

VCTU Executive Committee Meeting Notes – March 20, 2023

Attendees:

Jim Wilson, Burr Tupper, Bill Pierce, Scott Allen, Amy Orr, Mike Makufka, Tony Hill, Eric Tichay,

Meeting started at 7:32 p.m.

Meeting ended at 8:45 p.m.

1. Priority Waters—forms from National TU that need to be completed for each of our three areas.

(Jim)

- Seth Coffman is taking care of personal business.
- Jim will look to get “forms” and more information about next steps in the process.

2. Community Development Committee – (Burr Tupper)

(Burr)

- Council Newsletter

- Will put together an email to Scott and Deidre for the next steps (i.e., how to get content, how to send out, sections, national constant contact, etc....)
- Contacted TU National and searched the Tackle Box for suggestions, restrictions, and examples, but did not discover anything notable.
- Met with Winchester NL editor for guidance
- A NL cannot be sent via National Constant Contact, but a link can be sent.
- (Jim) The ExComm does not need the details and Burr has the green light to develop and execute a plan

(Burr)

- Requests the Council look at Zip code distributions
 - One example is a zip code in the Winchester area that is assigned to the Rapidan chapter
 - Another example is the Passage Creek area

(Amy & Bill)

- It is probable that the ‘odd’ zip code mapping is a result of chapters that have folded, and the zip codes being redistributed (i.e. former Northern Shenandoah Chapter)

(Scott)

- Will request the At-Large Zip codes (Mostly former Bill Wills chapter) be mapped to VA Capital Chapter

3. Developing an Operating Plan for the Council consistent with the new National TU Strategic Plan

(Jim)

- Will put something on paper to begin the process of developing a plan --1-pager

4. Social Media presence (Facebook group)

(Jim)

- Use survey data to identify candidates, preferably younger members to champion this effort

5. Camp Dogwood requests assistance this summer with macro-invertebrate sampling.

(Jim)

- Message/request sent to council email requesting support
 - The camp is near Graves Mountain; however, the Rapidan Chapter’s plate is full

- Will send the email to Scott to see if there is enough information to send a request to all chapters (Eric)
- The Isaak Walton League Save our Streams provides sampling training and may have resources to support the camp

6. SE Regional Rendezvous comments and follow-up (Scott)

- Will look to get the “Widget” for the Council website that lists all Event Groove events for the Virginia Chapters
- Will look at sending an email to all chapters about the Montana Sweepstakes/Chapter Fundraiser on Event Groove

(Jim)

- Provided presentation/training at conference on climate change, but most who attended the session were already engaged
 - (Burr) Suggested a video of the presentation would be something worth putting on the Council website, if it exists from the Council Zoom meeting in February—Deidre??

(Tony)

- Slides from the presentations at the Rendezvous are available on the Leaders Forum Library:

https://community.tu.org/communities/community-home/librarydocuments?attachments=&communitykey=8f16aaff-dc39-41c1-aa39-d2baf7c3e21a&defaultview=&folder=1d18a6e3-2762-4d99-9e94-0186f05b7456&libraryfolderkey=&pageindex=0&pagesize=12&search=&sort=most_recent&viewtype=row

(Eric)

- Noted that from many of the Conservation breakouts there was a focus on “Watersheds” versus “Streams”

7. Wildlife Action Plan Initial Meeting April 6th

(Jim)

- Neither Tom Benzing nor Jim can attend.
- Will look at having someone from VA Capital chapter attend

8. VA Capital Chapter Calendar—Virtual Meeting March 28th 7:30 pm. In person meeting at DWR April 25th 7 pm.

(Jim)

- Will see about using the Council Zoom to support the March meeting in his absence

9. Nominating Committee—need to schedule a meeting.

(Jim) Will look at setting up a meeting with Burr, Eric, and Scott

10. Fundraising—role of Council vs. Chapters

(Jim)

- Looking to raise money to help struggling chapters

(Bill)

- There is a checklist for seeking funding, but was not aware of the location (Tackle Box?)
- There seems to be a disconnect between National and Council and Chapter with regards to priority waters funding and project identification

(Eric)

- Priority Waters funding will not preclude a chapter from supporting a local water project (Burr)
- Council should look at unique products/funding that do not encroach on Chapters (Scott)
- Fundraising should be tied to specific projects

11. Other topics

(Mike)

- Identified 30 volunteers based on survey results

(Scott)

- Will send out Bylaws for review and comments to ExComm members

(Jim)

- Next in-person meeting is scheduled for May 13th.
- Will contact Massanutten Chapter for final decision on location and lunch option

-End