

November 2018 Minutes

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.

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Tom Hall.

Present: Tom Hall, Mark McMaster, Joy McMaster, Dan VanBuskirk, Dan Zimmerman, Ned Bushong, Bill Nolan, Bob Kutz, Hugh Wenger, Greg Wilson, Fran McElhinny, Derek Eberly

Absent: Bill Henry, Wayne Boggs

Secretary’s Report: Bill Henry

Minutes from the October meeting were accepted and approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Joy McMaster

Reports were accepted and approved.

Income: \$141,707.51

Expenses: \$118,224.27

Balance: \$109,052.57

Other items of note: There is a problem with the Cash Flow report that I have referred to Wayne. All accounts were reconciled as on 10/31/2018. Two older checks have not been cashed. A \$20 check for our table at the SLCFSA show and a \$84 payment to Janet Shumate for embroidery of 14 shirts.

After reviewing our bank accounts, I have signed up for several alerts from BB&T. For the checking accounts: when the online statement is ready, deposit correction, a zero negative balance, and overdraft fee. For our credit cards: when the online statement is ready, payment due reminder 14 days before due date, payment posted, balance approaching credit limit at \$1,000, international transaction, cash transaction, and when credit card is declined. All alerts will go to the treasurer@ donegaltu.org address.

TU financial report was filed. I am preparing to send the required information to our accountants for the IRS filing.

Oktoberfest: We took in \$950 and paid the Four Seasons \$ 735. As the speaker’s fee of \$300 was in our yearly budget, we made a profit of \$225 on food and \$205 on the raffle.

We recently received a large donation. A motion was made and approved to move these funds to the PNC Conservation Account for future restoration projects.

Uncommitted money in our accounts: general checking = \$66,614, 319 account = 3,571, and Conservation account = 12,943.

Conservation Committee: Bob Kutz & Greg Wilson

From Greg: Conservation updates: below you will see recent pic true of the Menno Stoltzfus bridge. It should be graded and in use by the end of this week. This is our first culvert fish passage project and a great improvement. This project was about \$84,000. With USFW in-kind donation reduced the cost to \$50k, which is funded by a NFWF grant thru USFWS. So maybe we will see shad in Climbers Run. We are now trying to work on another upstream culvert to connect Trout Run and Steihman Run.

With the storm damage incurred at the Metzler Project and Drumore Park along with damage at the Madison Project and a budget shortfall, Bob went shaking the bushes and was able to receive \$116,000 from DEP to make the repairs and complete the Madison Project. So that is great news, great job Bob.

We had a couple of great tree planting days. One at Camp Andrews, replacing and adding trees, repairing shelters; we planted about 125 trees and shrubs. Then Bob coordinated a planting at Tanglewood Golf Course. With volunteers from DTU, Friends of Fishing Creek and Boy Scouts, they planted about 225 trees and shrubs. In an effort to bolster the planting, we purchased several larger showy varieties. We got rained out at our scheduled Drumore Park project. Peggy Dawson, a member of Friends of Fishing Creek, took it upon herself to plant a lot of them but there are more to install. So we will try and schedule some work days, along with a planting at the Woy Project. We also need to address the tree shelters at the Herr Project which have been laid over in the floods. Any volunteers speak out please!!

We are hopeful the Herr/Byler Project will get started in January. This is a large project on Fishing Creek and a tributary. Unfortunately, there is a lock out date in March for fishing season, so probably will not be completed. This along with the Drumore Park repair and the Metzler's Project should be repaired this winter. The Ag BMP grant is moving very slowly for the Fishing Creek tributaries.

Barry Witmer and I volunteered at Climbers Run to help LCC with 25 Solanco students. The students helped work on the tree shelters, did more planting, and removed invasive plants. The trees are growing pretty well.

The Alliance for the Bay's Ryan Davis will be planting a site in the Lititz Run headwaters. It will be about 6 acres of meadow and tree plantings. He will also be reforesting the original Art Hess farm. These will add to the long-term stream health. There are many good things continuing upstream in the Lititz Run watershed.

