Attendants:
Jim Wilson, Scott Allen, Amy Orr, Tom Benzing, Tony Hill, Jeff Deering, Mike Makufka, Eric Tichay, Burr Tupper

Meeting started at 7:32 p.m.
Meeting ended at 9:00 p.m.

Agenda:

1. Priority Waters next steps (a) Areas vs chapters, (b) distribute action plans, (c) GIS options, and (d) outreach for chapter volunteers
   - (Jim) We have three action plans. It is time for the council and chapters to start to take actions:
     -- Reach out to chapters to find out in which area(s) they are interested
     -- Identify a POC for each Chapter and possible committees
     -- (ACTION) Jim to send an email to the Chapters to identify a representative-short timeline to respond
     -- Identify software that may support the projects
     -- Identify a list of ongoing projects (i.e., PEC is working on East side of SNP, culvert projects and training
   - (Eric) Getting a list of streams [within each area] is the starting point
   - (ACTION) Scott to work with David to update website with a Priority Waters section
   - (ACTION) Eric to send historical documents from Priority Waters Identification Committee

2. Operating Plan
   - (ACTION) Scott to clean up the document form of the Operating Plan and post it to website

3. By Laws
   - By Laws approved for publication
     -- (ACTION) Scott to add ratification date and post to website

4. Buffalo Creek Special Reg. Area grant request
   - (Jim) Back and forth dialog with Joe Irbe (Skyline chapter) and Asa on funding request ($2K)
   - (Tom) Met with Joe and Asa and provided water data sampling supplies
   - All agreed that no funding will go to stocking
   (Vote and Approval) for funding of Stakeholders meeting ($300) and signage ($200)
     -- Tom volunteered to attend and support the stakeholders meeting
   - Future funding for bank stabilization and hardware for stream work is an option
     -- One requirement will be to specify in-kind effort (financial or labor)

5. Community Development Committee
   a. Newsletter
      - NL posted on website [Great job Burr!]
      - NL sent out to all VA members via National Constant Contact
      - (Burr) Suggested updates to website—Resource Tab—to host Newsletters and other Council documents
b. Engage Survey Respondents

(ACTION) Burr to parse the list of respondents by their interest in support (i.e., communications, project work, etc.)

c. Grant funding guidelines

-- Guidelines are ready for publishing
-- (Eric) propose start in 2024 with a budget of $5K
-- It was determined to treat the current Buffalo Creek request as special; however, future requests will go through the Grant process.

6. NLC

- (Eric) On June 13 the NLC held a business meeting. Led by Rich Thomas (NLC Chair) and Sharon Sweeney Fee (Secretary).

-- Review of workgroup charters.
  --- The charter describes the mission, roles, and responsibilities, and how each workgroup will function.
  --- Emphasized that workgroups will be made up of at least two NLC members which includes the workgroup chair. The cochair does not have to be an NLC member, only a TU member in good standing

-- Review of workgroup participation.
  --- NLC members are required to participate in at least two of 12 workgroups; in the Conservation (7) and Organizational (5).
  --- Emphasized workgroup membership is not balanced.
    - There are 4 workgroups with only 1 member.
    - On the other hand, Native Trout Workgroup has the most participation of any workgroup 14, ---- New Initiatives 12 and Climate Change 11.

-- Rich Thomas will recommend to the New Initiative Workgroup to change the workgroup structure dropping inactive workgroups and adding a Priority Waters Workgroup.

-- Future Focus, Events, and Meetings.
  --- Workgroup reports are due June 23. Quarterly reports next year.
  --- August 21 will be a townhall meeting.
  --- Find the NLC Calendar in the TU Community Forum->Communities-> NLC->Libraries. Scroll through the documents on the right side of the of the site.

7. Treasurer

- Bill was not present at meeting
- (Jim) the Council rebate was sent to the VA Capital Chapter

8. TIC

- (Mike) We had a very successful program this year
  -- There were 194 schools participating this year
  -- Provided funding ($1450) to Rapidan chapter to purchase two tanks
- There is $8K in treasury earmarked for TIC support
  -- Looking at timeframe for 2023-24 grant funding offering
- End of year questionnaire sent out and responses coming in
- Three (3) Chapter TIC reps stepping down

9. Nominations for council awards

-(Jim) beginning in August the Council will ask for nominations
- **ACTION** Jim to send Scott the documents
- We will discuss “Gold Chapter Award” at next meeting

10. chapter reports
- (Jim) VA Capital
  -- Change in president and soon change in vice president
  -- Chapter is having some meetings and there is forward movement but there is more work to be done to ensure success
- (Jeff Deering) Smith River
  -- Fundraiser in the works – Sweepstakes running through November using the National Event Groove
  -- [https://go.tulocalevents.org/2023srtufundraiser/Campaign/Details](https://go.tulocalevents.org/2023srtufundraiser/Campaign/Details)
- (Burr) Winchester
  -- Working on hosting a class through parks and recreation

11. Open discussion
- (Tom) eDNA study in SNP completed – results pending, but lots of promise
- (Tom) There is a Conservation Plan/Strategies from many years ago. He will locate and see if this something we can update
- (Burr) Noted that the At-Large zip codes have not yet been updated on the National website
  -- **ACTION** Scott to contact Maggie and get the status
- (Jim) Two guide trips were donated to the Council at the VA Fly Fishing and Wine Festival. They are available to chapters for use in fundraising

--End