

Penn's Woods West Trout Unlimited

Board Meeting—January 5, 2023

TU Mission: To conserve, protect and restore North America's Coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

Attendees: Ian, Bryan, Chuck, Dale, Ed, Nora, Nick, Andy, Alani, Ron, Jamie

Topics (Meeting Opened 7:00 PM):

Call to order

Quorum

Review of December 2022 Minutes. Ed moved to approve; Andy seconded. <passed>

Officers and committee chair reports: see below

Old Business:

- 1) Status of Virtual TiC at Chatham
 - a) Bryan is fighting some bureaucracy on the Chatham side. Tank is set up and ready, but he doesn't yet have a camera. We have the money but getting it to Chatham such that it goes to vTiC is proving troublesome. Eggs arrive on January 9th.
 - b) Chuck asked if we could apply for a grant from Equitrans to fund TiC as a separate entity instead of fighting to move the scholarship? Bryan will touch base.
- 2) Membership Initiative/Brochure Cost
 - a) Looking for content to add to the brochure.
 - b) Pins? Need to find Nick's email on this.
- 3) Cabin Fever
 - a) Walk-through 1/10/23 to go over set-up and layout of all events.
 - b) Banquet ticket will probably be \$125 per ticket through the web site, 40 tickets.
 - c) Tying – working with International Angler (Kelly has sent recipe so IA is working on the materials pricing), thinking \$50-60 per seat though a final price is TBD. Bryan indicates there may be two prices – one 'with' materials and another 'without'. Due to time constraints, the event will be aimed at intermediate/advanced tiers.
 - d) Vendors – Bryan has 24 signed up, 10 more promised. Plenty of room left. We face slight competition with an outdoor expo in Detroit, but Bryan is casting a wide net.
 - e) Room block – still waiting on the code.
 - f) Table covers – Nick has specs for 6' tables and will work on the artwork

- g) T Shirt design – preorder is about ready to go. Need sizes for volunteer shirts. Deadline is close. Hope for more volunteers at TU on Monday.
 - h) Bennett Rods – reserve on them may have to be \$600 per rod. International Angler will work with us to sell extras. Dale will contact Bob to discuss.
 - i) Bryan had a discussion with Dave Krupa’s widow, and she may be considering a donation of his artwork to the chapter.
- 4) Trout Trail update
 - a) Brochures at printer
 - b) Will also be in the Go Laurel Highlands guide
 - c) Web site under construction
 - 5) Free Fly-Fishing class (see Treasurer’s report)
 - 6) Service Awards – Nora is working on this

New Business:

- 1) Thank you to Board
 - a) Chuck thanked the board for their service during his 3 years in the hot seat. The board thanked Chuck for his willingness to tackle the things that needed to be done.
- 2) Rivers camp candidate
 - a) Chuck moves that we pay the \$500 contribution for Luke Batchelet. Ron seconds. **<passed>**

Adjourned

Meeting closed 8:05 PM

Important Dates:

1/9/23, 2/13/23, 3/13/23, 4/10/23, 5/8/23 – Monthly meetings

1/23/23, 2/27/23, 3/27/23, 4/24/23, 5/22/23 – Bar flies

2/26/2023 – Cabin Fever

3/25 & 3/26/2023—Free fly-fishing school (PWWTU & Days on the Water)

4/1/2023 – Trout opening day (state-wide)

Committee Reports

Penn's Woods West Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Officers and Committee Chair Reports

For December Year: 2022

Conservation Committee Chair: Bryan Mathie

Women & Diversity Committee Chair: Nora Cline/Jodie Minor

Membership Committee Chair: Jamie Schroder

Education Committee Chair: Ron Milavec

USA Sportsman Show - Monroeville Conv Ctr - Feb 17-19, 2023

In process of signing up volunteers to man the booth.

This year, in exchange for a complimentary booth, David Stoner asked that we provide a program speaker each day - Dale Fogg, Christian Shane and Ian Brown agreed to do them.

Program Committee Chair: Christian Shane

President: Chuck Buffington

It's been a pleasure serving as President of PWWTU for the past 3 years. My thanks to the folks who have served on the Board and to the Chapter members who have contributed to our continued success. I look forward to only having nominations to worry about. Chuck

Vice President: Ian Brown

Outdoor Adventures: Andy Andrews

Officer: Treasurer: Ed Barger

Current Balance is \$46,237.86, of which \$5000 is reserved for initiating a virtual Trout in the Classroom Facility at Chatham University's North Hills campus. Transactions for the month (Details transmitted to board members) include payment of \$2500 to Chatham University for our 2023-2024 sponsorship of the Tom Walsh Memorial Scholarship at Chatham, receipt of \$1263.87 (\$1300 gross - PayPal fees of \$36.13), and payment for \$175 to me for my VISA charge reserving the Wilkins School Community Center for two sessions of our annual "Intro to Fly Fishing" seminars on March 25 and 26. Scott Loughner has graciously volunteered to continue being the primary instructor for this class.

I am concerned that I have received no information regarding any expenses for the Virtual TIC facility and need to know if we have to contact Equitrans Midstream regarding the status of the effort being funded by their grant.

For the upcoming Free Class, I will need to borrow a laptop PC as well as the video equipment owned by our chapter, to present material developed by previous lead instructor, Rob Reeder. I Also need someone to step up to develop a short presentation regarding our chapter, what we stand for, goals, and activities supporting these goals. I also want to have membership applications available to pass out during the class. I have sent an updated class description to board members to review prior to having it added to our web site. I also need to get contact information for the outdoor writers for the PG and Trib to have them mention the class. Also, what about putting a blurb in the PA Outdoor News for February and March?

I have included the following attachments:

- Draft of new writeup for this year's free class
- Copy of my VISA receipt for payment to WSCC for facility rental.
- List from PayPal of Cabin Fever vendor payments as of 12/31 (I know that there are several more to be transferred over to our bank account, but haven't done it this week)

Will continue to monitor PayPal account and transfer vendor payments on a weekly basis. I'll provide you with periodic reports.

I'll be sending W. Reineman audit info through the January statement as soon as it is issued by FNB (I'm guessing by the 10th or so. I also will have a financial summary ready for next week's chapter meeting. I'll ship it to board members this weekend for any review and comment.

Ex-officio: Dale Fogg

Communications Committee