We had a windfall. I was contacted about getting trees by Transource Energy. We had a surplus in the nursery, so they are donating \$1500 for 600 trees. Then I arranged delivery of 600 tree and shrub shelters and had them drop shipped. I went to pick up the pots in Glen Rock, at a York County park. When I pulled up, I realized they had not used any shelters. When I contacted Abby, she said take them and use them, they will pay the bill. So essentially about a \$4400 gain. So Transource planted the trees along the East Branch of the Codus. Then CBF donated 350 trees and shelters so we are in good shape, if we can get them planted.

Barry Witmer and I met with James Solecki of the Doc Fritchey Chapter. We did a pretty good tour of Upper Hammer Creek. We are formulating a plan to start addressing the issues. It has a lot of potential. We will see where that goes.

We had an initial meeting with our recently expanded Conservation Committee. We had a lot of great dialogue and are excited to kick things up a notch. We want to ramp up our projects, education and public outreach.

From Bob: Today Adam Smith, USF&W, Greg, Jenna, Ryan, and I visited four new sites for potential projects. One was Coopers Run, a tributary to the Octoraro. We checked out Fishing Creek north of the bridge at Camp Andrews and the Madison site on Big Beaver Creek. There was mention of a wet bottom pasture that could be turned into a wetland. Jenna and Ryan are also trying to connect with farmers in Lebanon County to increase interest in improving Upper Hammer Creek.

Dan Zimmerman, as part of the Conservation Committee, volunteered to approach township managers where we are working to see if they can take on some of the administrative work involved with our projects.

Communications: Mark McMaster

Mayflyer

Deadline for the next issue (December) will be Monday, Nov 26. We will need info on the tyers for the December meeting as well as early promos for the Banquet.

Am still on a beta version of the new publishing program. May have to use the old program one last time.

Website

Thanks to Barry (who has encountered issues with mail from our site being blacklisted by governmental servers), I'm going blind trying to make our site, and especially our email more secure. Tech support at Google has been fantastic, but am still struggling with the 3rd of 3 required changes (described as "easy" to implement). The site itself can now be accessed via <https://www.donegaltu.org> and will bring up the "locked" secure icon on your browser bar, but doing so inexplicably doesn't display any of the graphics. I'll get it resolved yet, but bear with me while I try to implement SPF, DKIM, MX & DMARC settings

In the meantime, use of the site has risen almost back to record #'s.

I have spent \$60 to certify that our site is safe. This will be an annual expense.

I assume the board will authorize a memorial page for Faye, but await a vote at this meeting. *This was approved.*

Communications

Between Extra Give, Faye's passing, and the pending November "teaser" I'm leery of annoying our members with overuse of MailChimp, but have had only a few drop out. I anticipate including an Extra Give appeal along with the "teaser" mailing, and then one final on the day before XtraGive.

Education: Ned Bushong

The trout eggs have arrived and are in their tanks. We are currently involved with 21 classrooms in the county. Ned has three more classes already lined up for next year. The

Ephrata Review is doing an article on Becky Whitson, TIC teacher at Blue Ball Elementary School, and the TIC program. Ned did not have any further information on a possible price increase for the TIC equipment.

Fundraising:

Tom attended the first fundraising meeting for our event on March 16, 2019. We will again be at the Double Tree. The model will be the same as last year. Keller Auctioneers have taken on much of the work that this committee did in the past. The goal this year is to increase attendance. Each board member is challenged to fill a table. We are also looking for someone to chair the event in 2020. It would be good if that person could train with the committee this year.

Initiatives:

Veteran Activities - Bill Nolan

1. I spoke with Dave Kumlien last week. There will be another VSP training next year, this time in Buffalo. I have been invited to speak and will be able to send one of our VSP members to the training.
2. There will be another VSP couples trip. This one will be on the Delaware. I will seek out our chapter's nomination. We had a participant accepted this year, but his wife did not want to fish, so unfortunately, they lost out on the trip. I will better vet our submission this go around as I was extremely disappointed at the wasted opportunity.
3. I have been asked to co-chair the VSP program for the state. I'm not sure what all that entails, but quite honestly, I need some me time and don't want to take anything else on.
4. Fly tying has begun, we received another vice and supplies from Son Tao and Regal. We will be presenting it to a VSP participant at the next fly tying session.
5. I am looking at renting a large cabin on Pine Creek for one or two VSP retreats next year
6. I have been helping Jim Lanning in Bellefonte at an old bed and breakfast type place he has purchased on Spring Creek. He will let us bring the veterans there next year.
7. I have identified Hotel Manor on Slate Run/Pine Creek as a destination trip for our regular members. I am working on seeing if we can get a discount rate. There are 10 rooms, each with its own bathroom and 1 queen size bed. There is restaurant downstairs. It is located at the confluence of the Slate Run and Pine Creek. Fishermen can literally walk out the back door and fish either stream.
8. I am attaching a TFO price break list that I have received from Dave Kumlien. As you can see, the discounts are substantial. I was also told there will be a similar list coming from Orvis. I will be offering these to the vets. I have to do the purchase with someone in Washington. There will be no orders without payment.

