the Donegal stream.

It was agreed that DTU would participate. Dan V will follow up with DFCA and HG to put this in motion.

WOMANS INITIATIVE: Pam Williams

Nothing new to report on the women’s initiative. I probably will not have anything on the agenda until Fall. Too hot to encourage fishing outings.

VETERANS INITIATIVE: Bill Nolan

Minus a few hiccups, we had a great weekend at Camp Breac. Joe Humphreys spent the day with us instructing, and hanging out with the vets. We had good food, company, etc. The had a great time and all learned a lot. Nick Lyter from PA Wilds was also in attendance and will be writing an article on VSP at some point.

We did our initial order for TFO rods. They missed a rod, but otherwise, the transaction was painless. I ordered 14 rod cases for our rods in the storage unit. They’re there, but I have not yet had the time to make the transfer.
I spent a few days on the West Branch of the Delaware on the VSP National Couples trip. Kevin and Denise Shimp, DTU members, were able to go on an all expenses paid trip. They stayed at the West Branch Angler where they, along with 5 other veteran couples, received instruction on fly fishing, drift boat etiquette, etc. They floated the west branch the last 2 days and had a great time.

River to Recovery has reached out and it looks like we'll be sending 2 vets on an all expenses paid trip to fish on the Farmington River in Connecticut at the end of the month.

I have also submitted Casey Clugston and his wife for a TU VSP national couples trip in Yellowstone Park in August. Hopefully they are accepted.

And finally, we're dreaming big. Myself and a few members of the VSP team would like to fundraise and plan a secret trip for the vets. Our timetable is 2 years. BUT, I would like to know all of your thoughts and ideas on the trip. Yes DTU will support this effort.

I'll have a drift boat in a couple weeks, who wants to go for a ride?

**MEMBERSHIP:** Fran McElhinney

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**PROGRAMS:** Hugh Wenger

August 21th Picnic will be at Millport beginning at 5:00 pm. Casting instruction and demonstration by Dusty. Food to be served at 6:00 PM.

**WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER:** Mark McMaster

Website
Use continues its Summer slide. Nothing alarming. Our domain provider is making some changes which at this point don't seem like they'll impact us.

Di's of the June Mayflyer are steady.

Mayflyer
Deadline for the August issue stands at Sunday, July 28.

Due to some personal issues I've not been able to build a template for
the new software, so expect to continue with the existing one.

My thanks to those of you who've provided locale/activity info for the photos you've submitted. This will make my job a great deal easier.

MailChimp
Have yet to begin work on the July mailing. Expect it to be brief with Summer events waning & no meeting to entice members with in July.

Joy & I will not be able to attend this board meeting, so please email or pass along through Tom any info you think I may need.

ROUND TABLE:
Dan V noted the christmas dinner will be at the Stockyard on Dec 14.

ADJOURN: @ 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted by Bill Henry