9. I attended a meeting with Tom, Joy, Mark, and Bob at Rettew. I learned a great deal about the processes that take place over there and our involvement with them.
10. I continue to work with Andy Desko at Fish and Boat towards an event for the children from Christs Home. It will be in June at Speedwell Forge in Lititz. I'm going to look for donations from bigger companies for a goodie bag for the kids.

Bill will check out the Veterans Court. This is for Veterans who have minor problems with the law. The Veterans need to participate in a project in order to graduate from the court. Perhaps our conservation work would qualify. More to come on this.

Women's Activities - Pam Williams

I did want to update you on my progress regarding the Diversity Initiative. Bill Nolan has been very helpful in providing information on his program and told me about the Spring Creek TU women's initiative. I have reached out to Diane Brown of Spring Creek TU and we will be meeting soon to discuss how she was able to get her program going. I have looked at their site and they seem to have a lot going for the ladies.

I am excited to be a part of this initiative and hope to have more info for you at the December meeting.

Membership: Fran McElhinny

At the start of the month we have 695 men, 27 women, 13 young men and 2 young women. We have 7 new members and 2 transfers out. The total is 737. Fran's goal for the new year is to keep our membership numbers up. It was suggested that we try to increase our youth memberships by our contacts with the TIC classes. The Millersville 5 Rivers Club was discussed. With the graduation of key members of the club, there has been no news lately. Greg and Derek will investigate.

Programs: Derek Eberly

Derek is lining up tiers for the December meeting. January we will have Matt Supinski. In February Bob and Greg will talk about our conservation projects. Derek may do a talk in March. It was suggested that we approach Amieda Daniel to talk in the Spring. She is involved with TIC and PA TU Women's Initiative. We could promote her talk with teachers to increase interest in the TIC program.

Derek also suggested a Pint Night. This could be a gathering at a local microbrewery to introduce DTU and possibly other organizations to a younger audience.

Tom received an invitation to promote a future Movie Night at Snitz Creek Brewery in Lebanon. In return we would receive a donation from the night's proceeds. Greg will follow up and get more details.

Past President: Joy McMaster

I received a letter from Franklin Tate, Director of TU's Headwaters Program. In 2017 the Guadalupe River TU Chapter in Texas established the Tomorrow Fund at the level of \$10,000. The fund supports the Headwaters Program which was created for the advancement of students from TIC to youth camps, to TU's Teen Summit, and finally the TU Costa 5 Rivers Club. Franklin is asking for chapters to donate. In return, we will receive 5 free youth memberships and be listed in a future Trout magazine article. It was decided we would donate \$200.

President: Tom Hall

Barry Witmer made a suggestion about our upcoming budget. Barry is now seeking grants for our projects from a variety of sources. These organizations like to see projects in the budget even if they are paid for by other sources. Seeing everything we do in budget form carries more weight with these organizations when they review our application for funds.

Round table:

Dan V. asked Joy to check on our ASAP status and the SAM renewal date.

Hugh reminded us that since he is now on the board, he can no longer be our At-Risk Compliance Officer for our Vulnerable Persons Policy.

Tom informed us that Faye's obituary requested that people donate to DTU in her name instead of sending flowers.

Derek reviewed what's coming up for the Fish & Boat and Game Commissions. Growing Greener 3 funds are shaping up. Derek would like more of our government representatives to attend next year's Conservation Tour.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM

Respectfully submitted by Joy McMaster for Bill Henry.